

# MBD MODEL TEST PAPER—1

## English Language & Literature—Class X

*Time Allowed: 3 hours*

*Max. Marks: 80*

### SECTION—A (READING)

**20 Marks**

**1. Read the passage given below. (8)**

- 1 If I become a Vice Chancellor, my first act would be to abolish all secrecy that surrounds question papers. Instead of permitting wild speculation, or as it happens nowadays, advance sale of questions in the black market, I would take some advertisement space in newspapers and publish the questions for every subject. I would add a postscript to every question paper: If you cannot answer any of the above questions, do not despair. Remember, your examiners are not infallible and may not do better if placed in your predicament. Your inability to answer will in no way be a reflection of your intelligence. We apologise for the embarrassment. Also remember, if you expect a first class and do not secure even pass marks, do not rave against your examiner. He is also a human being subject to fluctuating moods caused by unexpected domestic quarrels or a bad digestion just when he is sitting down to correct your papers; not being an adding machine, occasionally he may slip and arrive at 7 while totalling 8 and 3. Please forgive him.
- 2 At a certain university in America, I met an advanced soul. He taught Political Science. One month before the annual examination, he cyclostyled (or xeroxed) the questions and distributed them among his students, who thereafter spent nearly twelve hours a day in the library in the assigned reading room. I described to him our habit of hiding the questions till the last moment.
- 3 Your system must have been devised before Caxton, when there was no printed book, and handwritten books were chained and guarded. Memory is not so important today. Our need is far more libraries and multiple copies. The only condition I make for my boys is that they spend at least six hours a day in the library a month before the examination and while writing their answers, I permit them to refer to the books. My only condition is that they should write their answers within the given time.

**Answer the following questions briefly:**

**(1 × 8 = 8)**

- (a) What is a Vice Chancellor associated with?
- (b) What will the writer's first act be, if he becomes a Vice Chancellor?
- (c) What will the writer do instead of permitting wild speculation?
- (d) What does this secrecy provoke the students to?
- (e) What postscript does the writer want to add to every question paper?
- (f) What advice does the speaker give to the examinee who expects a first class, but does not secure even pass marks?
- (g) What things can disturb the marking standard of a teacher?
- (h) Whom did the writer meet at a certain university in America?

**2. Read the passage given below. (12)**

- 1 The intermediate and highly developed countries are now in control of world affairs, but the fact that two-thirds of the world's people are in underdeveloped countries, gives to them a potential influence of enormous magnitude. Furthermore, as we look at the characteristics of this great segment of mankind, we begin to understand the gap that separates them from the people who have greater economic advantages. For the most part, the underdeveloped world is desperately poor by Western standards; much of it is chronically hungry; it is weighed down with the burdens of poor health, poor sanitation, and inadequate medical care. It has a high rate of illiteracy, a generally low educational level, and it is technologically poor. In many of the underdeveloped countries, there is a small, wealthy, upper class, but the privileges of this group are not generally shared by the masses. The middle class is often small or non-existent.
- 2 Although there are wide differences between the old civilisations of Asia and the non-literate cultures of Oceania and Africa, these various non-Western people have many things in common besides those factors that place them in the underdeveloped category. Perhaps the two things that do most to give them a sense of unity can be summed up as colonialism and colour.
- 3 We now know that an individual's pigmentation is not an important factor in his behaviour. But since the majority of non-Western people are dark and they live in the less favoured areas of the world, it is not surprising that many Westerners consider colour a symbol of backwardness and inferiority. And because, at one time or the other, most of the non-Western people have been the victims of Western discrimination based on colour, it is not surprising that many of them consider white skin a symbol of arrogance and an object of hatred.
- 4 What is now the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand were taken from the hands of aboriginal populations. The majority of the Latin American countries have been, in varying degrees, colonised and Europeanised. In some of them, such as Argentina and Cuba, there are no aboriginals left. In others, the Indians still form a high proportion of the population; and in still others, the population represents varying degrees of mixture of Europeans, aboriginal Indians, and the blacks who came from Africa during the period of the slave trade.

