



ANANDALAYA
PERIODIC TEST-2
Class : X

Subject : English Communicative (101)
Date : 18-09-2025

M.M : 80
Time : 3 Hours

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains four sections.
2. Section A- Reading Section has two passages for comprehension.
3. Section B- Writing Section has four questions. Adhere to the word limit as given in the instructions with each question.
4. Section C- Grammar Section has three questions with sub-parts. Read the sub-parts carefully and only write the answers.
5. Section D- Literature Section has three questions. Read the instructions and adhere the word limit given with each question.

SECTION-A
Reading Section (22 Marks)

1. Read the passage carefully.
 - a. In the quiet town of Eldermere, nestled between rolling green hills and a dense forest, lived an old storyteller named Mr. Hawthorne. Every evening, children and adults alike would gather around his small, ivy-covered cottage to hear his mesmerizing tales. His stories, filled with adventure, mystery, and wisdom, transported listeners to distant lands and bygone eras.
 - b. One stormy evening, as rain pattered against the windows, Mr. Hawthorne began a tale unlike any other. "Long ago, in a kingdom beyond the great river, lived a young girl named Elara," he said, his voice barely above a whisper. "She was no ordinary child; she had the rare gift of understanding the language of birds. From the chirping sparrows to the wise old owls, Elara could speak with them all."
 - c. The townspeople listened, entranced. "One day," he continued, "a wounded falcon landed at her window. Its golden eyes shone with an eerie intelligence. 'Help me, kind girl,' the falcon pleaded. 'The evil sorcerer has captured the Sky Pearl, and without it, our land will fall into eternal darkness.'"
 - d. Elara knew she had to act. Guided by the falcon, she embarked on a perilous journey through treacherous mountains and shadowy forests. She faced fierce storms, cunning tricksters, and even a labyrinth guarded by a fire-breathing serpent. But with courage and cleverness, she pressed on, finally reaching the sorcerer's castle.
 - e. The sorcerer, cloaked in darkness, sneered at her arrival. "You dare challenge me?" he bellowed. But Elara, remembering the wisdom of the owls, used her wits instead of force. She tricked the sorcerer into revealing the pearl's hiding place and, in a swift motion, seized it. The sky brightened instantly, and the kingdom was saved.
 - f. As Mr. Hawthorne finished, silence hung in the air before thunderous applause erupted. The storyteller smiled, knowing that, for at least one evening, he had transported his audience to a world of wonder.
- On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions.
- (i) What was Mr. Hawthorne known for in Eldermere? (1)
(A) Farming (B) Storytelling
(C) Painting (D) Singing
 - (ii) What special ability did Elara possess? (1)
(A) She could control (B) She could speak to animals
(C) She could speak to birds (D) She could read minds
 - (iii) What did the wounded falcon request from Elara? (1)
(A) Food and shelter (B) Help to retrieve the Sky Pearl
(C) A place to rest (D) Protection from the sorcerer

- (iv) **Assertion (A):** Elara embarked on a journey to save the kingdom. (1)
Reason (R): She was commanded by the king to retrieve the Sky Pearl.
 (A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
 (B) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
 (C) A is true, but R is false.
 (D) A is false, but R is true.
- (v) **Assertion (A):** The sorcerer was ultimately defeated. (1)
Reason (R): Elara used her intelligence to trick him.
 (A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
 (B) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
 (C) A is true, but R is false.
 (D) A is false, but R is true.
- (vi) How did Elara defeat the sorcerer? (1)
 (A) She used magic (B) She fought him with a sword
 (C) She outwitted him (D) She sought help from villagers
- (vii) What happened when Elara took the Sky Pearl? (1)
 (A) The kingdom was saved (B) The sky turned red
 (C) The sorcerer disappeared (D) The birds stopped talking
- (viii) Why did the townspeople gather at Mr. Hawthorne's cottage every evening? (1)
 (ix) What challenges did Elara face on her journey to the sorcerer's castle? (1)
 (x) How did Mr. Hawthorne's story impact his audience? (1)
 (xi) Find a synonym for "spellbound" as used in the passage. (Para-c) (1)
 (xii) Which word in Para-d means as "dangerous or risky" in the context of Elara's journey? (1)

