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SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT – TERM II, 2026–27

ENGLISH

SET 1

Standard: IX **Time: 2½ Hours**

Total Score: 80

INSTRUCTIONS

- 15 minutes is given as cool-off time. Use this time to read 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 passage and answer the questions that follow. (5 × 1 = 5)

For three weeks the village of Kodakkad had been waiting. The paddy fields lay cracked like old pottery, and the temple pond had shrunk to a muddy circle where egrets stood about with nothing to do. Every evening the old boatman, Velu, climbed the small hill behind the school and studied the western sky. "Not yet," he would say, shaking his head, and the children who followed him would groan in chorus.

Then, one sticky afternoon, the wind changed. It came rushing in from the sea, carrying the smell of salt and wet earth. The coconut palms swayed and bowed as if greeting an old friend. A low rumble rolled across the hills, and the sky darkened so quickly that the cows in the field started for home without being called. When the first heavy drops struck the dusty road, the children ran out into the yard, faces turned up, mouths open, laughing. Velu stood still under the jackfruit tree and let the rain soak him. "She has come," he whispered. "She always comes."

1. How does the writer describe the paddy fields before the rain? (1)

2. Why did Velu climb the hill every evening? (1)

3. What was the first sign that the rain was coming? (1)

A) The cows started for home. B) The wind changed direction.

C) The children laughed in the yard. D) The egrets left the pond.

4. Who does "She" refer to in the last line? (1)

A) The sea B) The monsoon rain C) The temple pond D) The western sky

5. Pick out a word from the passage that means "moved from side to side". (1)

Questions 6 – 9: Read the lines from the poem Success and answer the questions that follow. (4 × 1 = 4)

The heights by great men reached and kept
Were not attained by sudden flight,
But they, while their companions slept,
Were toiling upward in the night.

6. How did great men reach the heights of success? (1)

A) By sudden luck B) By working hard steadily

C) By sleeping well D) By depending on companions

7. Identify the rhyme scheme of the stanza. (1)

8. What contrast does the poet draw between great men and their companions? (1)

9. What does the phrase "toiling upward in the night" suggest? (1)

10 A. Read the lines from **Sea Fever** and prepare a note of **appreciation** focusing on the theme, imagery and poetic devices. (5)

I must go down to the seas again, to the vagrant gypsy life,
To the gull's way and the whale's way where the wind's like a whetted knife;
And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow-rover,
And quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trick's over.

OR

10 B. In **Sea Fever** the speaker longs for the open sea, while in **Success** the poet speaks about patient hard work. Write a short paragraph comparing the attitude to life shown in the two poems. (5)

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

A young potter named Meenu lived at the edge of a busy market town. Her pots were plain, and buyers walked past her stall to the bright, painted pots of the merchant next door. One day an old woman stopped, lifted one of Meenu's pots and tapped it gently. It rang like a bell. "This will keep water cool all summer," she said, and bought three. Meenu did not change her pots, but she began to tell every customer how long she baked them and why. Slowly people returned for more. By the next summer, when the painted pots had cracked in the heat, the whole market was asking for "Meenu's pots". She learned that honest work, explained patiently, wins trust that lasts.

11. Why did buyers ignore Meenu's stall at first? (1)

12. What did the old woman discover about Meenu's pots? (1)

13. What does Meenu's decision not to change her pots tell us about her? (1)

A) She was lazy.
B) She was confident in the quality of her work.
C) She was angry with the merchant.
D) She did not care about customers.

14. Which of the following is the moral of the story? (1)

i) Appearance is more important than quality.
ii) Honest work wins lasting trust.
iii) Patience brings rewards.
iv) Always copy your neighbour.

A) i and ii B) ii and iii C) iii and iv D) i and iv

Questions 15 – 18: Answer either A or B. ()

15 A. The travel article **The Saga of the Tiffin Carriers** shows how the dabbawalas of Mumbai deliver lakhs of lunch boxes on time. Prepare a **write-up** on their working system and the values behind it. (7)

(Hints: humble beginnings – collection from homes – sorting at stations – colour and number codes – delivery before lunch – return trip – teamwork, punctuality, honesty)

OR

15 B. Prepare a **review** of the story **The Toilet**, focusing on the theme, the main character and the message. (7)

16 A. Bethany Hamilton went back to competitive surfing just months after losing her arm in a shark attack. Prepare a **news report** on her return to the sport. (6)

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OR

16 B. Prepare a **character sketch** of the narrator of **The Toilet**, based on your reading of the story. (6)

17 A. The Social Science Club of your school wants to invite a member of the Mumbai dabbawala association to give a talk to students. Draft an **e-mail** to the association. (6)

