COMMON PRE- BOARD EXAMINATIONS-2023

ENGLISH CORE (301)

CLASS-XII

Time allowed: 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. 15-minute prior reading time allotted for Q-paper reading.

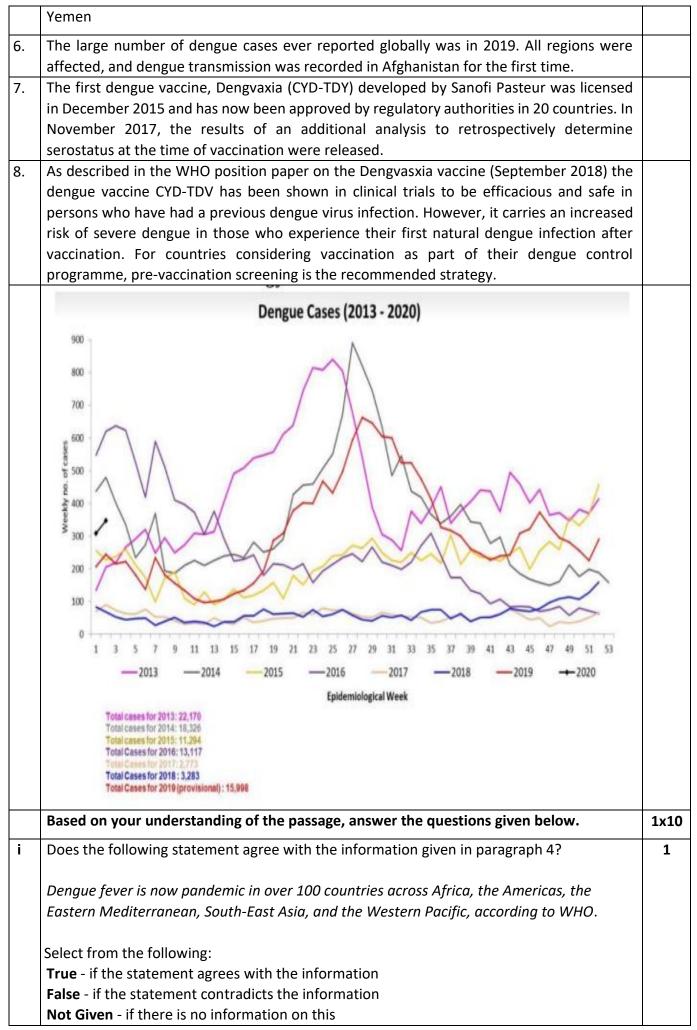
2. The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, WRITING and LITERATURE.

3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number in your answer sheet to indicate the option/s being attempted

	Section A: READING SKILLS (20 marks)	
1	Read the passage given below.	10
1	Suspense was over when my high school results finally came out. But I was upset. I had no as well as I had expected. My father tried to console me. "Why are you worried? You have very well my dear."	
2	"No, I have not Baba," I protested, controlling my tears, and wondering if I had disappoin him. "It does not really matter," he assured me. "Do you know what I got when I finished school?" I looked into Baba's face and waited for the answer to his own question. "You kn he told me "I have never told you this. I got just a third division. But, look at me, I have quite well:" Baba got a third division! I was almost in shock, but the thought of my having a lot better than that made me realize that I had no reason to complain. I certainly felt be "Everything is under control!" said Baba, smiling. That was his favourite phrase. Poste Kolkata, my father was then a senior official in the Indian Railway Service, and an expe goods traffic operations. He was soon to become a director with the Railway Board. By the he retired in 1981, he was general manager of the Central Railways. By the time Baba pa away in November 2000, his name had found place in several hearts as well. He was open, to know, and full of life. We were extremely close, but I had so much more to learn about from many things I came to know after his death.	I high now:" done done etter! ed in ert in time assed , easy
3	In September 2000, he was in hospital for treatment of cancer and given just two months When he found out, his reaction was an extremely rational one. He asked me to fetch file his cupboard, so that he could explain the details of my mother's pension. He also dictat will from his hospital bed.	s from
4	"Everything is under control!" After Baba's death, Satish, our old family retained inconsolable. We tried to cheer him up. "Your Baba had scolded me only once in all these y he cried. Satish pointed to the watch on his left hand. "I had been coming late for wo everyone in the family was complaining about it," said Satish. "Then, one day, your Bab me this watch and told me, 'Now that you have a watch, you can't be late'." That was the so Satish received. On the fourth day after Baba's death, my sister and I had to perform a cere Since several relatives were expected, we decided to order lunch from a caterer in our lo reputed for his home cooked food. But, when we went to pay to owner, we got a surpri refused to accept any money! "When I wanted to start my catering business, it was your who lent me money:" he told us. It seems Baba never asked for it back. Now, after four years, the caterer wanted to repay that debt. Of course, we made him accept the full pa for the fine food and service. "It was Baba's gift and it ought to remain so," I told him.	years!" ork and a gave colding emony. ocality, ise. He father or five

