

STD 10 ENGLISH – SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT TERM I 2026–27

Detailed Answer Key – 80 Marks

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Questions 1–5 – In the Attic

1. What was the announcement broadcast in Polish?

The announcement was about the **defeat of Germany and the liberation of Warsaw**.

2. How long did the artillery fire continue?

The heavy artillery fire continued for **three hours**.

3. The sentence “The ground and the walls of the building shook under the constant dull thunder” suggests that:

Answer: B. Heavy artillery fire was taking place nearby.

4. What was the effect of the artillery fire on Szpilman?

- i. He couldn't sleep at all that night.
- ii. He was heavily wounded.
- iii. He feared that he could be killed at any moment.
- iv. He was excited about the war.

Answer: C. i and iii are correct.

The artillery fire made Szpilman extremely nervous. He could not sleep and constantly feared that he might be killed.

5. Identify the Noun Phrase in the subject position and the Verb Phrase.

Sentence: “*Radio loudspeakers set up somewhere nearby were broadcasting announcements in Polish.*”

- **Noun Phrase / Subject:** *Radio loudspeakers set up somewhere nearby*
- **Verb Phrase:** *were broadcasting announcements in Polish*

Questions 6–10 – “Friends, Romans, Countrymen...”

6. When was the kingly crown presented to Caesar?

The kingly crown was presented to Caesar **on the feast of the Lupercal**.

7. What does the refusal of the crown suggest about Caesar's character?

Answer: C. Caesar was not ambitious.

Antony uses Caesar's repeated refusal of the crown as evidence to challenge Brutus's accusation that Caesar was ambitious.

8. What was Antony's real purpose in giving the speech?

- i. To show that Caesar was a good leader.
- ii. To make the people aware that Caesar was not ambitious.
- iii. To make the crowd rethink Brutus's words.
- iv. To turn the crowd against the conspirators.

Answer: D. All the statements.

Antony gradually changes the feelings of the Roman citizens by praising Caesar, questioning Brutus's accusation and reminding them of Caesar's generosity and concern for the people.

9. Identify the poetic device in the line:

"Which he did thrice refuse: was this ambition?"

Answer: Rhetorical Question.

Antony does not expect an actual answer. He asks the question to make the crowd think and to challenge the accusation that Caesar was ambitious.

10(A). Critical Appreciation – Mark Antony's Speech

The extract from *Julius Caesar* presents Mark Antony's powerful attempt to defend Caesar and influence the Roman crowd. The central theme is the contrast between Caesar's actual character and Brutus's accusation that he was ambitious. Antony repeatedly says that Brutus is an "honourable man", but his repetition becomes increasingly ironic and makes the crowd question Brutus's claim. Antony uses **repetition, rhetorical questions, contrast and emotional appeal** effectively. He reminds the people that Caesar was faithful and just to him and that Caesar brought many captives to Rome whose ransom money enriched the Roman treasury. The reference to Caesar's tears and his concern for the poor creates sympathy for him. The tone gradually changes from apparently respectful and controlled to emotional and persuasive. Thus, Antony cleverly uses language and emotion to turn public opinion in Caesar's favour.

OR

10(B). Comparative Paragraph – Mark Antony and Martin Luther King Jr.

Both Mark Antony and Martin Luther King Jr. use powerful language to influence their audiences, but their purposes and contexts are different. Antony speaks after Caesar's assassination and attempts to make the Roman citizens question Brutus's accusation that Caesar was ambitious. He uses **repetition, rhetorical questions, irony and emotional appeal**, especially through the repeated phrase "honourable man". Martin Luther King Jr., in *I Have a Dream*, presents a vision of equality and racial harmony. He uses **repetition, powerful imagery and emotional appeal** to inspire people to fight against racial discrimination. Antony's speech gradually changes the crowd from acceptance of Brutus to anger against the conspirators, whereas King's speech inspires

hope for a better and more equal future. Both speakers successfully connect emotionally with their audiences and use repetition as an important persuasive technique.

Questions 11–14 – Japanese Football Fans

11. What did the Japanese fans do after the match?

The Japanese fans **stayed back after the match, collected the litter from the stadium and placed it in garbage bags**, even though their team had lost.

12. Why did their actions surprise people around the world?

Their actions surprised people because they **voluntarily cleaned the stadium after their team's defeat**, without being instructed to do so by officials.

13. Which statements are TRUE?

- i. The Japanese fans cleaned the stadium after the match. – True
- ii. They were instructed by officials to collect the litter. – False
- iii. Cleanliness is deeply rooted in Japanese culture. – True
- iv. The incident received appreciation from people across the globe. – True

Answer: C. i, iii and iv

14. The incident became memorable mainly because the Japanese fans:

Answer: B. showed utmost civic sense.

Their behaviour demonstrated discipline, responsibility, respect for public spaces and true sportsmanship.

