

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT III 2025-26
(MODEL QUESTION PAPER)
ENGLISH

STD: X

Time: 2½ hrs
Maximum Score: 80

Instructions:

1. The cool-off time of the first 15 minutes is to be used for reading the question paper.
2. You are not supposed to write anything during the cool off time.
3. Attempt the questions according to the instructions.

Questions 1-5: Read the excerpt from *In the Attic* and answer the questions that follow. (5×1=5)

Not until the early hours of the next day was the silence broken by a loud and resonant noise, the last sound I had expected. Radio loudspeakers set up somewhere nearby were broadcasting announcements in Polish of the defeat of Germany and the liberation of Warsaw.

The Germans had withdrawn without a fight. As soon as it began to get light, I prepared feverishly for my first venture out. My officer had left me a German military overcoat to keep me from freezing. I had already put it on when I suddenly heard the rhythmic footsteps of guards out in the road again. Had the Soviet and Polish troops withdrawn, then?

I sank on my mattress, utterly dejected, and lay there until something new came to my ears: the voices of women and children. At all costs, I had to get information.

1. What was the announcement made by radio loud speakers set up nearby?
2. Why did the German officer give his military overcoat to the narrator?
 - A) The officer feared for his own safety.
 - B) The officer was forced to part with his overcoat.
 - C) The officer had great concern for the narrator's survival.
 - D) The officer wanted to put the narrator's life in danger.
3. Why did the narrator sink on his mattress utterly dejected?
 - A) Because of the rhythmic footsteps of guards
 - B) Because of the German announcements over the radio
 - C) Because of the sounds of women and children
 - D) Because he had no information of the current situation at the war front
4. What did the narrator desperately need?
5. Identify the **Noun Phrase** in the subject position and the **Verb Phrase** from the sentence given below.

The military overcoat of the German officer symbolises both protection and uncertainty.

Questions 6-9: Read the lines from *Another Day in Paradise* and answer the questions that follow. (4×1=4)

She calls out to the man on the street
"Sir, can you help me?
It's cold and I've nowhere to sleep,
Is there somewhere you can tell me?"
He walks on, doesn't look back
He pretends he can't hear her
Starts to whistle as he crosses the street
Seems embarrassed to be there.
Oh, think twice, cause it's another day for
You and me in paradise.
Oh, think twice, cause it's another day for you,
You and me in paradise,
Think about it.

6. Why does the man start to whistle as he crosses the street?
7. What effect does the repetition of the line "Oh, think twice, 'cause it's another day for you and me in paradise" *create*?
- A) It creates the impression that the world is a heaven for everyone.
 - B) It emphasizes the comfort of the speaker.
 - C) It contrasts the suffering of others with our own privilege.
 - D) It uses humour to lighten the tone.
8. What message does the poet convey through the lines given above?
- A) People should avoid helping strangers on the street.
 - B) Life in paradise is perfect and should be celebrated.
 - C) Society often turns a blind eye to the suffering of others and needs to be more compassionate.
 - D) Everyone should donate to charity.
9. Which poetic device do you observe in the line: "*He pretends he can't hear her*"?
10. [A] **Read these lines from the poem *The Wild Swans* and write an appreciation focusing on the theme and the poetic techniques.** (1×5=5)

The trees are in their autumn beauty,
The woodland paths are dry,
Under the October twilight the water
Mirrors a still sky;
Upon the brimming water among the stones
Are nine-and-fifty swans.
The nineteenth autumn has come upon me
Since I first made my count;
I saw, before I had well finished,
All suddenly mount
And scatter wheeling in great broken rings
Upon their clamorous wings

OR

10. [B] Here are two excerpts from the play Julius Caesar. They are the words of Brutus and Mark Antony delivered on the occasion of Caesar's funeral. Read them carefully.