5	Some days later, there was yet another piece of information as we were preparing for the ceremony. Vikram, my brother drove me to the local market. On recognizing our ca parking assistant, in his twenties, came running towards us and asked why he had not see owner for long. We had to break the news to him and to our utter surprise, he started or We were really surprised by this reaction from a stranger - until the man told us that Baba to pay his daughter's school fees and buy her books. It seems, it was on my father's advice he had even started sending the child to school. More than three years after Baba's dea we were looking into Baba's personal things, we came across an old file with Baba's certife and I found among them, his high school diploma from 1937, the one he told me about 30 earlier, about the third division that had made no difference in his life or career. It had me see beyond mere marks and first classes as the main road to success. But there was more fact. Baba had actually got a first division, a rare achievement in his day. Today, after his passing, when I think of Baba, I see a man who was able to sympathise with oth easily and touch their lives in such a special way.	r, the een its rying. a used e that oth, as icates years made as one years ers so
i	Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.	1x10 1
	Father's revelation of his high school result to the narrator, was to	1
ii	 "I was almost in shock" Pick the option in which the meaning of shock[ed] is not the same as it is in the passage. A. Julie was deeply in shock by her grandmother's death. B. He completely shocked everyone with his news. C. When she went to China, she experienced culture shock. D. When the doctor noticed that the health of the patient was not improving, he suggested the shock therapy. 	1
	 Based on your reading of the passage choose the option that lists the correct sequence of the events. 1. The narrator's result was declared. 2. The narrator's father told him about his high-school result. 3. The narrator went to the market with his brother, Vikram. 4. Baba passed away. 5. The narrator realised that his father had actually got a first division. A. 5, 2, 1, 3, 4 B. 1, 2, 4, 3, 5 C. 3, 2, 1, 5, 4 D. 4, 1, 3, 5, 2 	1
iv	After the reading of the passage, it can be concluded that the narrator's father had a approach towards the people and society.	1
v	How did father react to the narrator's high school result?	1
vi	According to the passage, what does the narrator's disappointment after seeing his result show?	1
vii	Pick the option that correctly states what DID NOT happen after the narrator's father passed away.	1
	A. No one turned out for Baba's condolence.	

	B. Everybody in the nearby area praised Baba for his helping nature.	
	C. The caterer refused to take the money. D. The narrator found Baba's old file with the certificates and his high school	
	diploma in it.	
viii	According to the passage, the narrator's high school result was	1
ix	Pick out the option that correctly lists the final feelings of the narrator after finding his	1
	father's old file.	
	1. frustrated	
	2. satisfied	
	3. hopeful	
	4. arrogant	
	5. pessimistic	
	6. disappointed	
	A. 2 and 3 B. 4 and 6	
	C. 1 and 5 D. 5 and 6	
x	Choose the correct synonyms of 'rational' as given in para 2, from the options given	1
	below.	
	1. logical	
	2. reasonable	
	3. agitated	
	4. thoughtless	
	A. 1 and 4 B. 1 and 3	
	C. 2 and 4 D. 1 and 2	
II	Read the passage given below.	10
1.	The incidence of dengue has grown dramatically around the world in recent decades. A vast	
	majority of cases are asymptomatic or mild and self-managed, and hence the actual	
	numbers of dengue cases are under-reported or often misdiagnosed.	
2.	One estimate indicates 390 million dengue virus infections per year (95% credible interval	
	284-528 million), of which 96 million (67 – 136 million) manifest clinically (with any severity	
	of disease). The number of dengue cases reported to WHO increased over 8-fold over the	
	last two decades.	
3.	This alarming increase in case numbers is partly by a change in national practices to record	
	and report dengue to the Ministries of Health, and to the WHO. But it also represents government recognition of the burden, and therefore the pertinence to report dengue	
	disease.	
4.	Before 1970, only 9 countries had experienced severe dengue epidemics. The disease is	
	now endemic in more than 100 countries in the WHO regions of Africa, the Americas, the	
	Eastern Mediterranean, South-East Asia and the Western Pacific. The America, South-East	
	Asia and Western Pacific regions are the most seriously affected. With Asia representing	
	around 70% of the global burden of diseases.	
5.	In 2020, dengue continues to affect several countries, with reports of increases in the	
	number of cases in Bangladesh, Brazil, Cook Islands, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Maldives,	
	number of cases in bangiadesh, brazil, cook islands, Ecdador, india, indonesia, Maldives,	



