

SPECTRA PRACTICE PAPER (2025-2026)
CLASS-Xth
SUBJECT: ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE

DURATION: 3 HRS.

M MARKS:80

General Instruction:

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. This question paper has 12 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper contains three sections:
Section A: Reading Skills,
Section B: Writing Skills
Section C: Grammar
Section D: Literature Textbook
3. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
4. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
5. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION A: READING

(22 marks)

1. Read the following passage **12**

- (1) In a world dominated by digital technology, the way we capture, store, and share memories has evolved significantly. Traditional photo albums and digital photo galleries are two primary methods for preserving personal and family memories, each with its own unique characteristics. Though both share the common goal of keeping memories alive, they offer different experiences, advantages, and disadvantages.
- (2) Photo albums represent a tangible and tactile way to capture memories. A physical album filled with printed photographs provides a sense of reminiscence and can be passed down through generations, becoming a family heirloom. The process of selecting photos, printing them, and placing them in an album can be a personal and intimate experience, allowing one to reflect on the moments captured.
- (3) One of the primary advantages of photo albums is their permanence. Unlike digital files, which can be lost or corrupted, physical photographs in a well-maintained album can last for decades, if not centuries. Albums also provide a sensory experience; flipping through the pages, feeling the texture of the paper, and smelling the aging prints can evoke strong emotional responses.
- (4) Additionally, photo albums require little to no technology to enjoy. This makes them accessible to a wider range of people, including those who may not be tech-savvy. Albums can be taken to family gatherings or passed around during holidays, creating a shared experience among family and friends.

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- (5) However, photo albums come with certain disadvantages. They take up physical space and are vulnerable to damage from environmental factors like water, fire, or sunlight. Albums are also limited in capacity; once they are filled, creating additional albums can become cumbersome. Furthermore, the process of creating a photo album can be time-consuming and costly. Printing photographs, purchasing albums, and maintaining them can add up.

Digital photo galleries have transformed the way we capture and share memories. With the rise of smartphones and digital cameras, taking and storing photos has become more convenient than ever.

- (6) The main advantage of digital photo galleries is their convenience and capacity. With a single device, you can store thousands of photos and access them from anywhere. Digital galleries also offer powerful organization tools, allowing users to sort and categorise their photos with metadata, tags, and dates. Sharing digital photos is effortless; you can send them via email, social media, or cloud-based platforms, enabling friends and family to enjoy memories instantly. Digital galleries also allow for easy editing and enhancement of photos, helping to correct imperfections and improve quality.
- (7) Despite their convenience, digital photo galleries have their drawbacks. The reliance on technology means that photos can be lost due to hardware failure, software corruption, or accidental deletion. Additionally, the ephemeral nature of digital files makes them less tangible and more prone to being overlooked or forgotten among the vast array of digital content. Security and privacy are also concerns with digital galleries. Sharing photos online opens up the risk of unauthorized access or data breaches, leading to potential misuse of personal images.
- (8) Ultimately, the choice between traditional photo albums and digital photo galleries depends on personal preferences and priorities. Photo albums offer a tactile, enduring connection to memories, while digital galleries provide convenience, flexibility, and ease of sharing. A combination of both methods can offer the best of both worlds, ensuring that cherished memories are preserved and enjoyed for years to come.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- I What do traditional photo albums and digital photo galleries share in common? 1
A. Both use digital technology to store photos.
B. Both are methods of preserving personal and family memories.
C. Both are tangible and can be passed down through generations.
D. Both rely on external power sources to function.
- II What aspect of traditional photo albums makes them a cherished item for families? 1
A. The convenience of digital technology.
B. The ability to store thousands of photos.
C. The sense of nostalgia they provide.
D. The option to access them from anywhere.
- III Complete the following suitably. 1
The personal experience associated with photo albums is important because _____.
- IV Rectify the given false statement. 1
The main benefit that photo albums have over digital files is the sensory experience.

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- | | | |
|------|---|---|
| V | List any ONE way the photo albums can contribute to an enjoyable family time. | 1 |
| VI | Why has it become cumbersome to create additional photo albums, according to paragraph 5? | 1 |
| VII | Why does the writer say that digital cameras, have made taking and storing photos ' more convenient than ever?' | 2 |
| VIII | How can we say that digital photographs may not always represent reality? | 2 |
| IX | Explain why we can say that the writer did not choose sides? | 2 |

2. Read the following report. 10

Student Council Unveils School's First Student-Made Drone Programme
-by Tanveer Siddiqui, Secretary, Student Council

Bengaluru, Nov. 10 – The Student Council at ABC School has initiated a ground-breaking project involving the construction and operation of drones made by students. The programme was introduced at the school's monthly public presentation on November 7, attracting significant interest from students, faculty, and parents alike.

Mr. J. Rao, the school's vice-principal, and the head of the Student Council, Priya Desai, kicked off the event by explaining the motivation behind the project. They noted that the programme aims to provide students with hands-on experience in technology and engineering while promoting teamwork and creativity. The Student Council collaborated with local engineers and technology experts to ensure safety and compliance with regulations.