Mark Antony (Original)	Brutus (Simplified)
"You all did see that on the Lupercal I thrice presented him a kingly crown, Which he did thrice refuse: was this ambition? Yet Brutus says he was ambitious; And, sure, he is an honourable man."	"I cared for Caesar deeply..... But I loved Rome even more. Would you rather have Caesar alive, and all of us be slaves or have Caesar dead so we can all be free? I cried for him because I loved him. I was happy for his successes and admired his bravery. But because he was ambitious, I killed him."

Both Brutus and Mark Antony speak about Caesar's ambition. Analyse their speeches and then write a **Paragraph** on the points each speaker tries to highlight. Point out the argument you find to be more convincing and explain your reasons.

Questions 11-14: Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. (4×1=4)

Northeastern India is a rich and varied region where misty Himalayan peaks, ancient monasteries, dense tropical forests and unique living traditions meet to create unforgettable travel experiences. In Assam, Kaziranga National Park protects one of the world's largest populations of the Indian one-horned rhinoceros and offers riverine grasslands and birdlife that earned it UNESCO World Heritage status. Meghalaya's hills around Shillong and Cherrapunji are famed for dramatic waterfalls, deep limestone caves and the remarkable living root bridges—hand-grown by local communities from rubber tree roots—that blend human skill with the natural world. In Arunachal Pradesh the historic Tawang Monastery sits high in the mountains and serves as an important center of Tibetan Buddhism, with prayer halls, murals and panoramic valley views. Sikkim adds alpine lakes, Buddhist shrines and high mountain passes such as Nathu La, while the wider North-East region contains other protected reserves, cultural festivals and tribal societies whose languages, crafts and cuisine make the area both ecologically significant and culturally vibrant.

11. What is Kaziranga National Park known for?
12. In what way do the living root bridges of Meghalaya reflect human interaction with nature?
13. Which of the following best explains why the Northeastern region of India is described as both *ecologically significant* and *culturally vibrant* in the passage?

- A) It is rich in minerals and industries.
- B) It combines diverse natural landscapes with traditional lifestyles and festivals.
- C) It has modern cities and advanced technology.
- D) It receives heavy rainfall throughout the year.

14. Read the following statements about North Eastern India.

- A. Kaziranga National Park in Assam is home to the Indian one-horned rhinoceros.
- B. Meghalaya is famous for its living root bridges and limestone caves.
- C. Tawang Monastery in Sikkim is a major center of Tibetan Buddhism.
- D. The region is known for its blend of ecological beauty and cultural diversity.

Choose the correct answer:

- A) Only A and B are correct
- B) Only A, B, and D are correct
- C) Only A and C are correct
- D) All four statements (A, B, C, and D) are correct

Questions 15-18: Answer either A or B.

15. [A] The lives of Wilm Hosenfeld and Władysław Szpilman are good examples of the generosity and resilience of the human spirit. After the war, Szpilman rejoins the Polish Radio. He makes a radio podcast on his experiences at the time of war. Prepare the possible **script of podcast**.

(1×7=7)

(Hints: - hides in the attic – German officer finds him – asks to play piano – gives him food – six-year war ends – the officer bids farewell – gifts Szpilman his coat – mistaken for a German – free after six years – remembers Hosenfeld)

OR

15. [B] Prepare a **short speech** to be delivered on the topic “*The Real Cost of War.*” Refer to the story ‘War’ and show how war affects not only soldiers but also the families and communities they leave behind.

(Hints: parents grieve – sons on the battlefield – take pride in sacrifice – silent pain inside – father realises the pain of loss – war destroys families and emotions – no glory; only suffering – message of peace and humanity)

16. [A] “*In my mission, three elements are the most important ones: awareness, availability, and affordability,*” says Arunachalam Muruganantham. Craft a paragraph highlighting how Gandhi’s views helped shape Muruganantham’s focus emphasising his innovative approach to breaking the taboos and promoting health and gender equity. (1×6=6)

OR

16. [B] **Prepare** a short **narrative** describing the events of *A Piece of String* from Hauchecome's perspective. Focus on how a simple incident turns into a trauma, suspicion and public humiliation. Conclude the narrative with his feelings of relief when he is cleared of the charge.