Questions 15–18 – Long Answer Questions

15(A). Review – *A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings*

Model Answer

A Review of “A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings”

A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings by Gabriel García Márquez is a remarkable story that combines ordinary life with magical elements. The story centres on an old man with enormous wings who suddenly appears in the courtyard of Pelayo and Elisenda. Instead of treating him with compassion, they lock him in a chicken coop and begin to exploit him for financial gain.

The story is set in a simple village environment, but the appearance of the winged old man introduces an element of magical realism. The old man does not behave like a traditional angel. He is weak, dirty, silent and mysterious. People come from far and wide to see him, treating him more like a circus attraction than a human being.

The characters reveal different aspects of human nature. Pelayo and Elisenda initially help the old man but soon become interested mainly in the money he brings them. The

neighbours and visitors also show curiosity, selfishness and lack of compassion. In contrast, the old man silently suffers without taking revenge on those who mistreat him.

The story effectively combines fantasy with the realities of poverty, greed, curiosity and human cruelty. The old man's eventual flight away gives the story a mysterious and memorable ending. Overall, the story is a powerful criticism of human indifference and exploitation of the helpless.

OR

15(B). Write-up – “Kindness Sustains, Cruelty Destroys.”

Model Answer

Kindness Sustains, Cruelty Destroys

Kindness and compassion give hope and strength to people who are suffering, whereas cruelty and indifference increase their misery. This idea is strongly reflected in *In the Attic* and *A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings*.

Władysław Szpilman, the protagonist of *In the Attic*, suffers greatly during World War II. He hides in an attic and lives under the constant threat of discovery and death. Wilm Hosenfeld shows courage and humanity by helping Szpilman. His act of kindness gives the helpless man hope and support during one of the darkest periods of his life.

In contrast, the old man in *A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings* is treated cruelly by the people around him. Although he is weak and helpless, Pelayo and Elisenda lock him in a chicken coop and exploit him for money. Visitors treat him as a curiosity rather than as a suffering human being.

Thus, the two stories demonstrate that kindness can preserve human dignity and give people the courage to survive, while cruelty and indifference destroy compassion and humanity. True greatness lies in helping the vulnerable rather than exploiting them.

16(A). Character Sketch of Elisenda

Elisenda is one of the important characters in *A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings*. She is practical, materialistic, selfish and insensitive to the suffering of the old man.

When the winged old man appears, Elisenda does not treat him with sympathy or curiosity as a mysterious visitor. Instead, she quickly realises that people will pay money to see him. She therefore turns his presence into a profitable business. The large number of visitors brings her and Pelayo considerable financial benefits.

Elisenda's attitude shows her lack of compassion. She is more concerned about the money earned from the old man than about his miserable condition. Even after becoming wealthy, she does not show genuine gratitude or kindness towards him.

She also represents the exploitative side of human nature. The old man is helpless, yet she treats him as a source of income. Her behaviour reveals greed, selfishness and indifference. However, she is also practical and hardworking in managing the household.

Overall, Elisenda is a symbol of **materialism, greed and human insensitivity**. Her character helps the writer criticise the way people exploit the weak and helpless for personal gain.

OR

16(B). Speech on Srikanth Bolla

Speech on the Life and Achievements of Srikanth Bolla

Respected Principal, teachers and my dear friends,

It is a great pleasure to welcome our distinguished guest, **Mr. Srikanth Bolla**, to inaugurate our newly formed Entrepreneur Club.

Srikanth Bolla's life is an inspiring example of determination and courage. Born blind, he had to face many difficulties and prejudices from an early age. Some people even considered him a burden. However, his parents supported him and encouraged him to pursue education.

His journey was not easy. He faced barriers in his education and was denied admission to IIT because of his blindness. Instead of giving up, he applied to leading universities abroad and was admitted to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His achievements prove that physical limitations cannot prevent a determined person from reaching great heights.

Later, Srikanth became an entrepreneur and established **Bollant Industries**, creating employment opportunities and contributing to society.

His life teaches us that challenges should not become excuses for failure. His courage, determination and entrepreneurial spirit are an inspiration to all of us.

Let us welcome Srikanth Bolla with a big round of applause.

Thank you.

17(A). Email to the District Collector

Model Answer

Subject: Complaint regarding the cruel treatment of the old man with wings

Respected Sir/Madam,

I am writing to bring to your attention the cruel and inhuman treatment being inflicted upon an old man with enormous wings who is being kept in a chicken coop in our locality.

The old man appears weak and helpless. Instead of receiving proper care and protection, he is being treated as a source of entertainment and income. Visitors gather around him, question him and throw food at him through the openings of the coop. He is forced to live in unhygienic and degrading conditions.

Such treatment is a serious violation of human dignity and compassion. I request you to take immediate steps to ensure his safety, proper care and humane treatment.