ii	Are you of the opinion that the year 2019 saw an outbreak that spread to every region, and Afghanistan saw its first case of dengue transmission?	1
iii	 Choose the option that is correct about the rise in the number of dengue cases A. Rise in dengue is due to rise in tourism B. Dengue is being tested and reported in vast numbers C. Dengue is a communicable disease D. Dengue spread is uncontrollable 	1
iv	Complete the sentence based on the following statement. According to the WHO report, around 30% of dengue cases from around the world do not occur in Asia. We can say this because	1
v	 Which year saw the greatest number of Dengue cases, according to this WHO report? A. 2017 B. 2015 C. 2020 D. 2019 	1
vi	 What is the above report informing us about? Choose the most appropriate response A. Spread of dengue and its effects around the world B. Spread of dengue and its under-reportage C. Spread of Dengue and how it affects Asia D. Spread of Dengue and directions on the use of vaccine 	1
vii	The incidence of dengue has grown dramatically around the world in recent decades. Give one reason why the actual number of dengue cases are more than the figures in the reports.	1
viii	Complete the sentence appropriately with one word. <i>Pre-vaccination screening is the recommended</i> for nations that are thinking about <i>including vaccination as part of their dengue control programme</i> . A. code B. tactic C. procedure D. information	1
ix	 In the line, 'and therefore the pertinence to report dengue disease', the word pertinence does not mean A. Importance B. Ignorance C. Relevance D. Appropriateness 	1

х	Based on the reading of the text, state a point to challenge the given statement.	1
	Dengue vaccine works effectively on people who haven't been infected before.	
11	SECTION B – CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS	20
	All the names and addresses used in the questions are fictitious. Resemblance, if any, is purely coincidental.	
1.	Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.	5
A	You are Avani/Avinash. As Secretary of Students' Forum, you want to start a Wall Magazine	
	for the students of the school. Write a notice in about 50 words, inviting articles, stories,	
	poems and campus-news for the wall-Magazine.	
	OR	
В	R J Public School is located in a Central Government Employees Residential colony. The	
	Cultural Society of the School has decided to organise a fancy dress show on 25th of January	
	in which each participant will wear the dress particular to his/ her region. The aim is to	
	show the cultural diversity of India. As the Secretary, write a notice, inviting the names of	
	those who want to participate in about 50 words.	
2	Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below	5
A	You are Ankit Verma. Your friend from Malaysia is staying in the hostel. Invite him to join	
	Diwali celebrations with you at your residence. Write the invitation in about 50 words	
	giving all necessary details.	
	OR	
В	You are Akshya/Aakriti. You have been invited to participate in a seminar on	
	'Fundamental Rights of Children', organised by the Lions Club of your district. Respond	
	and decline the invitation by writing a letter to the Secretary of the club in about 5 words.	
3	Attempt ANY ONE from A and B given below.	5
	You are Rekha/Rakesh, a student of Bharti Public School Class XII. The students are	
	required to cope with a lot of stress in today's competitive environment. Write a letter to	
	the editor highlighting the increasing stress faced by students and suggesting ways and	
	means to combat it.	
Α	 Dos and don'ts FOR STUDENTS Stress has an inverse correlation with studies. Try to be your best and set realistic goals. One cannot master a cubiect in a four days 	
	 Subject in a rew days. Consult your teachers when you feel you lacking in confidence. Taking periodic breaks is very important. Allow yourself a break of at crucial before and during the crucial before and during the periodic breaks and peers. Don't allow 	
	least 15 to 20 minutes after each three to four hours of study. Use that time to do something that relaxes you — listening to music, watching TV, or taking a walk. examination period. Set a schedule and try to follow that. Don't cut down on your sleep negative thoughts	
	OR	
3	Apollo International School, Karnal requires sports coaches and some other teachers.	
	Each should be a degree holder in physical education as well as an SAI-certified coach in	

