A

1008

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Summative Assessment – Term I 2025 – 26
ENGLISH

Std : X

Time : 2½ hrs
Total Score: 80

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 15 minutes is given as cool off time.
- This time is to be used for reading the question paper.
- You are not supposed to write anything during the cool off time.
- Attempt the questions according to the instructions.

Questions 1-5: Read the excerpt from *A Phoenix Rises* and answer the questions that follow. (5x1=5)

Having seen his father working with cotton yarn, he knew that ten grams of cotton would barely cost ten paise. But here he was paying four rupees for each of these pads. He put the pad back in the packet. Back home, Bablu secretly handed over the pack to Gowri.

Gowri was not pleased. "If Shalu and I start buying these packets every month, then let alone curd and ghee, we will not even have enough money to buy milk." Bablu looked at her dejectedly. But he then determined to start a new project.

He pulled out a pair of scissors, a needle and some thread, cotton and cloth from his bag. He began flattening the cotton between his hands as if he were spreading out dough to make a chapati. Within twenty-four hours of first touching a sanitary napkin, Bablu had managed to make his own. But he was not able to make a useful one as he could not make out the material used by the brands. Months passed and Bablu procured different qualities of cotton and other materials to make pads.

1. How did Bablu know the real cost of cotton?

2. What was Gowri's reaction when Bablu gave her the sanitary napkin pack?

3. Why was Bablu's first attempt to make sanitary napkins unsuccessful?

   A. It was too expensive.
   B. It was too large.
   C. Gowri refused to try it.
   D. He could not make out the right materials used in branded napkins.

4. What do we infer about Bablu's nature from the passage given above?

   A. He was quite submissive.
   B. He never tried to be innovative.
   C. He was very eager to innovate and experiment.
   D. He was not obsessed with his work.

5. Identify the **Noun Phrase** in the subject position and the **Verb Phrase** from the sentence given below.

   Different qualities of cotton were procured by Bablu to make pads.

Questions 6-9: Read the lines from the dramatic speech *Friends, Romans, Countrymen...* and answer the questions that follow. **(4x1=4)**

He was my friend, faithful and just to me:
But Brutus says he was ambitious;
And Brutus is an honourable man.
He hath brought many captives home to Rome,
Whose ransoms did the general coffers fill:
Did this in Caesar seem ambitious?
When that the poor have cried, Caesar hath wept:
Ambition should be made of sterner stuff:
Yet Brutus says he was ambitious;
And Brutus is an honourable man.

6. How does Antony describe Caesar's attitude towards the poor?

7. How did Caesar fill the general coffers?

A. By collecting taxes from citizens
B. With the ransoms of captives
C. By selling land in Rome
D. Through trade with foreign nations

8. What is the effect of Antony's repetition "Brutus says he was ambitious; And Brutus is an honourable man"?

A. It demonstrates Antony's wholehearted agreement with Brutus.
B. It distracts the crowd from the brutality of Brutus.
C. It serves as an ironic repetition, casting doubt on the claim of Brutus.
D. It proves the honesty of Brutus by reaffirming it.

9. What is the poetic device used in the line "Did this in Caesar seem ambitious?"

10. [A] Read the following lines from the dramatic speech in blank verse ***Friends, Romans, Countrymen...*** and prepare an **appreciation** focusing on the use of verbal irony, persuasive techniques, tone, and literary devices. **(1x5=5)**

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 speak not to disprove what Brutus spoke,
But here I am to speak what I do know.

You all did love him once, not without cause:
What cause withholds you, then, to mourn for him?
O judgement, thou art fled to brutish beasts,
And men have lost their reason! - Bear with me;
My heart is in the coffin there with Caesar,
And I must pause till it come back to me.

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.

Brutus (simplified):	**Mark Antony (original):**
"Not that I loved Caesar less, but that I loved Rome more. As Caesar loved me, I weep for him. As he was fortunate, I rejoice at it. As he was brave, I honour him. But as he was ambitious, I killed him"	"He hath brought many captives home to Rome, Whose ransoms did the general coffers fill: Did this in Caesar seem ambitious? When that the poor have cried, Caesar hath wept: Ambition should be made of sterner stuff: Yet Brutus says he was ambitious; And Brutus is an honourable man."

Both Brutus and Mark Antony talk about Caesar's ambition and how much they cared for him. Brutus claims Caesar had to be killed for Rome's welfare, while Antony insists Caesar showed no signs of ambition. Which of their arguments do you find more convincing, and what does each speaker want the people to think? Write your response in a **paragraph**.

Questions 11-14: Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. (4x1=4)

Digital reading refers to the act of reading content on electronic devices such as tablets, e-readers, smartphones, and computers. With the rapid advancement of technology, digital reading has become a common alternative to traditional print media. E-books, online articles, and digital libraries are now widely accessible and convenient for readers across all age groups.