**2.1 Answer the following questions briefly: (2 × 4 = 8)**

- (a) Who are in control of world affairs?
- (b) Where does the two-thirds of population of the world live?
- (c) Which three things do the underdeveloped countries suffer from?
- (d) Why do the Westerners consider the people of a particular colour as the symbol of backwardness?

**2.2 Choose the correct option for each: (1 × 4 = 4)**

- (a) The plural form of 'upper class' is—
  - (i) upper class
  - (ii) uppers class
  - (iii) upper classes
  - (iv) uppers classes

- (b) The word 'aboriginal' means—
- (i) relating to migrated people
  - (ii) relating to exiled people
  - (iii) relating to original people
  - (iv) relating to lower people
- (c) The synonym of the word 'surprising' is—
- (i) wonderful
  - (ii) astonishing
  - (iii) dumbstruck
  - (iv) depressive
- (d) The word 'underdeveloped' has—
- (i) the prefix 'under-'
  - (ii) the suffix '-under'
  - (iii) no suffix
  - (iv) no prefix

**SECTION—B (WRITING AND GRAMMAR)**

**30 Marks**

3. Vineet/Vani Prasad of 29, Rajpur Road, Ambala, is concerned about the spread of diseases during summers. Write in about 100–120 words Vineet's/Vani's letter to the Editor of a national daily, highlighting the impending possibility of water-borne diseases and the dire need of creating awareness about the prevention of such diseases through informative posters. (8)

*Or*

You are Abhishek/Amitha. You feel concerned to see how children are increasingly getting hooked on to new electronic gadgets. Write an article in about 100–120 words for your school magazine on how such gadgets influence teenagers.

4. Write a short story in 150–200 words based on the input given below: (10)

A little girl was sleeping. Suddenly, she heard a loud noise and got scared. She woke up and saw that all the family members were looking curiously at her because .....

*Or*

Once upon a time, there lived a king in a palace. He was very handsome and smart but he was a great fool. One day, he announced that .....

5. Complete the following paragraph by filling in the blanks with the help of given options: (1 × 4 = 4)

It is frightening to get stuck in a storm. A dust storm (a) ..... prove to be quite blinding and dangerous. People (b) ..... take shelter in a safe place. Children (c) ..... be told by their parents (d) ..... they should do in such situations.

- |     |            |           |             |               |
|-----|------------|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| (a) | (i) should | (ii) can  | (iii) can't | (iv) a        |
| (b) | (i) would  | (ii) can  | (iii) must  | (iv) ought to |
| (c) | (i) was    | (ii) will | (iii) had   | (iv) should   |
| (d) | (i) who    | (ii) what | (iii) which | (iv) where    |

6. The following paragraph has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Identify the error in each line, and write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet. The first one has been done as an example: (½ × 8 = 4)

The Band-Aid was <u>invent</u> in New Jersey.	<i>e.g. invent → invented</i>
Dickson was fretted as his wife Josephine cut	(a) .....
herself again and again on working in the	(b) .....
kitchen. One day while he was wrapping his	(c) .....
wound once again on a bulky bandage of gauze	(d) .....
and tape, he was struck by a idea. He put some	(e) .....
gauze on a strip of the medical tape and the	(f) .....
Band-Aid was born. Billion of cuts and scrapes	(g) .....
later, the Band-Aid is celebrating it's 75th birthday.	(h) .....

7. Rearrange the following words and phrases into meaningful sentences. The first one has been done as an example: (1 × 4 = 4)

**Example:** retailer / ice cream / to tell / the Swad / has a story

*The Swad ice cream retailer has a story to tell.*

- (a) is a / ice cream / that / tough business / selling / he feels  
 (b) nowadays / in the market / there are just / selling / too many brands / ice cream / of  
 (c) there were / varieties / just two or three / different / a decade ago / to choose / from  
 (d) every / nowadays / but / brand / coming up / is / with / new / varieties / flavours / and / different

**SECTION—C (LITERATURE TEXTBOOKS AND EXTENDED READING TEXT) 30 Marks**

8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (1 × 4 = 4)

With a satisfied expression he regarded the field of ripe corn with its flowers, draped in a curtain of rain. But suddenly a strong wind began to blow and along with the rain very large hailstones began to fall. These truly did resemble new silver coins. The boys, exposing themselves to the rain, ran out to collect the frozen pearls.