17. [A] The suffering and the hardships the old man faces at Pelayo's home, and the public reactions, become the subject of a newspaper report in a leading daily. Prepare the likely **news report**. (1×6=6)

OR

17. [B] Your innovative idea for a sustainable waste disposal mechanisms has been selected for the Young Innovators Programme. Draft an **email** to Bollant Industries enquiring about the potential for implementation of this idea, requesting their support and assistance to advance the project.

18. [A] Prepare two engaging, rhythmic sentences suitable for catchy **advertisement jingles** to promote the Eco Clean Extractor, a device to extract and remove plastic waste from the environment. (1×4=4)

OR

18. [B] Prepare a diary entry in which Salim Ali recounts his experience on the Himalayan trail when he almost slipped off the cliff as he watched a Yellow-naped Yuhina.

Questions 19-21: Answer all the questions.

19. Using the clues given below, write a **biographical sketch** of Maxim Gorky. (1×6=6)

- **Early life:** Born 1868, Nizhny Novgorod, Russia; parents poor, father died early; mother died when he was young; raised by grandmother; worked as a baker's apprentice,
- **Major events:** Began writing in early 1890s; adopted the pen name Maxim Gorky; wrote *The Mother*, *Childhood*, *My Universities*; engaged in revolutionary activities; lived in exile; returned to Russia after 1917 Revolution.
- **Accomplishments:** Pioneer of Socialist realism; influential short story writer, novelist, playwright; voice for the oppressed; works translated widely; recognised as a major figure in Russian literature.
- **Facts:** Founder of Russian proletarian literature; believed in the power of art to change society; memoirs highly regarded; lived in poverty and exile; died 1936, Gorky Park named in his honour.

20. You are the secretary of your school's Nature Club. The club is organising a **Bird Exhibition** inspired by Salim Ali. Prepare a **formal event invitation** inviting students, teachers, and nature enthusiasts to attend the exhibition. Include details of the date, venue, purpose of the event, and any special attractions. (1×4=4)

21. Read the passage below and frame **three appropriate WH-questions** and **one yes/no question** based on it. **(1×4=4)**

Internally, I let loose: You ought to be asking me why I even want your stinking job. Goodbye, sir. You have impoverished our African soil by making us grow sugarcane and peanuts for your people. You've plundered our resources to enrich your country at our expense. And, to top it all off, you've used my people as cannon fodder in your war. A war in which you made them kill in the name of a freedom you refuse them in their own African soil. Still without work, three days later, I started looking through the free paper again. A new ad caught my eye: Tutor required for French lessons. Degree essential. Call after 7 p.m.

- Questions 22-26:** Carefully analyse the table given below and answer the questions that follow. **(5×1=5)**

Name of Dam	Location (State/River)	Main Uses	Notable Features
Bhakra Nangal Dam	Himachal Pradesh / Sutlej River	Irrigation, Hydroelectric Power, Flood Control	The highest gravity dam in India, key to the Green Revolution in North India.
Hirakud Dam	Odisha / Mahanadi River	Irrigation, Power Generation, Flood Control	The longest earthen dam in India (about 25 km long with dykes).
Sardar Sarovar Dam	Gujarat / Narmada River	Irrigation, Drinking Water, Hydropower	Provides water to four states; one of India's largest multipurpose river projects.
Tehri Dam	Uttarakhand / Bhagirathi River	Hydroelectric Power, Irrigation, Water Supply	Tallest dam in India and one of the tallest in the world (260.5 m).
Nagarjuna Sagar Dam	Telangana / Krishna River	Irrigation, Hydroelectric Power	Largest masonry dam in India; crucial for agriculture in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