One major advantage of digital reading is portability. Thousands of books can be stored on a single device, making it easier for readers to carry their entire library wherever they go. Digital formats also allow for features such as adjustable font sizes, built-in dictionaries, and text-to-speech options, which enhance the reading experience for many users.

However, digital reading is not without its drawbacks. Extended screen time can cause eye strain, and some studies suggest that readers may retain less information when reading digitally compared to printed text. Despite these concerns, digital reading continues to grow in popularity, particularly among younger audiences and professionals, and offers new opportunities for education and entertainment.

11. Why is digital reading considered more portable than traditional reading?

12. Which of the following statements are NOT TRUE about digital reading?

A. Digital reading requires a physical library.
B. Digital books can be carried easily.
C. Font size in digital reading can be changed.
D. Digital reading is not popular among young readers.

Choose the correct option from the following:

i. A and C are false
ii. A and D are false
iii. B and C are false
iv. B and D are false

13. What are the features that enhance the digital reading experience?

14. Which of the following are concerns related to digital reading?

A. Eye strain due to extended screen time
B. Less retention of information
C. Popular among younger generations
D. New opportunities for entertainment

Choose the correct option from the following:

i. A, B and C are concerns
ii. A and B are concerns
iii. A and D are concerns
iv. B, C and D are concerns

Questions 15-18: Answer either A or B.

15. [A] In the story *A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings*, Gabriel Garcia Marquez portrays how the society tends to isolate the ones who appear weak, vulnerable and different. Based on your reading of the story, prepare a **review** focusing on its characterisation, theme and plot development. **(1x7=7)**

(Hints:- finds an old man unconventional appearance attracts crowd - ruthlessly treated - fleeting interest of the society - reflects the attitude of the society - endurance can triumph over cruelty - magical realism)

OR

15. [B] More than luck and chance, it was the German officer Wilm Hosenfeld's humanity and compassion that helped Szpilman overcome fear and isolation, and survive the inhumane conditions. Based on your reading of the survivor testimony *In the Attic*, prepare a **write-up** on the topic 'Be humane, make the world beautiful'.

(Hints:- Treats Szpilman with compassion – understands his plight – suggests a better hiding place - quite remorseful about German actions – provides food – motivates and encourages Szpilman)

16. [A] The old man in the story *A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings* represents suffering, otherness and the unseen strength of patience. Prepare a **character sketch** of the old man highlighting the physical traits that make him look different and the personality traits that help him triumph over cruelty. **(1x6=6)**

OR

16. [B] Padma Shri Arunachalam Muruganantham's journey from a school dropout to the 'Padman of India' is truly inspiring. Draft an **email** congratulating him on his efforts towards women empowerment and his exemplary vision.

17. [A] Srikanth Bolla, a social entrepreneur delivers a speech at a school for the differently abled on 3 December, the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. He talks about how resilience, perseverance and determination helped him overcome the obstacles and adversities in his life. Prepare the likely **speech**. **(1x6=6)**

OR

17. **[B]** The Singapore-flagged container ship MV Wan Hai 503 carrying some hazardous materials caught fire off the coast of Kerala. The incident caught nationwide attention and was widely reported in the news papers. Write the likely **news report** based on the incident.

Hints:- explosion in a container results in fire - on the way from Mumbai to Colombo happens off the coast of Kerala – rescue efforts initiated by Indian Coast Guard and the Indian Navy - saves 18, 4 missing carries 650 containers including some hazardous elements containers fall overboard advisory issued to public to stay away

18. **[A]** Szpilman's memoir is classified as a survivor testimony. Prepare a **paragraph** on the reasons why it is classified as such and how such testimonies enhance our understanding of the world, making it a better place to live in. **(1x4=4)**

OR

18. **[B]** The Eco Club of your school is launching bio-degradable pens that contain seeds. Prepare **two rhythmic sentences** that can be used to create **advertisement jingles** to promote the product.

Questions 19-21: Answer all the questions.

