



**ANANDALAYA**  
**PERIODIC TEST – 1**  
Class: XII

Subject : English Core (301)

Date : 17-07-2025

M.M : 40

Time : 1.5 Hr.

**General Instructions:**

1. The Question Paper contains three sections.
2. Section A-Reading Section has one passage for comprehension.
3. Section B-Writing has two questions. Adhere to the word limit as given in the instructions.
4. Section C-Literature has three questions. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while writing answers.

**SECTION A - Reading Section (12 Marks)**

1. Read the passage given below.

**My 30-Day Detox Changed Everything**

- a) It started off as an experiment. A friend nonchalantly said, ‘You are not broke, you are addicted to convenience.’ That hit harder than expected. I opened my expense tracker to find ₹240 for a cab ride that could have been a metro journey, ₹180 for a lazy lunch at home thanks to a cloud kitchen. The numbers added up like silent termites eating into my monthly budget. So, with a heavy heart, I decided no more online grocery deliveries, instant food apps, or on-demand cabs for 30 days — just old-school living.
- b) My first trip to the local market was humbling. It’s not just about picking things up, it is navigating crowds, bargaining, carrying bags, sweating in the sun, and remembering to bring a cloth bag (since plastic is banned). I spoke to people. The *sabziwala* told me tomatoes would be cheaper after Thursday’s *mandi*. The *kirana* store owner recalled my usual atta order. I wasn’t just consuming, I was connecting. The physical effort made me value my purchases. I couldn’t buy five random snacks out of boredom. I had to want them enough to walk a kilometre in 38°C heat.
- c) I always justified instant apps as time-savers. But without them, I noticed how I used that “saved” time — scrolling endlessly, bingeing shows, or doom-scrolling. Not exactly Nobel Prize-winning activities. My routines slowed down but felt richer. Cooking from scratch felt like an achievement. Taking the metro forced me to read again. A walk to the store doubled as a podcast session and a breather from screens. The things which were time-wasters turned out to be tiny acts of self-care.
- d) The apps sell urgency — “Get it in 10 minutes!” or “20% off right now!” But in real life, I found nothing was really that urgent. I started planning better, listing, and batch cooking. Sure, there were moments I missed the ease. Like when I needed one onion and didn’t have it. But I also discovered I could borrow from a neighbour. (Remember that quaint old idea?) Or improvise the recipe. My food tasted different — less perfect maybe, but more *me*.
- e) Reviewing my bills, the contrast was striking. I had saved nearly ₹6,000 without switching jobs, getting a raise, or a side hustle, merely by avoiding *convenience purchases*. That’s ₹72,000 a year – enough for an international trip, an emergency fund, or six months of SIPs! But the gain wasn’t just monetary. I felt lighter, more in control, more rooted in my community and my routine. The very world I had once tried to escape through an app, now felt tangible and fulfilling.
- f) Online delivery apps and quick-commerce platforms are modern marvels - but with hidden costs not just financial, but also emotional, physical, and social. They nibble away at our time,

resilience, creativity, and even our ability to deal with discomfort. This experiment wasn't a rejection of modernity, but a reset. I still use the apps, though sparingly - out of necessity, not laziness. This means I use the apps not because I *can*, but because I *choose* to. Because convenience, unchecked, is the most expensive addiction we never talk about.

-www.livemint.com-no-zepto-no-blinkit-no-instamart-just-sanity-my-30-day-detox-changed-everything

Based on your reading of the passage, answer the following questions.

- (i) What are two items the narrator mentions as part of “convenience spending”? (1)
- (ii) What does the phrase “*the numbers added up like silent termites eating into my monthly budget*” suggest? (1)
- (A) The narrator was saving a lot of money (B) The expenses were large and obvious
- (C) Small expenses quietly dented the budget (D) Termites were a real issue in their home
- (iii) Which of the following titles will be the most suitable for paragraph (c)? (1)
- (A) The Financial Wake-Up Call (B) The Real World Hurts
- (C) The Mirage Of Time-Saving (D) Convenience Is Not Cheap, It's Invisible Debt
- (iv) What was the reason the narrator began the experiment? (1)
- (A) To save time (B) On a friend's suggestion
- (C) To earn more money (D) To try a new diet
- (v) How did the narrator's interaction with local vendors change his experience of shopping? (1)
- (vi) What is the author's main purpose in writing this passage? (1)
- (A) To reflect on personal growth through simple living
- (B) To suggest practical tips for saving more money
- (C) To highlight the drawbacks of modern technology
- (D) To encourage people to only once shop in local markets
- (vii) What does the phrase “*the apps sell urgency*” mean? (1)
- The apps \_\_\_\_\_.
- (A) teach people to prepare meals very quickly
- (B) provide emergency help in real situations
- (C) create a sense of rush to make people spend
- (D) bring orders much faster than customers expect
- (viii) At the start of the passage, what did the narrator think about using apps for daily tasks? By the end of the passage, how had the narrator's opinion changed? (2)
- (ix) What tone does the narrator use throughout the report? (1)
- (A) Humorous and sarcastic (B) Informative and reflective
- (C) Angry and accusatory (D) Formal and detached
- (x) Identify the error in the given statement and rewrite it correctly. (1)
- The narrator completely rejects modern technology after realizing how much money was being wasted.
- (xi) The shift from “I was just consuming” to “I was connecting” in paragraph (b) shows that the narrator \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) began spending more money on shopping trips
- (B) moved from passive buying to meaningful interaction
- (C) became more dependent on quick delivery services
- (D) avoided shopping to save time and energy