During the event, the council members demonstrated a live drone flight, showcasing the capabilities of the drones built by the students. They performed a variety of manoeuvres, including aerial photography and obstacle course navigation.

The Student Council has planned several future activities to keep the momentum going. These include a drone-building workshop, a photography contest using the drones, and an inter-school drone race in the spring. The programme is designed to engage students in innovative ways and foster a deeper interest in technology and engineering.

Answer the following questions, based on the report above.

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| I | Complete with a suitable reason.
The most likely reason why the student council secretary was chosen to draft the report was because_____. | 1 |
| II | Fill in the blank with an appropriate word/ phrase.
The term 'ground-breaking' project suggests that the project is _____and reflects a level of creativity. | 1 |

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- III What was the primary goal of the Student Council's drone programme at National Public School? 1
- To encourage teamwork and creativity among students
 - To demonstrate the latest drone technology to the public
 - To generate interest in aerial photography
 - To promote engineering skills and provide hands-on experience
- IV Who did the Student Council turn to, to ensure safety and regulatory compliance? 1
1. Faculty and parents
 2. Vice-Principal
 3. Local Engineers
 4. Head of Student Council
 5. Technology experts
- Select the correct option
- Only 1
 - Only 5
 - 2 and 4
 - 3 and 5
- V What was the most likely purpose of showcasing the capabilities of the drones during the event? 1
- VI What in the passage suggests that the live drone demonstration aimed to engage and excite the audience? 1
- VII What skills are the students expected to develop through the photography contest using drones? 2
- VIII Explain how the Student Council's drone programme at National Public School aligns with the school's goals of promoting holistic education. 2

SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS

(22 marks)

3. You are Preeti Saraswat from Uttarakhand. Write an e mail, in about 50 words, to your principal, requesting early commencement of winter uniform usage for all. Include a valid reason. 3
- You may copy the given template to write your email.
- From:
to:
Cc: principal.vjschool@gmail.com
date: February 20, 2024, 05:10 PM subject:
4. Write a factual description, in not more than 100 words of a puzzle that you purchased for yourself recently. 4

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- 5 A** Write a letter to the Mayor of your city, addressing the issue of carelessness in transportation habits and advocating for initiatives to promote car-lessness in the community. Deliberate on the environmental, health, and social benefits of reducing reliance on cars and propose specific measures to encourage alternative modes of transportation. Also, emphasise the importance of community engagement and collaboration in achieving a more sustainable and liveable city. **7**

Use ideas from Unit 3: Science, along with your own to write this letter in not more than 120 words.

OR

- 5 B** Write a letter to the Director of the Geological Survey advocating for concerted efforts to preserve and protect geological heritage sites. Discuss the importance of these sites and highlight the threats they face. Propose specific measures to conserve these valuable natural assets and request her for proactive action to safeguard them for future generations. **7**

Use ideas from Unit 4: Environment, along with your own to write this letter in not more than 120 words.

- 6 A** Tourism in India has been on the rise. Write an article in about 150 words, as Gaurav Taneja, X-B, discussing the surge in tourism in India since 2021, highlighting the key factors contributing to its growth. Propose additional recommendations to further boost tourism and predict the trajectory of the industry for the upcoming decade. **8**

Use the given cues, along with your own ideas and those you may have gathered from Unit 5: Travel and Tourism, to create this article.

- Factors contributing to the tourism boom.
- Additional recommendations to sustain and enhance tourism
- Prediction for the future of Indian tourism: Plus, and Minus

OR

- 6 B** Write an article, in about 150 words, as Gaurav Taneja, X-B, advocating for the implementation of inclusive education practices in schools, focusing on the benefits for students with diverse learning needs. Share advantages and discuss the importance of fostering an inclusive school environment. Additionally, propose any one recommendation for policymakers and educators to promote inclusivity in the education system. **8**

Use the given cues, along with your own ideas and those you may have gathered from Unit 2: Education, to create this article.

-
- Benefits of inclusive education for students with diverse learning needs
 - Importance of fostering an inclusive school environment.
-

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SECTION C: GRAMMAR (10 marks)

7. Complete the tasks (A) to (C), as directed

3x1=3

A Fill the blanks (I) -(III) with the appropriate option from those in the brackets.

In order to maintain a balanced lifestyle, we (I) ____ (**can/ should/ must**) prioritize self-care practices, such as regular exercise and healthy eating habits, to promote overall well-being.

Individuals should also (II) __ (**have engaged/engage/ being engaged**) in mindfulness activities, such as meditation or yoga, to improve mental health. Additionally, seeking support from friends, family, or mental health professionals (III)

____ (**every / some / any**) time one feels overwhelmed can contribute to a balanced and fulfilling lifestyle.

B In the following paragraph, one word has been omitted in each line. In your answer sheets, **4x1=4** 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.