2. Read the passage carefully.

- a. Social media has become an inseparable part of the lives of today's teenagers, influencing the way they learn, communicate, and spend their time. A recent national survey conducted in India in 2024 revealed some eye-opening insights into the digital habits of young people.
- b. According to the data, almost 78% of teenagers reported spending at least two to three hours daily on platforms such as Instagram, WhatsApp, and YouTube. This figure highlights the growing role of social networking sites as spaces for interaction, entertainment, and information sharing. However, the survey also uncovered the mixed impact of this constant engagement. Around 42% of respondents admitted that social media often distracts them from their studies, leading to reduced concentration and lower productivity.
- c. On the other hand, 55% of teenagers felt that social media is valuable for staying connected with friends and family members, especially those living far away. Interestingly, 65% of teenagers reported that they follow educational or motivational content, which suggests that these platforms are not merely sources of distraction but can also be powerful tools for self-learning and personal growth.
- d. Yet, concerns remain: 35% of teenagers confessed that they feel anxious if they are unable to check their social media accounts regularly, indicating a form of dependence. The survey also pointed out a paradox—while 48% of teenagers believe that social media spreads misinformation, 52% feel that it provides quick access to useful information. This duality reflects both the strength and the danger of digital platforms: they are instant sources of knowledge but also fertile grounds for the spread of falsehoods.
- e. Educators and psychologists emphasize that the real challenge is not whether teenagers use social media but how they use it. While overuse can affect mental health, digital literacy and critical thinking skills can help young people filter information, use platforms responsibly, and strike a balance between online and offline life. The findings clearly indicate that social media is neither wholly positive nor wholly negative—it is a double-edged sword, offering opportunities for connection and learning on one side and risks of distraction, misinformation, and anxiety on the other. The responsibility lies with both teenagers and educators to transform social media into a tool that enhances knowledge rather than diminishes it.

On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions.

- (i) According to the survey, what percentage of teenagers admitted that social media distracts them from studies? (1)
(A) 42% (B) 48% (C) 52% (D) 35%
- (ii) Which statement best reflects a positive impact of social media as per the passage? (1)
(A) Teenagers lose concentration due to social media.
(B) Social media helps in spreading misinformation.
(C) Social media helps teenagers stay connected with family and friends.
(D) Teenagers feel anxious without social media.
- (iii) What percentage of teenagers admitted to feeling anxious if they could not check social media regularly? (1)
(A) 65% (B) 42% (C) 35% (D) 78%
- (iv) Which of the following quotes best matches the survey's overall conclusion about social media? (1)
(A) "Technology is a useful servant but a dangerous master."
(B) "Social media is purely a waste of time."
(C) "Without social media, there is no knowledge."
(D) "The internet is only for entertainment."
- (v) How does the survey highlight both positive and negative aspects of social media for teenagers? (1)
- (vi) Suggest one way schools can help students use social media productively. (1)
- (vii) **Assertion (A):** Social media can be both helpful and harmful for teenagers. (1)
Reason (R): It keeps them connected with friends and provides information, but may also reduce concentration and cause anxiety.
(A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true, but R is false.
(D) A is false, but R is true.
- (viii) "48% of teenagers believe social media spreads misinformation, while 52% feel it provides useful information." In light of this data, evaluate why critical thinking is essential for teenagers when using social media. (2)
- (ix) If 1000 teenagers were surveyed, how many of them would be following educational or motivational content? (1)
(A) 350 (B) 420 (C) 650 (D) 780

SECTION-B

Writing Section (22 Marks)