19. You have gained insights into Srikanth Bolla's life and achievements from his speech. Using the details given below, prepare his **biographical sketch**. **(1x6=6)**

Title	: _____
Early life	: born without eyes - farmer's son – special school - 10th grade with 90% marks
Major events	: legal battle of six months to study science in HSS – scored 98% using mentor-recorded text books - privilege of working with APJ Abdul Kalam
Major accomplishments	: 1st international blind student at MIT, USA - established Bollant Industries which produces recycled Kraft paper – provides strong support system for the disabled and children
Interesting facts	: makes eco-friendly items using natural leaf and recycled products

20. The Science Club of your school is organising a motivational talk by Srikanth Bolla as part of the Young Innovator's Programme. Prepare an **event invitation** to be sent to nearby schools. Include necessary details such as the purpose of the event, date, time, venue and the credentials of the chief guest. **(1x4=4)**

21. Read the passage given below and frame **four appropriate questions** based on it. **(1x4=4)**

When I placed my fingers on the keyboard they shook. I hadn't practised for two and half years, my fingers were stiff and covered with a thick layer of dirt, and I had not cut my nails for some weeks. I played Chopin's Nocturne in C sharp minor. When I finished, the silence seemed gloomy and eerie. I heard a shot down below outside the building – a harsh, loud German noise.

Questions 22-26: Study the advertisement below and answer the questions that follow. (5x1=5)

Advertisement

Job Vacancy
Green-Tech Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Kathmandu, Nepal

Green-Tech Solutions, a leading environmental technology firm, is seeking qualified and dynamic candidates for the position of Project Coordinator.

Qualifications and Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science or related field
- Minimum 2 years of experience in project coordination
- Strong communication and leadership skills

Salary: Negotiable, based on experience

Equal Opportunity Employer: Green-Tech Solutions values diversity in the workplace and provides equal employment opportunities to all candidates regardless of gender, caste, or ethnicity.

Application Process: Interested candidates are requested to send a handwritten application along with a recent passport-sized photograph, updated CV, and copies of academic certificates to: The HR Manager, Green-Tech Solutions Pvt. Ltd., P.O. Box 445, Kathmandu.
Application Deadline: September 20, 2025.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for further assessment via email or phone.

22. What is the position offered by Green-Tech Solutions Pvt. Ltd.?

23. Which of the following is *not* a requirement for the job?

A. Bachelor's degree
B. 2 years of experience
C. Driving skills
D. Communication skills

24. What is the policy of Green-Tech Solutions Pvt. Ltd. with regard to employment?

25. Where should the applications be sent to?

A. Post Box 445, Kathmandu
B. To the CEO
C. Direct to the Managing Director
D. Submit via online portal

26. Who will be contacted by the company for further assessment?

A. Only interested candidates.
B. All the candidates.
C. The candidates who are relatives of the board members.
D. The candidates who are listed as the most suitable.

27. Edit the passage. Errors are given in bold. **(6x½=3)**

Education **empower** (a) us. We don't **needed** (b) to beg for a job after education. Try to find solutions to social problems and create jobs for **yourself** (c) and others. Convert **all** (d) problem into **an** opportunity. Come out with a solution, an invention, an innovation, an enterprise. **Became** (e) solution providers and social **enterpreneurs** (f).

28. Complete the paragraph using appropriate forms of the phrasal verbs given in bracket. **(5x1=5)**

Bablu was worried that Gowri might .....(a)..... with infections if she .....(b)..... using dirty rags. When he went to a nearby store to get a pack of napkins for her, he was .....(c)..... by the exorbitant price on the packet. Bablu decided to .....(d)..... a new project to make affordable napkins keeping in mind the health and hygiene of women. Although his family and friends advised him to .....(e)..... his strange experiments, he continued with it.

(taken aback, come down, put up with, give up, go on, set up)

29. Complete the following passage choosing the right words from the bracket. **(6x½=3)**

Giving birth to a child is the happiest thing .....(a)..... every married couple. When I was born .....(b)..... eyes, society saw me as .....(c)..... burden. But my parents showered .....(d)..... me immense love and care. They felt they were the richest couple .....(e)..... the world, and I consider myself .....(f)..... luckiest person.

(on, the, without, by, a, for, in)

30. Complete the conversation between Pelayo and his wife Elisenda. **(5x1=5)**

Elisenda : The spider woman's show is attracting huge crowds, ...(a).....?

Pelayo : Yes. The admission fee to see her is less than ours.

Elisenda : ..... (b) .....?

Pelayo : People find her more interesting because they can ask her questions and understand her story.

Elisenda : Let's focus more on the old man. We had better .....(c)..... The stench is unbearable.

Pelayo : Will clean the coop soon. If we hadn't spent all the money we earned on the house, ...(d).....

Elisenda : That's true. The renovation of the coop could have been done.

Pelayo : .....(e).....?

Elisenda : No regrets at all for keeping the angel in the courtyard. At least, we have this mansion now.

31. Report the following dialogue. **(2x1=2)**

Gowri : If I start buying these packs every month, we will run short of money.

Bablu : Please stop thinking like that. It's a matter of health and hygiene.

a. .....

b. .....

32. Create pairs using the words given in the box to provide apt captions for the images. (2x1=2)

solace, noisy, moments, toil, maternal, joyful



.....(a).....



.....(a).....