22. Why is Nagarjuna Sagar Dam important for Telungana and Andhra Pradesh?
23. What similarities can you find in India's highest gravity dam and the longest earthen dam?
24. Which of the following is built across Mahanadi river?
- Bhakra Nangal Dam
 - Hirakud Dam
 - Tehri Dam
 - Nagarjuna Sagar Dam
25. In which state is India's tallest dam situated?
26. Which of the following statements are **TRUE**?
- Sardar Sarovar Dam is built across Narmada River
 - Tehri Dam is the tallest dam in the world
 - Nagarjuna Sagar Dam is a multi purpose river project
 - Hirakud Dam generates hydro electric power

Choose the correct option from the following:

- i) A only
- ii) A, C and D
- iii) A and D
- iv) B and C

27. Edit the passage. Errors are underlined.

(6×½=3)

Dr. Salim Ali, know(a) as the 'Birdman of India,' dedicated his live(b) to studying and conserve(c) the rich birdwealth of the country. His surveys of birds across India provided valuable insights into there(d) habitat and behaviour. He wrote several influential books, including *The Book of Indian Birds*, who(e) remains a classic reference for orinthologists(f) and nature lovers.

28. Complete the paragraph using appropriate forms of the idioms/phrasal verbs given in bracket. (4×1=4)

The student was(a)..... when he realized that the lady had created an imaginary lover to escape from her extreme loneliness. Earlier, he had always(b)..... upon her because of her shabby appearance. Now, he struggled to(c)..... the guilt of having ignored her pain, as he finally understood how deeply she felt her isolation. Determined to(d)..... to her, he resolved to treat her with genuine kindness and respect.

(get over, look down, come across, make it up, taken aback)

29. Complete the following passage choosing the right words from those given in brackets. (6×½=3)

I recall one particularly hair-raising incident along(a)..... Himalayan trail(b)..... Almora to the Lipu Lekh Pass(c)..... my way to Lake Manasarovar and Mount Kailas(d)..... 1945. It was at a particularly narrow part of the trail(e)..... a thousand feet(f)..... vertical scarp on one side.

(with, of, in, the, for, from, on)

30. Complete the conversation between madame and the narrator.

(4×1=4)

Narrator : Good evening, Madame.

Madame : Good evening. You are the one who rang me up yesterday to apply for the tutoring job,(a).....?

Narrator : Yes, ma'am.(b).....?

Madam : My daughter needs help with French. But, I'm sorry.

If you were a European,(c).....

Narrator : Hire only Europeans! Does being European really matter?

Madame : Of course it does! I'd better not.....(d).....

Narrator : That's unfair, Madame. I'm well qualified and have a degree in French. How will I mess up your child's education?

Madame : I'm sorry. You'd better leave.

31. Report the following dialogue.

(2×1=2)

Parul : Why don't you stop your experiments with blood and napkins?

Bablu : I'm just trying to do something good for the poor women in my village.

a.

b.

32. Complete the passage choosing appropriate subordinating conjunctions from the brackets. (4×½=2)

Meera wanted to finish her project before the school reopened.(a)..... she had lots to read and research, she worked late into the night. She didn't take any breaks,(b)..... she felt exhausted. Her mother helped her with the drawings(c)..... she was good at art.(d)..... her friends were playing outside during the day, Meera stayed in her room to complete her work.

(although, until, while, since, because)

33. Complete the table with appropriate words given in brackets.

(4×½=2)

Column A	Column B
a.	i. a doctor who studies skin diseases
b.	ii. a person who studies ancient human cultures
c.	iii. a scientist who studies plants
d.	iv. a person who gives out and explains medicines

(dermatologist, pharmacist, anthropologist, cardiologist, botanist)

(Set B)

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT III 2025-26
Std X
English
ANSWER KEY