	athletics. You have seen their advertisement and you know that you have these	
	qualifications. Write an application in 120-150 words along with your resume. You are	
	Praveen/Praveena, M-114, Najafgarh, Delhi.	
	APOLLO INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL	
	VILLAGE DADUPUR, KARNAL	
	Invites application from trained and experienced candidates with bright academic career, proficiency	
	Invites application from trained and experienced candidates with bright academic career, proficiency in co curricular activities, computer literate, comfortable with technology, good communication skills, for the following posts :-	
	PRINCIPAL - PRT - Science, English, Social Science	
	(Minimum 5 yrs experience required) Music Teacher TGT - Science, English, Social Science Front Desk Executive -	
	IGI - Science, English, Social Science Pre Primary Teacher - Females only	
	Trained nursery teacher with	
	Counselor - M.A / M.Sc in Part Time Sports Coaches - Boxing, Skating, Lawn Tennis, Basket Ball,	
	Child Psychology having 2-3 yrs of exp. Gymnastic	
	(1). Post Graduate / Graduate, B.Ed. (2). At least two year of experience in their respective subject.	
	No constraint of salary for desrving candidates. Accommodation available for outstation candidates	
4.	Attempt <u>ANY ONE</u> from A and B given below.	5
A	You are Jay/Jaya, studying in Shyamala Memorial Hall, Trichy. Some students of your	1
	school attend a first aid training camp for a week at Red Cross Headquarter of your state.	
	Write a report for your school magazine in 100-125 words on the events of the camp and	
	your participation and performance.	
	OR	
_		
В	Information Technology has provided new avenues to the students for knowledge,	
	creativity, discovery as well as job opportunities at home and abroad. Computers have	
	brought in a silent revolution. Write an article in 150-200 words showing how the	
	information technology has provided the younger generation new opportunities, joys of	
	discovery and thrill of creativity. You are Madhu/Mudit.	
	SECTION C - LITERATURE	40
IV	Read the given extracts to attempt the questions with reference to context	
1	Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.	1*6=6
	"A roadside stand that too pathetically pled,	
	It would not be fair to say for a dole of bread,	
	But for some of the money, the cash, whose flow supports	
	The flower of cities from sinking and withering faint."	
	(A Roadside Stand)	
i.	Why is it unfair to say that these people are begging for a dole of bread?	1
	A. Because they are unreasonably begging for money	
	B. Because they have something to sell	
	C. Because they don't have anything to sell	
	D. As they shamelessly beg for bread	
ii	Identify the phrase that suggests the following:	1
	They plead to the rich city dwellers to buy something.	
iii	The poor people look at the city money for their	1
	A. survival and betterment	
	B. sorrow and misery	
	C. growth and opportunity	
L		1

	D. well being	
iv	Complete the following analogy correctly. Do NOT repeat from used example.	1
	A reading stand that too pathotically plad : personification :: Elewer of Cities:	
	A roadside stand that too pathetically pled : personification :: Flower of Cities:	
v	Fill the blank with an appropriate word, with reference to the extract.	1
	The word which signifies the poor condition of the owner of the stand is	
vi	On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to (1) and (2) given	1
	below.	
	(1) The poor people are expecting passers-by to buy goods from them.	
	(2) They want to earn money for their betterment.	
	$\Lambda = (1)$ is true but (2) is false	
	A. (1) is true but (2) is false. P_{1} (2) is true but (1) is false.	
	B. (2) is true but (1) is false.C. (2) is the reason for (1).	
	D. Both (1) and (2) cannot be inferred from the extract.	
	OR	
1.B	What I want should not be confused with total inactivity.	
	Life is what it is about;	
	I want no truck with death. (Keeping Quiet)	1
i	What is it that should not be confused with total inactivity? A. Silence	1
	B. Lack of desires	
	C. Illness	
	D. d. Sufferings	
ii	On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to (1) and (2) given	1
	below.	-
	(1) The poet wants people to adopt a new approach to life.	
	(2) Life is all about introspecting deeply.	
	A. (1) is true but (2) is false.	
	B. (2) is true but (1) is false.	
	C. (2) is the reason for (1).	
	D. d. Both (1) and (2) cannot be inferred from the extract.	
iii	Explain no truck with death?	1
	A. Silence is not completely associated with death	
	B. No accident with a truck	
	C. Death caused by a truck	
	D. Death caused due to a silent disease	
iv	What should be the aim of our life?	1
	A. To walk on a meaningful and purposeful path	
	B. To travel	
	C. To fight our foes	
<u> </u>	D. d. To reach heights	4
v	The name of the poet is: A. Pablo Neruda	1
1		1