3. You are *Amita/Amit Sharma*, a student of Class X of *National Public School, Bhopal*. Your school has recently introduced a new system of online library access, but many students are facing difficulties in logging in and using the e-library portal. Write an application to the Principal requesting him/her to arrange a special orientation session for the students on how to use the online library effectively. (3)
4. Write a factual description in about 100 words of a famous sportsperson of your choice. Mention details about the physical appearance, playing style, achievements, habits, and qualities that are an inspiration for the youth. (4)
5. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in 120 words (7)
- A. You are *Kavya/Karan Mehta*, a student of Class X, *Springdale Public School, Lucknow*. You have noticed that people in your locality waste electricity and water, ignoring the need for conservation. Write a letter to the Editor of *The Times of India*, highlighting the importance of saving natural resources and suggesting practical measures that households and communities can adopt. Use your own ideas along with those from MCB Unit 4: Environment, to write this letter.
- Importance of electricity and water in daily life.
 - Problems caused by wastage (power cuts, water shortage).
 - Steps households can take (switch off lights, repair leaks, rainwater harvesting).
 - Community initiatives (awareness drives, strict rules).

OR

- B. You are Anjali/Arnav Gupta, a resident of Shimla, Himachal Pradesh. With the rise in tourism, your town faces problems of traffic jams, pollution, and reckless behaviour by some tourists. Write a letter to the Editor of The Hindustan Times, highlighting the problems caused by irresponsible tourism and suggesting steps to promote eco-tourism and responsible travel.

Use your own ideas along with those from MCB Unit 4: Environment, to write this letter.

- Rising tourism in Shimla (more vehicles, litter, noise, pollution).
- Effect on local people and environment (traffic jams, garbage, stress on resources).
- Need for eco-tourism (public transport, waste management, rules for tourists).
- Role of citizens, authorities, and media in promoting responsible travel.

6. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in 150 words

(8)

- A. You are Aparajita / Amlan Das, a student of Class X, Shillong Public School, Meghalaya. Write an article in about 150–200 words for your school magazine on the topic “The Role of Technology in Modern Education”. Discuss how digital tools, online learning, and smart classrooms are changing the way students learn, along with their advantages and possible drawbacks.

Use your own ideas along with those from MCB Unit 2: Education, to write this article.

- Traditional classrooms vs. modern smart classrooms.
- Use of digital tools: online learning, e-books, virtual classes.
- Advantages: quick access to information, interactive learning, flexibility.
- Drawbacks: screen addiction, inequality (digital divide), loss of personal touch.
- Balanced conclusion: use technology wisely.

OR

You are Debasmita / Debojit Roy, a student of Class X, Guwahati High School, Assam. Write an article in about 150–200 words for your school magazine on the topic “Space Exploration and Social Development in India”. Discuss how India’s achievements in space research—like Chandrayaan, Mangalyaan, and satellite technology—are contributing to communication, disaster management, agriculture, education, and overall progress of society.

Use your own ideas along with those from MCB Unit 3: Science, to write this article.

- India’s achievements: Chandrayaan, Mangalyaan, ISRO’s satellites.
- Role of satellites in daily life: communication, weather forecasting, GPS, TV broadcast.
- Contribution to agriculture (crop monitoring), disaster management (cyclone alerts).
- Boost to education, health, economy, national pride.
- Conclusion: Space research helps social and economic development.

SECTION-C

Grammar Section (10 Marks)

7. Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct form of the verb from the options given in brackets.

(3)

Riya usually (i) _____ (wake / wakes / woke) up early in the morning. Yesterday, she (ii) _____ (go / goes / went) for a walk in the park, where she (iii) _____ (meet / meets / met) her best friend after a long time.

8. In the following paragraph, one word has been omitted in each line. In your answer sheets, remember to write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it, as shown below. The first one has been done as an example.

	Before	Omitted	After	
A wise man once said life was not about	Ex. said	that	life	(4)
waiting for the storm pass but about	(i)			
learning dance in the rain. Challenges	(ii)			
are the part life and help us grow stronger.	(iii)			
We must face our problems with courage hope.	(iv)			

9. Do as directed.
- A. Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases in the given dialogue to create a meaningful sentence. (1)
- RAJESH: I've heard Himachal Pradesh is very popular among tourists. What makes it so special?
- PANKHURI: popular / is / scenic beauty, / its / for / from / Himachal Pradesh / snow-capped mountains, / adventure sports / and / all over the world / that attract tourists
- B. Report the conversation given below by filling in the blanks to complete the following paragraph. (2)
- Teacher: Why were you absent yesterday?
- Riya: I was not well, ma'am
- The teacher asked Riya (i) _____. Riya replied (ii) _____.