Item/Qn No	Score	Answer/Value Points	Further Information
1	1	The announcement was in Polish of the defeat of Germany and the liberation of warsaw.	
2	1	C) The officer had great concern for the narrator's survival.	
3	1	D. Because he had no information of the current situation on the war front.	
4	1	He desperately needed information from the warfront.	
5	1	NP - The military overcoat of the German officer Vp - symbolises both protection and uncertainty.	
6	1	He is quite embarrassed to listen to the cries of the lady.	
7	1	C) It contrasts the suffering of others with our own privilege.	
8	1	C) Society often turns a blind eye to the suffering of others and needs to be more compassionate.	
9	1	Irony	
10[A]	5	Appreciation Introduces the author and the theme of the poem Paraphrase of the poem and interpretation of the theme Explanation of the poetic devices	 1 2 2
10[B]	5	Paragraph Begins with a striking idea. Ideas are presented using specific and clear language. Ideas are organised in a suitable form. Uses variety of sentences. Uses language that shows the writer's command over the topic.	 1 1 1 1 1

11	1	Kaziranga National Park protects one of the world's largest populations of the Indian one-horned rhinoceros and offers riverine grasslands and other flora and fauna that earned it UNESCO World Heritage status.	
12	1	They blend human skill with natural wealth.	
13	1	B) It combines diverse natural landscapes with traditional lifestyles and festivals.	
14	1	D) All four statements (A, B, C, and D) are correct	
15[A]	7	Podcast Engaging Introduction Content Development Personal Perspective Logical Flow of Ideas Language and Style Conclusion	1 2 1 1 1 1
15[B]	7	Speech Introduces the topic well. Makes a good salutation Develops the topic with a variety of supporting materials. Presents speaker's own views. Organises ideas closely related to the theme. Concludes the speech effectively	1 1 2 1 1 1
16[A]	6	Paragraph Ideas are presented using specific and clear language. Ideas are organised in a suitable form. Uses variety of sentences.	2 2 2
16[B]	6	Narrative Proper beginning and ending Organise the events in sequence Expresses the theme/message properly Uses suitable vocabulary and sentence varieties Uses figurative language	1 2 1 1 1
17[A]	6	News Report Headline: Short and catchy. Lead paragraph: Factual details like time, place, major events included. Organisation: Main points are clearly stated and explained. Content: Evidences are clearly and logically presented. Language used: Suitable for reporting.	1 2 1 1 1

17[B]	6	Email Maintains the format of an email. Uses language suitable for an email. Conveys the main idea or purpose/message Uses proper salutation and complimentary close	1 2 2 1
18[A]	4	Advertisement Jingles Language – Rhythmic and catchy Idea conveyed – Relevant to the context	2 2
18[B]	4	Diary entry Expresses personal thoughts, feelings, and reflections clearly Ideas are organised in a logical sequence Uses specific and expressive language to convey emotions and experiences. Shows variety in sentence types to enhance the personal tone.	1 1 1 1
19	6	Biographical Sketch Gives an appropriate title. Writes an effective introduction and conclusion. Organises important details. Uses appropriate descriptive vocabulary. Uses proper linkers for connecting the ideas. Uses precise and concise language.	1 1 1 1 1 1
20	4	Event Invitation Gives details about the programme. Uses proper salutation. Mentions the date, time and venue of the programme. Uses appropriate layout and format. Uses clear and brief language.	1 1 1 1
21	4	Question Framing Four appropriate questions	4
22	1	It is crucial for agriculture in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.	
23	1	Both dams help in Irrigation, Power Generation and Flood Control	
24	1	b) Hirakud dam	
25	1	Uttarakhand	
26	1	ii) A, C and D	

27	3	a) known b) life c) conserving d) their e) which f) ornithologists	1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2
28	4	a) taken aback b) looked down c) get over d) make it up	1 1 1 1
29	3	a) the b) from c) on d) in e) with f) of	1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2
30	4	a) aren't you? b) What can I do for you? c) I would hire you d) mess up my child's education.	1 1 1 1
31	2	a) Parul asked Bablu why he didn't stop his experiments with blood and napkins. b) Bablu replied that he was just trying to do something good for the poor women in his village.	1 1
32	2	a) Since b) although c) because d) While	1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2
33	2	a) dermatologist b) anthropologist c) botanist d) pharmacist	1/2 1/2 1/2 1/2