“It’s really getting bad now,” exclaimed the man. “I hope it passes quickly.” It did not pass quickly. For an hour the hail rained on the house, the garden, the hillside, the cornfield, on the whole valley.

- (a) Why did Lencho look satisfied?
- (b) What happened all at once?
- (c) Which word in the passage means ‘covered with’?
- (d) What were Lencho’s feelings when the hail stopped?

*Or*

*They do not sweat and whine about their condition,  
They do not awake in the dark and weep for their sins,  
They do not make me sick discussing their duty to God.*

- (a) What does the word ‘They’ here refer to?
- (b) What do they not do about their condition?
- (c) Which word in the extract means ‘grumble’?
- (d) How do the animals act about their duty to God?

**9. Answer the following question in 30–40 words each:** (4 × 2 = 8)

- (a) Did the seagull think the sea was like land? Pick out the words that suggest this.
- (c) How does Frost present nature in ‘*Dust of Snow*’?
- (c) What was Ebright’s achievement when he was in the second grade?
- (d) For what unusual reasons was Bholi sent to school?

**10. Answer the following questions in 100–120 words:** (8)

Give the character-sketch of Lomov.

*Or*

Though Max was very cunning, still he was ‘but a little spy’ before Ausable. Explain.

**11. Answer the following questions in 200–250 words:** (10)

Who helped the Franks and the Van Daans during their hiding of about two years and how?

*Or*

Miss Sullivan was both a teacher and a friend. Write an incident to illustrate this statement.

# MBD MODEL TEST PAPER—2

## English Language & Literature—Class X

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Max. Marks: 80

### SECTION—A (READING)

20 Marks

1. Read the passage given below. (8)
- 1 Early in 2003, Tim ‘Woody’ Witezak got some good news: a new job as Vice-president of sales with a start-up energy-efficient electrical company in the heartland of Minneapolis, a city in the Minnesota state of US. But with the position came stress and difficulty in sleeping. In June, Woody (37) saw his family doctor, a general practitioner, who gave him samples of Zoloft, an anti-depressant that also treated anxiety. (The drug’s generic name is Sertraline Hcl and it is sold in India under the brand names of Serta and Serdep.) “This was the first time that he’d ever been to a doctor about an issue like this,” says his wife Kim. “He was a happy person and had no history of mental illness or depression.”
  - 2 Within a few days, Woody experienced several side effects of the drug—night sweats, diarrhoea, weight loss and trembling hands. His anxiety worsened; he became uncharacteristically irritable and restless. One evening, he came home crying, after driving around all day. When the samples ran out after three weeks, Woody’s doctor doubled his dose to 50 mg and urged him to give the drug time to work. But two weeks later, Kim recalls, Woody walked in through the backdoor with his blue business shirt drenched in sweat. He curled in a foetal position on the kitchen floor, his hands pressing around his head like a vice and he begged: “Help me, I don’t know what’s happening to me. I think I’m losing my mind. I feel like my head is outside my body.”
  - 3 Less than a week later, Woody seemed to be springing back. He ran almost five kilometres, bought flight tickets for a bachelor party in Las Vegas and spoke by phone one morning to Kim, who was in Detroit on a short business trip. He suggested they celebrate their tenth wedding anniversary in Thailand. That evening, though things had changed, the last thing he said was, “I love you, Kim.” Woody was dead. He had hung himself from the rafters.

