



**ANANDALAYA**  
**PERIODIC TEST-2**  
Class : XI

Subject : English Core (301)  
Date : 24-09-2025

M.M : 80  
Time : 3 Hours

**General Instructions:**

1. The Question Paper contains three sections.
2. Section A (Reading)- It has three passages for comprehension.
3. Section B (Writing and Grammar)- It has two questions of grammar, please read the instructions carefully. Additionally, it has four questions of writing. Adhere to the word limit as given in the instructions with each question.
4. Section C (Literature)- It has seven questions. Read the instructions and adhere to the word limit given with each question.

**SECTION-A**

**Reading Section (26 Marks)**

1. Read the passage carefully. (10)
  - a. A curious panel on the Brihadeeswara Temple in Thanjavur has long puzzled visitors—it shows a distinctly European face. Historians now believe it may be that of Lt. Col. William Lambton, a British cartographer and soldier whose work transformed scientific mapping in India.
  - b. Born around 1753, Lambton had a deep interest in mathematics and astronomy, once even injuring his eye while observing a solar eclipse. He served as a surveyor in the British army during the American War of Independence and was later posted to India in 1796. During the Fourth Anglo-Mysore War, his navigational skills saved an army unit from marching into enemy lines, earning him great respect.
  - c. Recognizing the poor quality of existing maps, Lambton proposed a trigonometric survey to measure and map British India accurately. Despite initial resistance, he received support from Maj. Gen. Arthur Wellesley, beginning the Great Trigonometrical Survey (GTS) in 1802.
  - d. Using the triangulation method, Lambton started measuring land by forming triangles between known points and calculating distances using angles. The first baseline, between Marina Beach and Madras racecourse, was measured with a temperature-adjusted steel chain. A theodolite, weighing over 500 kg, and other instruments like the zenith sector helped account for Earth's shape, gravity, and atmospheric refraction. Accuracy was key—even slight temperature changes required recalculations.
  - e. The survey team, often 150 men strong, crossed rivers, forests, and mountains. By 1806, they reached Mangalore and discovered that it was 10% closer to Madras than previously thought. The East India Company, impressed, expanded the project to reach the Himalayas.
  - f. In Thanjavur, the team needed elevation and hauled their massive theodolite to the top of the Brihadeeswara temple. During setup, the instrument fell and damaged a sculpture. A replacement face—resembling Lambton—was added, possibly with the approval of the progressive local ruler, Serfoji II.
  - g. The GTS team often had to assure wary princely states that they weren't an invading force. Once, the French navy even seized Lambton's theodolite, but returned it upon learning its scientific purpose.
  - h. Though dedicated to his work, Lambton supported his family in England and later had three children with an Indian companion named Kumerboo. His son joined the survey in 1815.

- i. In 1818, Lambton was honoured by scientific societies and appointed Superintendent of the GTS. He was joined by Captain George Everest, who would later lend his name to the world's highest peak.
- j. Lambton passed away in 1823 before completing the southern phase. However, his team continued, laying the foundation for India's modern cartographic efforts. His survey played a key role in proving Newton's theory of Earth's shape and remains one of the greatest manual surveys in history.

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

- i. Why did Lt. Col. Lambton's face possibly appear on the Brihadeeswara temple panel? (1)
  - (A) He funded the restoration of the temple after it was damaged.
  - (B) His survey team accidentally damaged a sculpture during the survey.
  - (C) He installed a theodolite on the temple to measure distances.
  - (D) The local ruler wanted to honour him for his scientific achievements. (1)
- ii. What was the main scientific significance of the Great Trigonometrical Survey?
  - (A) It helped the British conquer princely states more effectively.
  - (B) It validated Newton's theory about the Earth's shape.
  - (C) It introduced steam-powered instruments in surveying.
  - (D) It replaced traditional navigation with modern GPS techniques.
- iii. Why did Lambton insist on using a temperature-adjusted steel chain for measurements? (1)
  - (A) Steel chains were lighter and easier to carry.
  - (B) The length of the chain changed with temperature, affecting accuracy.
  - (C) The East India Company mandated its use for uniformity.
  - (D) The chain was cheaper than other measuring tools.
- iv. What does the French Navy's return of the seized theodolite suggest about the perception of the survey? (1)
  - (A) The French feared British retaliation if they kept it.
  - (B) They respected its scientific rather than military purpose.
  - (C) The instrument was too heavy and impractical to keep.
  - (D) They hoped to sabotage the survey by damaging it.
- v. Which factor most clearly demonstrates the complexity of Lambton's survey work? (1)
  - (A) The baseline was measured along Marina Beach and Madras racecourse.
  - (B) The use of a 500 kg theodolite requiring transport to elevated spots.
  - (C) The assistance of 150 men during the survey.
  - (D) The patronage of Serfoji II of Thanjavur.
- vi. Which of the following best reflects Lambton's contribution to scientific thought? (1)
  - (A) He invented a new surveying instrument.
  - (B) He disproved traditional Indian methods of navigation.
  - (C) He designed the first accurate map of the Himalayas.
  - (D) He initiated a methodical trigonometric survey to improve mapping accuracy.