	B. Kamala Das	
	C. Pearl Sydenstricker Buck	
	D. d. None of these	
vi	The poet does not want people to stop their , rather he wants them to take	1
	some time and analyze the results of their deeds.	
2.	Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given.	1*4=4
2.A	You lose all earthly sense of perspective and time here. The visual scale ranges from the	
2.A	microscopic to the mighty: midges and mites to blue whales and icebergs as big as countries (the largest recorded was the size of Belgium). Days go on and on and on in surreal 24-hour austral summer light, and a ubiquitous silence, interrupted only by the occasional avalanche or calving ice sheet, consecrates the place. It's an immersion that will force you to place yourself in the context of the earth's geological history. And for humans, the prognosis isn't good. <i>(Journey to the end of the Earth)</i>	
i	Select the option that correctly fits the category of microscopic to the mighty out of the	1
-	ones given below.	-
	1. Trace of a skin cell: trace of a bird's egg	
	2. A grain of rice: field of wheat	
	3. A scoop of ice cream: an ice-cream cone	
	4. A drop of water: Pacific Ocean	
	A. 1, 2	
	В. 3,4	
	C. 1, 3	
	D. 2,4	
ii	Choose the option listing the elements that influences one to think of earth's physicality.	1
	1. Breakage of an iceberg from a glacier	
	2. Midges and mites	
	3. A regular seen avalanche	
	4. Summer light in the Southern hemisphere	
	A. 1, 2	
	B. 3, 4	
	C. 1, 4	
	D. 2, 3	1
iii	Complete the sentence appropriately, with reference to the extract.	1
	Choose the phrase that refers to the range of things one can see	
iv	How did Antarctica amaze the writer when he first saw it?	1
	OR	
2.B	From that day onwards it was celebration time for all the tigers inhabiting	
	Pratibandapuram. The state banned tiger hunting by anyone except the Maharaja. A	
	proclamation was issued to the effect that if anyone dared to fling so much as a stone at a	
	tiger, all his wealth and property would be confiscated. The Maharaja vowed he would	
	attend to all other matters only after killing the hundred tigers. Initially the king seemed	
	well set to realise his ambition. Not that he faced no dangers. There were times when the	
	bullet missed its mark, the tiger leapt upon him and he fought the beast with his bare	
	hands. Each time it was the Maharaja who won. (The Tiger King)	
i	What is the tone of the author when he says, "it was celebration time for all tigers"	1

ii	On the basis of this passage, pick the option that enumerates the characteristics of the	1
	king.	-
	1. gullible	
	2. arrogant	
	3. wilful	
	4. aggressive	
	5. apathetic	
	6. scrupulous	
	A. 1, 2 and 6	
	B. 3, 4 and 6	
	C. 3, 5 and 6	
	D. 2, 3 and 5	
iii	The king killed only the tigers specifically because	1
iv	The proclamation shows that the king was:	1
	A. Very thoughtful about his subject	
	B. A selfish man who cared only for his life	
	C. Attended all the matters simultaneously	
	D. d. He was an animal lover so he banned hunting	
3	Attempt ANY ONE of two extracts given	1*6=6
3.A	Now I have become sad, she thought. And it is a hard burden to carry, this sadness. Sitting	
	here waiting and knowing he will not come I can see the future and how I will have to live	
	with this burden. They of course will doubt me, as they always doubted me, but I will have	
	to hold up my head remembering how it was. already I envisage the slow walk home, and	
	Geoff's disappointed face when I tell him, "He didn't come, that Danny." And then he'll fly	
	out and slam the door. (Going Places)	
i	What is hard for Sophie to carry?	1
	A. Jansie's friendship	
	B. Casey's indifferent attitude	
	C. The sadness of not meeting Danny	
	D. Her father's anger	
ii	Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer Geoff's disappointment. (Clue: an	1
	action)	
iii	What does Sophie envisage?	1
	A. Danny's coming on a horse	
	B. Jansie's playing real foil for her misadventures	
	C. Her mother supporting her in her endeavour	
	D. Geoff's disappointed face	
iv	Replace the underlined word with its synonym from the extract.	1
	She had already <u>predicted</u> Geoff's reaction.	
v	Based on the above extract, choose the statement that is TRUE with reference to the	1
	given extract.	
	A. Sophie gives up her dream of meeting Danny.	
	B. She was happy about the rendezvous.	
	C. She felt happy that she would not have to face her father upon reaching home.	
	D. She was sure that Danny would come.	
	Complete the contence with an appropriate explanation, as nor the extract	1
vi	Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.	-