Answer the following questions briefly: (1 × 8 = 8)

- (a) What kind of a life did Woody lead before he became the Vice-president of sales in a company?
- (b) What did the position of Vice-president (sales) bring for Woody?
- (c) What did the doctor give Woody as an anti-depressant?
- (d) What was the generic name of the drug prescribed for Woody?
- (e) Where did Woody want to celebrate his tenth wedding anniversary?
- (f) Where was Woody to attend a bachelor party?
- (g) What did Woody do one day after his dose had been doubled?
- (h) What was Kim doing in Detroit when Woody phoned her, one morning?

**2. Read the passage given below:** (12)

- 1 All of us do some kind of work to ward off starvation or to gain sufficient material wealth with a view to maintaining that standard of living which our physical and intellectual powers have helped us to reach. But there is another kind of work which is completely divorced from the burdensome process of our livelihood and which is undertaken for the sake of amusement or interest or the direction of our surplus stores of energy in some new and useful channels of refined tastes. This delightful occupation, combining work with pleasure, or hobby, as it is properly termed, calls for the application of our highest faculties, and gives a proper form to our healthy instincts, purposeful habits and disciplined behaviour. In our carefree and vacant hours, it allows these faculties to perform their natural functions and to display their instinctive greatness. Hobbies widen the sphere of our cultural activities, give refinement to our tastes and show us the path that leads to our systematic mental and moral development.
- 2 A hobby is a favourite subject or occupation that is not one's main business. In this age of machinery which has taken upon itself most of the laborious duties of physical exertion formerly performed by man, thus creating for him pleasant intervals of rest and leisure, it should not be difficult for him to devote some time to the pursuit of a new interest that can add some charm, colour or zest to his life. The spare time must not be frittered away in idleness or spent on such work as overtaxes his mind and body after they have performed their normal function for the day.
- 3 Some hobbies demand a little guidance from experienced persons. Our sudden attachment to them without the backing of the preliminary knowledge may result in wasting of our resources of time and money, and in the end compel us to abandon them. Some hobbies are rather expensive, and therefore beyond the means of ordinary people who can ill afford to spend large sums of money on them. Not a few are incompatible with our temperament and taste. We must not, therefore, allow the glamour of certain hobbies to blind us to their reality, howsoever tempting they may appear to us, nor should we begin to cherish them thoughtlessly because we find other people so devotedly attached to them.

**2.1 Answer the following questions briefly:** (2 × 4 = 8)

- (a) Why do all of us do some kind of work?
- (b) What do you call the work which is undertaken for the sake of pleasure?
- (c) When do people get the pleasure of executing their hobbies?
- (d) What has taken upon itself most of the laborious jobs of man today?

**2.2 Choose the correct option for each:** (1 × 4 = 4)

- (a) The opposite of 'delightful' is—
  - (i) harmful
  - (ii) interesting
  - (iii) pleasant
  - (iv) unpleasant

- (b) The word 'preliminary' means—  
(i) concluding  
(ii) final  
(iii) initial  
(iv) middle
- (c) The word 'purposeful' has—  
(i) the prefix 'pur-'  
(ii) the suffix '-ful'  
(iii) no suffix  
(iv) no prefix
- (d) The word 'laborious' in the passage is—  
(i) a noun  
(ii) a pronoun  
(iii) an adjective  
(iv) an adverb

**SECTION—B (WRITING AND GRAMMAR)**

**30 Marks**

3. Write in about 100–120 words a letter to the Editor of a newspaper, expressing your views about the 'Right to Education' and emphasising the importance of education in the life of people. Suggest some measures that the government should take to make it a reality. You are Shashank, a student of class X of Government Co-educational School, Kota. (8)

*Or*

Arun feels alarmed at the way his city has changed in the past five years. He writes an article for his city newspaper, expressing his concern and painting the present position to caution people against environmental pollution. Write his article in about 100–120 words.

4. Write a short story in about 150–200 words based on the input given below: (10)

One day, Munish was returning home from school. He saw a dog on the way. It was foaming at its mouth .....