- vii. Explain how Lambton's work on the Great Trigonometrical Survey influenced geographical knowledge and scientific theory. (1)
- viii. Why was Serfoji II's approval significant in replacing the temple sculpture with Lambton's likeness? (1)
- ix. The word "*progressive*" in the context of Serfoji II approving the replacement face most likely means: (1)
- (A) Moving backward in thinking
- (B) Favouring new ideas and reforms
- (C) Strictly traditional
- (D) Cautious and reserved
- x. **Assertion (A):** Lambton faced resistance initially for his trigonometric survey proposal. (1)
- Reason (R):** The East India Company doubted the practical need for such a detailed scientific exercise.
- (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.

2. Read the passage carefully. (8)

Agricultural cooperatives in India have played a crucial role in improving farmers' income, ensuring fair pricing, and enhancing rural livelihoods. One of the most successful cooperative movements was the White Revolution, driven by the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), which transformed India from a milk-deficient country into the world's largest producer of milk. The NDDB implemented the Operation Flood program in the 1970s, empowering millions of small dairy farmers through cooperative structures. Today, India has over 8 lakh cooperative societies, out of which a large share operates in agriculture and allied sectors. Cooperatives help in collective procurement of inputs like seeds and fertilizers, access to credit, and marketing of produce.

For instance, the Amul model in Gujarat enabled farmers to get better prices by eliminating middlemen, while simultaneously creating value-added dairy products. However, challenges remain—lack of modernization, poor governance in some societies, and limited awareness among rural youth about cooperative benefits. With proper reforms, digital integration, and farmer education, cooperatives can play an even bigger role in sustainable agriculture and inclusive growth.

To strengthen agricultural cooperatives, the Government of India and NDDB have introduced initiatives such as digitized payment systems, mobile apps for milk procurement, and e-market platforms for farmers. These innovations aim to improve transparency, reduce transaction delays, and provide real-time price information. Moreover, cooperatives are being linked to financial institutions for easy credit access. With the rise of FPOs (Farmer Producer Organizations) and digital tools, cooperatives are expected to become hubs of rural entrepreneurship, ensuring sustainable income for smallholders.

Source: 'Cooperatives in India', NCERT

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

- i. Which initiative under NDDB is associated with making India the largest milk producer? (1)
- (A) Operation Green (B) Operation Flood
- (C) Operation Milk (D) White Revolution Program

- ii. How do agricultural cooperatives primarily benefit farmers? (1)
- (A) By providing free seeds and fertilizers to all farmers
  - (B) By eliminating middlemen and ensuring better prices
  - (C) By distributing government subsidies only to large farmers
  - (D) By focusing only on export markets
- iii. Why is the Amul model considered a benchmark for cooperatives? (1)
- (A) It controls the entire Indian dairy market.
  - (B) It created a monopoly in milk production.
  - (C) It empowered farmers through collective marketing and value addition.
  - (D) It focused only on urban consumers.
- iv. What major role did NDDDB play in transforming India's dairy sector? (1)
- v. Suggest two reforms that can make agricultural cooperatives more effective in the modern era. (2)
- vi. How will linking cooperatives with financial institutions impact small farmers? (1)
- vii. **Assertion (A):** Cooperatives help in providing fair prices to farmers. (1)
- Reason (R):** They reduce dependence on middlemen by enabling direct market access.
- (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.