I hope that necessary action will be taken at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,

A Concerned Citizen

OR

17(B). News Report – Operation Toofan

OPERATION TOOFAN LAUNCHED IN KERALA

Thiruvananthapuram, June 2026: The Government of Kerala has launched **Operation Toofan**, a major anti-drug campaign aimed at combating the growing drug menace and dismantling inter-state drug supply chains.

The district-level inauguration of the campaign was conducted at a school in the district in the presence of the District Collector and other dignitaries. Addressing the gathering, the officials highlighted the need for collective action to prevent drug abuse among young people.

The campaign focuses on identifying drug networks, preventing the distribution of narcotic substances and creating awareness among students and the public about the dangers of drug abuse.

The inauguration marked an important step towards building a drug-free society. Students, teachers, parents and members of the public were urged to cooperate with the authorities in the campaign.

Reported by: Staff Reporter

18(A). Product Description – Reusable Cloth Bags

ECO-FRIENDLY REUSABLE CLOTH BAGS

A Greener Choice for a Better Tomorrow

The Nature Club of our school proudly presents attractive and durable **reusable cloth bags** designed to reduce the use of single-use plastic bags.

- Eco-friendly and reusable
- Strong and durable
- Lightweight and convenient
- Attractive designs
- Suitable for shopping and everyday use
- Environment-friendly alternative to plastic bags

Choose a reusable cloth bag today and join us in protecting our environment.

Available from: School Nature Club

Special Launch Offer: Buy today and support a plastic-free environment!

OR

18(B). Proverb and Justification

The correct proverb should be

“Don’t cut the branch you are sitting on.”

The problem is that this proverb is **not among the four options provided:**

- a) A stitch in time saves nine.
- b) Too many cooks spoil the broth.
- c) A rolling stone gathers no moss.
- d) Don't bite the hand that feeds you.

Hence, **Q18(B) is defective as printed.**

19. Biographical Sketch – Twinkle Khanna

Twinkle Khanna – Actress, Writer and Columnist

Twinkle Khanna was born on **29 December 1973 in Maharashtra** to Bollywood actors **Dimple Kapadia and Rajesh Khanna**. She received her schooling at **New Era High School, Panchgani**, and later studied at **Narsee Monjee College of Commerce and Economics, University of Mumbai**. She also pursued a **Master of Arts degree from the University of London**.

She began her career as an actress and made her film debut in *Barsaat*. Later, she established herself as a writer and columnist. She is associated with *The Times of India* as a columnist.

Twinkle Khanna is the author of popular books such as *Mrs Funnybones*, *The Legend of Lakshmi Prasad* and *Pyjamas Are Forgiving*. She has also been associated with social activism, particularly in raising awareness about **menstrual hygiene**.

She received the **Filmfare Award for Best Female Debut** and co-produced the film *Pad Man*, which received the **National Film Award for Best Film on Other Social Issues in 2018**.

20. Event Invitation – Kudumbasree Exhibition-cum-Sale

STUDENT POLICE CADET UNIT

EXHIBITION-CUM-SALE OF KUDUMBASREE PRODUCTS

Dear Students, Parents and Well-wishers,

The Student Police Cadet Unit of our school cordially invites you to an **Exhibition-cum-Sale of Kudumbasree Products** organised to promote local products and encourage women entrepreneurs.

Date: 20 August 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Venue: School Auditorium

A variety of quality Kudumbasree products will be displayed and made available for purchase.

Students, parents and students from nearby schools are requested to participate and support this initiative.

All are welcome!

Convenor

Student Police Cadet Unit

[Name of School]

21. Frame Three Wh-Questions and One Yes/No Question

The following answers are acceptable:

1. **What attraction arrived in the town during those days?**
A travelling show arrived in the town.
2. **Why did more people go to see the spider-woman than the angel?**
Because the admission fee to see the spider-woman was less than the fee to see the angel.
3. **What were visitors permitted to do with the spider-woman?**
They were permitted to ask her all manner of questions about her strange/absurd condition.
4. **Did a burst of thunder and lightning cause the woman's transformation?**
Yes, it did.

Questions 22–25 – Michael Jackson Table

22. Which album established Michael Jackson as a successful solo artist?

Answer: B. Off the Wall

23. How does the song *Man in the Mirror* contribute to the development of the world?

The song encourages people to **look within themselves, change their own behaviour and take personal responsibility for making the world a better place**. It promotes social responsibility and positive individual action.

24. When was Jackson's best-selling album released?

Answer: 1982.

The album was *Thriller*.

25. Identify the statements that do NOT reflect the facts presented in the table.

- i. Michael Jackson used music as a platform to promote important social messages. – True
- ii. *Dangerous* raised awareness about environmental destruction and animal welfare. – False
- iii. All the albums listed deal mainly with environmental issues. – False
- iv. Michael Jackson's best-selling album raised awareness about racial integration. – True according to the table.

Answer: D. ii and iii only

26. Prepositions

Completed passage:

They decided to put the angel **on** a raft with fresh water and provisions **for** three days, and leave