*Or*

Swami was sleeping all alone in his father's study. At about midnight, he heard a little rustling noise in the room .....

5. Complete the following paragraph by filling in the blanks with the help of given options: (4)

Early rising is a very good habit. It keeps us healthy and enables us to work harder. Early hours (a) ..... good for our body and mind as well. The air is then cool and fresh. It is



very useful for our lungs; it gives us strength. A walk in the early hours (b) ..... us physically fit. A student can study better in the early hours. It is very calm (c) ..... that time. There is (d) ..... noise.

- |     |           |             |             |           |
|-----|-----------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| (a) | (i) were  | (ii) will   | (iii) was   | (iv) are  |
| (b) | (i) takes | (ii) brings | (iii) keeps | (iv) kept |
| (c) | (i) on    | (ii) at     | (iii) in    | (iv) out  |
| (d) | (i) any   | (ii) no     | (iii) much  | (iv) less |

6. The following paragraph has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Identify the error in each line, and write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet. The first one has been done as an example: (4)

When our earth was cover with water, all creatures had to swim on it. When the water subsided and land appeared, the sea creatures crawled out and learnt to breathing and walk on land. When there are not enough plants left to eat, they learnt to hunt and kill from the food. Things are still changing and if one want to survive, one will have to change too. Look, even Mumbai has changed. Fifty years past there were hill, gardens, beautiful villas where now you see shops, traffics, crowds and slums.

e.g. *cover* → *covered*

(a)	.....
(b)	.....
(c)	.....
(d)	.....
(e)	.....
(f)	.....
(g)	.....
(h)	.....

7. Rearrange the following words and phrases into meaningful sentences. The first one has been done as an example: (4)

**Example:** the / there / numberless / are / sky / stars / in  
*There are numberless stars in the sky.*

- (a) the / stars / sky / twinkle / the / in / at night  
 (b) reveal / universe / could / the size / this / of the  
 (c) flecking / scientists say / the / stars / that / of the / distance / indicates  
 (d) universe / this / mystery / the / stars / have / helped / a lot / solving / in / of

**SECTION—C (LITERATURE TEXTBOOKS AND EXTENDED READING TEXT) 30 Marks**

8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (4)

And it's impossible for me not to marry. In the first place, I'm already 35 — a critical age, so to speak. In the second place, I ought to lead a quiet and regular life. I suffer from palpitations. I'm excitable and always getting awfully upset. At this very moment my lips are trembling, and there's a twitch in my right eyebrow.

- (a) Who says these lines and to whom?  
 (b) Whom does the speaker intend to marry?

- (c) What does he call a critical age and why?
- (d) What is happening to him while he is talking?

*Or*

She suffered incessantly, feeling herself born for all delicacies and luxuries. She suffered from the poverty of her apartment, the shabby walls and the worn chairs. All these things tortured and angered her.

- (a) Who does 'She' in these lines refer to?
- (b) Why did 'She' feel that she was born for "all delicacies and luxuries"?
- (c) What was it that tortured and angered her?
- (d) Find in the passage a word that means 'constantly'.

**9. Answer the following questions in 30–40 words each:** (4 × 2 = 8)

- (a) How do you know that Anne was close to her grandmother?
- (b) How do Lomov and Chubukov abuse each other during their quarrel over the Oxen Meadows?
- (c) How does Think-Tank explain the books to his Probe Crew?
- (d) How would you assess Griffin as a scientist?

**10. Answer the following questions in 100–120 words:** (8)

'I was not born with a hunger to be free.' When did Mandela begin to hunger for it?

*Or*

Who is the real culprit in the story, '*A Question of Trust*'? How did the real culprit manage to rob the safe without leaving a single fingerprint?

**11. Answer the following questions in 200–250 words:** (10)

Anne described the loss of her pen in the November 11, 1943 entry. What title did she give to the chapter? What does the destruction of her pen symbolise?

*Or*

Had it not been for the wisdom of Helen's mother, the long night would have lasted for ever, blocking all hope. Comment.