3. Read the passage given below. (8)

Life is often compared to a vast ocean, full of waves—some gentle, others stormy. Every individual faces challenges: academic pressure, peer influence, family expectations, and the uncertainty of the future. In such times, spirituality acts as an inner compass. Spirituality does not mean renouncing the world; rather, it means connecting with your inner self and finding strength in values like honesty, compassion, and resilience.

One important principle is detachment from outcomes. The Bhagavad Gita teaches us to focus on action, not on the fruits of action. This attitude helps reduce stress and fear of failure. Similarly, mindfulness—living in the present moment—prevents us from being trapped by past regrets or future anxieties. Deep breathing, meditation, and gratitude practices can calm the mind and improve focus.

Another vital value is empathy. When we understand others' feelings, we build stronger relationships and reduce conflicts. Forgiveness, too, liberates us from anger, making our heart light and peaceful. In fact, studies show that students who practice kindness and gratitude experience better mental health and academic performance.

Challenges will always come, but they can become opportunities for growth. Like a diamond formed under pressure, hardships shape character. A positive mindset, inspired by spiritual values, can turn obstacles into stepping stones. As Swami Vivekananda said, "Arise, awake, and stop not till the goal is reached." The message is simple: believe in your inner power, act with integrity, and trust that every difficulty has a hidden blessing. Life is not about avoiding problems; it is about facing them with courage, calmness, and clarity.

- i. On the basis of your reading of the passage, make notes on it in points only, using abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply a suitable title. (5)
- ii. Write a summary of the notes in 50 words. (3)

### SECTION-B

#### Grammar and Creative Writing Skills (23 Marks)

4. Complete the following passage by filling in the blanks with the correct form of the verb or an appropriate clause. (4)
- i. By the time we reached the station, the train \_\_\_\_\_ (leave).
- ii. She said that she \_\_\_\_\_ (work) on the project since morning without a break.
- iii. He cannot decide \_\_\_\_\_ will accompany him to the international seminar. (noun clause)
- iv. I will lend you the book \_\_\_\_\_ (promise) to return it on time. (adverb clause of condition)
5. Transform the following into indirect speech. (3)
- i. She said, "I have never seen such a beautiful painting."
- ii. The teacher asked, "Who broke the glass?"
- iii. He exclaimed with joy, "What a wonderful sight this is!"
6. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in 50 words (3)
- A. You are Rohan/ Roshni, a resident of 56, Green Park, Delhi. You want to sell your old study table in good condition. Draft a suitable advertisement to be published in the *For Sale* column of a local newspaper.

**OR**

- B. You are the Principal of Sunrise Public School, Mumbai. You need a qualified Mathematics teacher for classes IX-X. Draft an advertisement for the Situation Vacant column of a newspaper.
7. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in 50 words (3)
- A. You are the Head Boy/Head Girl of your school. Draft a poster to create awareness among students about "Say No to Plastic" for the school campaign.

**OR**

- B. Design a poster to promote Road Safety Week organized by your school.
8. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words (5)
- A. You are the Head Boy/Head Girl of your school. You have been asked to deliver a speech in the morning assembly on the topic: "The Importance of Soft Skills in the 21st Century."
- You may use the following cues:
- Meaning of soft skills (communication, teamwork, empathy, adaptability)
  - Why they matter in education and career
  - Examples of real-life situations requiring soft skills
  - How students can develop soft skills in daily life

**OR**

- B. You are participating in an inter-school oratory competition. Prepare a speech on the topic: "Skills Needed for Employability in the Next 20 Years."
- You may use the following cues:
- Future job market trends and impact of AI/automation
  - Skills that will be in demand (digital literacy, creativity, adaptability)
  - Importance of continuous learning and upskilling
  - Why emotional intelligence and ethical values will remain relevant

9. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in 120-150 words (5)

A. You are participating in an inter-school debate competition. The motion of the house is: “Artificial Intelligence in Education: Boon or Bane for Students?”

You are either for or against the motion.