SECTION-D

Literature Section (26 Marks)

10. Read the given extract and answer the questions briefly, for any two extracts, of the three, given. (2x4=8)
- A. *"For the last five years, Ali had risen at daybreak, dressed himself, and gone to sit on a bench by the post office. He would wait patiently for the letter that never came. His faith never wavered. He had grown accustomed to the post office as others grow used to temples and churches. His solitary vigil had become a ritual. The postmen used to laugh at him and call out jokingly, 'Coachman Ali, where's your letter today?' But Ali never failed to smile and nod."*
- (i) Why is Ali compared to a devotee going to temples and churches? (1)
- (ii) How does Ali's behaviour reflect the theme of faith and perseverance in the story? (1)
- (iii) What does the postmen's mocking tone reveal about human attitudes towards the suffering of others? (1)
- (iv) How does the use of irony stand out in the extract above? (1)
- B. *"Nor Mars his sword, nor war's quick fire shall burn
The living record of your memory.
'Gainst death and all-oblivious enmity
Shall you pace forth; your praise shall still find room
Even in the eyes of all posterity
That wear this world out to the ending doom."*
- (i) What does the phrase *"living record of your memory"* refer to, and how is it significant in the context of the poem? (1)
- (ii) Why does the poet mention *Mars' sword* and *war's quick fire*? What do they symbolise? (1)
- (iii) How does the poet show the triumph of art over time and destruction in this extract? (1)
- (iv) What is the effect of the phrase *"to the ending doom"* on the tone and theme of the sonnet? (1)
- C. "Victoria: Grandpa hasn't drunk his tea.
Mrs. Slater: (Quickly) Victoria, don't chatter.
Victoria: He's not stirred since I came in.
Mrs. Slater: (Rising—scared) What! Father! Father! (She touches the body, then shrieks.) He's not breathing!
(They are all alarmed. There is a pause.)"
- (i) What does Victoria's observation about her grandfather reveal about her role in this scene? (1)
- (ii) How does Mrs. Slater's reaction expose her true feelings towards her father? (1)
- (iii) In what way does this extract highlight the play's satire on family relationships? (1)
- (iv) Why is the pause after the alarm significant in terms of dramatic effect? (1)

11. Answer any five of the following six questions in about 30-40 words each. (5x2=10)
- (i) The narrator calls Nicola and Jacopo “true gentlemen.” Justify this statement with reference to their actions and values in the story.
 - (ii) How does Saki use irony in *Mrs. Packletide’s Tiger* to criticise human vanity and rivalry? Illustrate with reference to Mrs. Packletide’s motives and the outcome of her hunt.
 - (iii) In *A Shady Plot*, how does the ghost’s demand reflect a satire on people’s obsession with the supernatural? Explain with reference to the writer’s experience.
 - (iv) How does the ruined statue in *Ozymandias* symbolise the transience of power and the irony of human pride? Explain with reference to the king’s words on the pedestal.
 - (v) How does Abel Merryweather’s return to life expose the hypocrisy of his daughters in *The Dear Departed*? Explain with reference to their earlier behaviour.
 - (vi) How does Shakespeare use dramatic irony in *Julius Caesar* during the scene where Caesar ignores the warnings of the augurer and Calpurnia? Explain its significance in shaping the play’s tragedy.
12. Answer any one of the following two questions in about 150 words. (1x8=8)
- A. Mark Antony’s funeral oration is often considered a masterpiece of rhetoric. How does Antony use irony, emotional appeal, and manipulation of the crowd to turn Roman citizens against the conspirators? Discuss with close reference to the text.
- OR**
- B. In Vikram Seth’s poem *The Frog and the Nightingale*, the nightingale is initially admired for her melodious singing but later loses her charm under the frog’s influence. How does the poet use satire to highlight blind admiration and exploitation? Discuss.