No.	Text	Word before	Omission	Word after
e.g.	The science is clear: to avoid worst	<i>avoid</i>	<i>the</i>	<i>worst</i>
I	impacts of climate change, emissions to be			
II	reduced by almost half by 2030 and net-zero			
III	by 2050. Achieve this, we need to end our reliance			
	on fossil fuels and invest in alternative sources of energy			
IV	that clean, accessible, affordable, sustainable, and			
	reliable.			

C **Do as directed.**

3

a) Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases in the given dialogue to create a meaningful sentence. 1

Person X: We, as a nation are integrated into one unit. You know this, right? Person

Y: Er... I do but I'd appreciate knowing a little more please.

Person X: (i) A NATION INTO / NATIONAL INTEGRATION, / UNIFYING DIVERSE COMMUNITIES / A COHESIVE WHOLE, /REFERS TO /IS ESSENTIAL FOR / WITHIN / FOSTERING SOCIAL HARMONY /THE PROCESS OF/ AND STABILITY /WHICH/

b) Report the dialogues to complete the paragraph that follows. 2

Student 1: I've decided to become a mathematician. Student

2: Really? Why?

Student 1: Because I already excel at dividing my attention between homework and video games!

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Student 1 told student 2 that they wanted to become a mathematician. Student 2 was taken by surprise and (I) _____. Student 1 exclaimed (II) _____ their attention between homework and video games.

SECTION D- LITERATURE TEXTBOOK

(26 marks)

8. Read the given excerpts and answer the questions briefly, for **any two** excerpts of the three, given. **2x4=8**

A. "How amused everyone would be if they knew what really happened," said Louisa Mebbin a few days after the ball.

"What do you mean?" asked Mrs. Packletide quickly.

"How you shot the goat and frightened the tiger to death," said Miss Mebbin, with her disagreeably pleasant laugh.

(Mrs. Packletide's Tiger)

I What impact did Louisa Mebbin wish to create on Mrs. Packletide, with her statement, "How amused everyone would be if they knew what really happened"? 1

II Why did Mrs. Packletide ask Louisa Mebbin what she meant by her comment? 1

III What feelings did the speed of Mrs. Packletide's response reflect? (any two) 1

IV What does the writer mean by 'disagreeably pleasant laugh'? 1

B. O judgment! thou art fled to brutish beasts, And men have lost their reason. Bear with me; My heart is in the coffin there with Caesar, And I must pause till it come back to me.

First Citizen: Methinks there is much reason in his sayings.

Second Citizen: If thou consider rightly of the matter, Caesar has had great wrong.

(Julius Caesar)

I What does the phrase 'O judgment! thou art fled to brutish beasts' tell us about the speaker's thoughts? 1

II Select the line that indicates the speaker's deep grief and emotional connection with Caesar. 1

III What do the responses of the First and Second Citizens reflect about the impact of the speaker's words? 1

IV What about the extract signifies shifting sentiments among the citizens? 1

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- C. Patol Babu suddenly thought of a crucial question. 'I hope the part calls for some dialogue?'
 'Certainly. It's a speaking part. You have acted before, haven't you?' 'Well, as a matter of fact, yes.'
 'Fine. I wouldn't have come to you for just a walk-on part. For that we pick people from the street.
 Of course there's dialogue and you'll be given your lines as soon as you show up tomorrow.'
(Patol Babu)

- | | | |
|-----|---|---------------|
| I | Why was the question about dialogue "crucial" for Patol Babu? | 1 |
| II | How does Patol Babu's previous acting experience play a role in the casting decision? | 1 |
| III | What does the casting director's statement, 'I wouldn't have come to you for just a walk-on part,' reveal about his opinion of Patol Babu's acting skills? | 1 |
| IV | What type of conversation do Patol Babu and the casting director have? | 1 |
| 9. | Answer any five of the following six questions in about 40 words each. | 5x2=10 |
| I | How do Jacopo and Nicola show their dedication and love for their family member in <i>Two Gentlemen of Verona</i> ? | 2 |
| II | Interpret imagery and symbolism in <i>The Rime of the Ancient Mariner</i> , as elements that contribute to the poem's overarching themes of retribution and redemption. | 2 |
| III | How does Lawrence explore the internal conflict in <i>Snake</i> ? | 2 |
| IV | Analyse Brutus's reasoning for joining the conspiracy against Julius Caesar in the excerpt of Shakespeare's play <i>Julius Caesar</i> . | 2 |
| V | Discuss how Shakespeare's sonnet <i>Not Marble, nor the Gilded Monuments</i> conveys the theme of immortality through poetry. | 2 |
| VI | Evaluate how <i>The Letter</i> by Dhumaketu portrays the impact of separation on human emotions. | 2 |
| 10 | Answer any one of the following two questions in about 150 words. | 1x8=8 |
| I. | In the poems <i>The Frog and the Nightingale</i> and <i>Ozymandias</i> , discuss how the characters' attitudes towards power and influence contribute to their respective outcomes. | |

OR

- II. The story *Virtually True* has elements of virtual reality and advanced technology that contrast with the traditional ghostly occurrences in *Shady Plot*. How do these contrasting themes and narrative styles contribute to the overall tone and meaning of each story?

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