You may use the following cues:

- AI tools for personalized learning and efficiency
- Dependence on technology vs. creativity and critical thinking
- Role of teachers vs. AI-based teaching
- Ethical issues and misuse of AI
- Future implications on learning and jobs

**OR**

B. You are to speak in a school debate competition on the motion: “Social Media Does More Harm Than Good to Teenagers.”

You are either for or against the motion.

You may use the following cues:

- Impact on mental health and self-esteem
- Social connectivity vs. addiction and distraction
- Fake news, cyberbullying, and privacy issues
- Educational benefits vs. time wastage
- Can students live without social media today?

**Section C**

**Literature Text Book and Supplementary Reading Text (31 Marks)**

10. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow. (3x1=3)

*“My grandmother was an old woman. She had been old and wrinkled for the twenty years I had known her. People said she had once been young and pretty and had even had a husband, but that was hard to believe. She was short, fat and slightly bent. Her face was a crisscross of wrinkles running from everywhere to everywhere. No, we were certain she had always been as we had known her, old so terribly old that she could not have grown older and had stayed at the same age for twenty years. She looked like the winter landscape in the mountains, an expanse of pure white serenity breathing peace and contentment.”*

- Why does the author compare his grandmother to the “winter landscape in the mountains”?
- How does the author convey his disbelief about his grandmother’s youth?
- Identify and explain the literary device in the phrase “an expanse of pure white serenity breathing peace and contentment.”

11. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow. (3x1=3)

*“I am the Poem of Earth, said the voice of the rain,  
Eternal I rise impalpable out of the land and the bottomless sea,  
Upward to heaven, whence, vaguely form’d, altogether changed, and yet the same,  
I descend to lave the droughts, atomies, dust-layers of the globe.”*

- How does the rain justify calling itself “the Poem of Earth”?
- Explain the paradox in the line “altogether changed, and yet the same.”
- What does the phrase “lave the droughts, atomies, dust-layers” suggest about the significance of rain?

12. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow. (4x1=4)
- “We were poor. We had no money. Our whole tribe was poverty-stricken. Every branch of the Garoghlanian family was living in the most amazing and comical poverty in the world. Nobody could understand where we ever got money enough to keep us in horses. But we did not steal.”*
- Why does the narrator call their poverty “amazing and comical”?
  - How does this extract foreshadow the moral dilemma in the story?
  - Identify and explain the literary device in the phrase “*the most amazing and comical poverty in the world.*”
  - What does this passage reveal about the Garoghlanian family’s values?
13. Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in about 40- 50 words each. (2x3=6)
- What does the author’s decision to let his children take active roles during the crisis reveal about his leadership and family values? Support your answer with examples from the text.
  - How did modern technology challenge earlier assumptions about Tutankhamun’s death, and what does this reveal about the limitations of traditional archaeology?
  - How does the arrival of the goldfinch transform the mood and imagery of the laburnum tree, and what deeper meaning does this convey about the interdependence of life?
14. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 40- 50 words each. (1x3=3)
- Why does the narrator ultimately decide not to claim her mother’s belongings from Mrs. Dorling, and what does this reveal about her understanding of memory and identity?
  - How does Mrs. Pearson’s interaction with her family after Mrs. Fitzgerald’s influence challenge traditional gender roles, and what message does Priestley convey through this transformation?
15. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words. (1x6=6)
- A. The family’s ordeal in the story demonstrates that leadership is not about authority but about resilience, adaptability, and empathy. Justify this statement with reference to the text, analyzing the roles played by different family members and crew during the crisis.

**OR**

- B. The poem “Childhood” reflects on the loss of innocence and the awakening of rationality. Analyze how the poet uses personal introspection to explore the transition from childhood to adolescence. What universal truths does this exploration reveal about human growth?
16. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions in about 120-150 words. (1x6=6)
- A. The story “The Address” is not merely about retrieving possessions but about reclaiming identity and dignity after displacement. Discuss how the author uses the theme of memory and moral conflict to convey the deeper meaning of the narrative.

**OR**

- B. J.B. Priestley’s Mother’s Day highlights the imbalance of domestic responsibilities and the undervaluation of women’s roles in families. Examine how Mrs. Pearson’s transformation serves as social commentary on gender equality and changing family dynamics.