	OR	
3.B	Set amidst the green fields of Dhaka, his home is not even a distant memory. There were	1
	many storms that swept away their fields and homes, his mother tells him. That's why	
	they left, looking for gold in the big city where he now lives. (Lost Spring)	
i	Replace the underlined word with its antonym from the extract.	1
	His home was at the <u>edge o</u> f the lush meadows.	
ii	Who is <i>'his'</i> here?	1
	A. Mukesh	
	B. Father	
	C. Saheb	
	D. Author	
iii	The boy referred to in the given extract earlier lived in	1
iv	That's why they left, looking for gold in the big city where he now live. What is gold	1
	referred to here?	
	A. Ways of living	
	B. Means of earning	
	C. Yellow precious metal	
	D. None of these	
v	Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.	1
	He was compelled to leave his home ground to move to	
vi	On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two	1
	statements given below.	
	(1) They were forced to leave their place.	
	(2) Storms had ruined their fields and homes.	
	A. (1) Can be inferred from the extract but (2) cannot.	
	B. (1) cannot be inferred from the extract but (2) can.	
	C. (1) is true but (2) is false.	
	D. (2) is the reason for (1).	
v	Answer <u>ANY FIVE</u> of the following in about 40-50 words each.	5*2=1
i	Give one example to show that Gemini Studios was influenced by the plays staged by	0
-	MRA in Poets and Pancakes.	
ii	She says, 'my childhood fear'. What's the fear? Answer it on the basis of your	2
	understanding of the poem My Mother at Sixty-Six.	
iii	Seemingly small everyday wins are actually the greatest learnings of life.	2
	Comment on the statement with reference to the chapter "Deep Water".	
iv	What do you learn about Umberto Eco's distinctive style in his doctoral dissertation?	2
v	Gandhi makes it clear that money and finance are secondary aspects of the struggle in	2
	Champaran. Elucidate using illustrations from the lesson.	
vi	"Left to his own meditations, one day the peddler fell into a line of thought, which really	2
	seemed to him entertaining". What does the peddler's conception of the world as a	
	rattrap, signify about him?	
VI	Answer <u>ANY TWO</u> of the following in about 40-50 words each.	2*2=4
i	What was Mr. Lamb's behaviour towards children who called him Lamey Lamb?	

ii	Why did the servants leave Dr Sadao's house? (The Enemy)	
iii	<i>'Knowing too much of your future is never a good thing.'</i> In light of this quote, examine how knowing the future paved way for the Tiger king's end.	
VII	Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words.	1*5=5
	Throughout the story, <i>The Last Lesson</i> the reader encounters Franz's account of how school usually was, and what it was like on the last day of the class with M. Hamel. This contrast comes across through events, and the actions and viewpoints of various characters. Explain the above statement using examples from the lesson.(<i>Cluechanges in the school, attitude of Franz, M Hamel & villagers</i>)	
	OR	
	You are a nature lover who loves to travel and enjoy the beauty of nature. You recently visited a picturesque location and you were enamoured by its beauty. Prepare a speech for the assembly including the vivid descriptions of the natural beauty of this place and the importance of beauty in the life of people. Supplement your writing with Keats' ideas about beauty.	
VIII	Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120-150 words	1*5=5
	Yes, I've taken the obvious step: I talked to a psychiatrist friend of mine, among others. I told him about the third level at Grand Central Station, and he said Imagine a conversation between Charley and Sam based on the above given extract. Create this exchange in which Charley describes the intricate tunnels of the third level and Sam's reaction to it .	
	You may begin the conversation like this Charley: You will not believe what I went through yesterday while returning home from office.	
	OR	
	"Where there is oppression, there will be resistance." Validate this statement with reference to the story 'Memories of Childhood'.	