### SECTION B - Writing Section (9 Marks)

2. Answer the following question in 50 words. (ANY ONE) (4)

- i. You are Aaron Mascarenhas, a grade XII student of Achiever's High School, Kerala. Your school is organizing a flea market where students can barter second-hand items as part of the Environment Sustainability Week. Draft a notice informing students about the event and urging them to bring items for exchange that they no longer use or were planning to dispose of.

**OR**

- ii. You are Shaily Pallar, Captain of the Swimming Team, Bridge Public School, Uttarakhand. In collaboration with the Sports & Health Club, the school is hosting a multidisciplinary workshop, "Swimming as Exercise: Technique, Endurance & Mind-Body Wellness," featuring a keynote address by Ms. Riya Sehgal (national record-holding swimmer and certified sports psychologist). Draft a notice informing students about the event and encouraging them to attend the session to gain insights into the physical and mental benefits of swimming.

3. Answer the following question in 120-150 words. (ANY ONE) (5)

- i. You are Minu Sen, an intern in a software company in Hyderabad. You feel that the growing relationship of companies with non-profit organisations have made Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) the buzzword today. Your own involvement in one such project for your company has convinced you that CSR looks beyond the company profits and focusses on benefiting the greater community. Write a letter to the editor of a national daily, sharing your opinion about CSR and its advantages and provide suggestions to make it an integral part of every organisation. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter -importance of Corporate Social Responsibility, involvement of companies with non-profit organisations (NGOs), benefits to society and the underprivileged, need to make CSR a regular company practice.

ii.



You are Rahul Mehta, a college student in Bengaluru. On your daily commute, you have often noticed how emergency vehicles like ambulances and fire brigade trucks get stuck in traffic because other vehicles do not give them the right of way. You believe that awareness and strict implementation of traffic rules can save many lives. Write a letter to the editor of a national newspaper in about 120–150 words, expressing your concern and offering suggestions to improve the situation. Use the given cues along with your own ideas to compose this letter -importance of giving way to emergency vehicles, common negligence by drivers, need for public awareness campaigns and role of traffic police and stricter penalties.

### SECTION C- Literature Section (19 Marks)

4. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

*“Every day we have said to ourselves, ‘Bah! I’ve plenty of time. I’ll learn it tomorrow.’ And now you see where we’ve come out. Ah, that’s the great trouble with Alsace; she puts off learning till tomorrow. Now those fellows out there will have the right to say to you, ‘How is it; you pretend to be Frenchmen, and yet you can neither speak nor write your own language?’ But you are not the worst, poor little Franz. We’ve all a great deal to reproach ourselves with.”*  
*“Your parents were not anxious enough to have you learn. They preferred to put you to work on a farm or at the mills, so as to have a little more money. And I? I’ve been to blame also. Have I not often sent you to water my flowers instead of learning your lessons? And when I wanted to go fishing, did I not just give you a holiday?”*

(i) What attitude of the speaker is revealed through the line: ‘Bah! I’ve plenty of time. I’ll learn it tomorrow?’

- (A) hardworking but temporarily distracted      (B) highly motivated to begin learning soon  
(C) frustrated by not having enough time      (D) procrastination and overconfidence

(ii) What does the speaker say about why people in Alsace delayed learning French?

(iii) Rectify the following statement.

Franz was blamed entirely for his poor performance in school.

(iv) The qualities of the teacher as he reflects on his role as an educator are \_\_\_\_.

- A) regrets teaching but is proud of the little effort he made.  
B) blames students but tries to appear kind and forgiving.  
C) honest, humble, and takes responsibility for his actions.  
D) accepts blame but believes parents are entirely at fault.

(v) Use the word ‘anxious’ in a meaningful sentence in the same context as used in the text.

(vi) In what context is the word ‘reproach’ used here?

- A) blame                      B) remind                      C) accuse                      D) praise

5. Answer the following questions in 40-50 words each.

- (i) How is Mukesh’s attitude to his situation different from that of his family? (2)  
(ii) What is the kind of ache and pain that Kamala Das expresses in ‘My Mother at Sixty-six’? (2)  
(iii) According to Pablo Neruda, what will counting upto twelve and keeping still, help us achieve? (2)  
(iv) Justify the title ‘The Tiger King’. (2)

6. Answer the following question in 120-150 words. (ANY ONE) (5)

- (i) Did Sam really go to Galesburg or was it Charley’s figment of imagination? Explain with evidence from the text.  
(ii) ‘Franklin Roosevelt said, “All we have to fear is fear itself.” How can this line be an apt description of how William C. Douglas dealt with his fear of water? Elaborate.