OR

17 B. The writer of **Waiting for Rain** notices that the monsoon no longer arrives as it used to. Write a **paragraph** on the changing pattern of rain in Kerala and how it affects people's lives. (6)

18 A. The English Club of your school is conducting a Reading Week with a book exhibition and a reading competition. As the secretary, draft a **notice** giving all the necessary details. (4)

OR

18 B. The rain finally arrives at the writer's village in **Waiting for Rain**. Write the likely **diary entry** of the writer on that day. (4)

Questions 19 – 21: Answer all the questions. ()

19. Prepare a short **profile** of John Masefield from the details given below. (6)

Name	John Masefield
Born	1 June 1878, Ledbury, England
Early life	Trained as a sailor; spent years at sea as a young man
First collection	Salt-Water Ballads (1902), which includes "Sea Fever"
Other works	The Everlasting Mercy (1911), The Box of Delights (1935)
Honour	Poet Laureate of the United Kingdom, 1930 – 1967
Died	12 May 1967

20. Read the passage below and frame **three Wh-questions** and **one Yes/No question** based on it. (4)

Every Saturday, Anu's grandfather walks to the river with a small notebook. He sits on a flat rock near the old bridge and writes down the names of the birds he sees. Last month he counted thirty-two kinds of birds in a single morning.

21. Write a **story** of not more than 100 words using the hints given below. Give it a suitable title. (4)

Two friends – trekking in the hills – lose their way in mist – one is afraid – the other remembers the river leads to the village – they follow the sound of water – reach home safely – lesson learnt

Questions 22 – 25: Read the details of the books given below and answer the questions. (4 × 1 = 4)

Title	Author	Type	Publisher / Year
Wings of Fire	A. P. J. Abdul Kalam with Arun Tiwari	Autobiography	Universities Press, 1999
Malgudi Days	R. K. Narayan	Short stories	Indian Thought Publications, 1943
The Jungle Book	Rudyard Kipling	Animal stories	Macmillan, 1894
Treasure Island	R. L. Stevenson	Adventure novel	Cassell, 1883
The Room on the Roof	Ruskin Bond	Novel	André Deutsch, 1956

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22. Which book would you suggest to a student who wants to read the life story of a scientist? (1)

23. Which is the oldest book in the list? (1)

A) The Jungle Book B) Treasure Island C) Malgudi Days D) The Room on the Roof

24. Name the book that contains short stories. (1)

25. Read the statements given below. (1)

i) Treasure Island is an adventure novel.

ii) Ruskin Bond wrote The Jungle Book.

iii) Wings of Fire was published in 1999.

iv) Macmillan published Malgudi Days.

A) Only i is correct B) i and iii are correct

C) ii and iv are correct D) Only iv is correct

26. Report the following dialogue. (2 × 1 = 2)

Teacher : Have you finished reading the travel article?

Student : I will finish it by tomorrow.

27. Edit the passage given below. Errors are shown in bold. (6 × ½ = 3)

The dabbawalas **is** (a) famous all over the world. Every morning they **collects** (b) lunch boxes from homes and **carries** (c) them to the station. Each box **have** (d) a code painted on **it** lid (e). Very **less** (f) mistakes are ever made.

28. Fill in the blanks using the appropriate forms of the phrasal verbs given in brackets. (5 × 1 = 5)

Bethany never thought of …(a)… surfing after the accident. Her family …(b)… her through the hard months. She …(c)… early every morning to practise, and slowly she …(d)… her fear of the sea. Today she …(e)… thousands of young people around the world.

(give up, stand by, get up, get over, look up to)

29. Complete the passage choosing suitable words given in brackets. (4 × ½ = 2)

The sky was dark …(a)… the rain did not come. We waited on the veranda …(b)… our umbrellas. …(c)… the evening a cool wind started blowing, …(d)… soon the first drops fell.

(and, but, with, by)

30. Read the conversation between a dabbawala and a reporter and complete it suitably. (5 × 1 = 5)

Reporter	How many boxes do you carry every day, …(a)…?
Dabbawala	About thirty-five boxes, sir.
Reporter	…(b)…?
Dabbawala	I start at nine in the morning.
Reporter	Have you ever delivered a box to the wrong person?
Dabbawala	…(c)…
Reporter	How do you manage it without mistakes?
Dabbawala	…(d)…
Reporter	Thank you. …(e)…
Dabbawala	Thank you, sir.

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31. Rewrite the sentences without changing the meaning. (2 × 1 = 2)

a) Masefield wrote "Sea Fever". → "Sea Fever" ……

b) The children were watching the rain. → The rain ……

32. Fill in the blanks using the words given in brackets. (2 × 1 = 2)

The …(a)… of thunder woke the baby, and the …(b)… of the rain on the tin roof kept her awake. (drumming, rumbling)

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