

ICSE Solved Paper 2019

English Paper-1 (Language)

Class-X

(Maximum Marks : 80)

(Time allowed : Two hour)

Attempt all five questions.

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].

You are advised to spend not more than 35 minutes in answering Question 1.

and 20 minutes in answering Question 2.

Answer all questions.

(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question.)

1. Write a composition (300 - 350 words) on any one of the following : [20]

(a) Write an original short story in which two children and their Grandfather are the main characters.

(b) Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) must be installed in every class room.

Give your views either for or against this statement.

(c) Your class had to conduct a Morning Assembly. Write an account of how you prepared for it, what your role was and what you gained from the experience.

(d) Summers are becoming hotter with each passing year. Write a description of one such very hot day. What did you see and hear as you walked outside? How were birds and animals affected?

(e) Study the picture given below:



Write a short story or description or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition

Ans. (a) Rohan and Rohit lived in a small town with their grandfather. Their mother had left for her heavenly abode when they were three years old. Since then, they had been living with their father and grandfather in a small house. Their

father was most of the time out of station as his job commanded and that left them with their grandfather who looked after them with great love and affection.

He was all in all for them. Sometimes he was their father, at other times they saw their mother in him when he cooked food for them or helped them in their studies. Both the brothers were very fond of him. One day grandfather, while coming back from the market, brought a packet with him. Both the boys were curious to see what was in it. Grandfather opened the packet and showed them that he had brought seeds to sow in their garden. The boys were not happy and made sour faces. They didn't like it because they had expected that grandpa must have brought some toy or some eatable from the market. As they were about to leave the room, grandpa told them to help him in sowing the seeds. The boys did it but reluctantly. They were given the duty of watering the soil everyday. Many days passed. They watered the ground daily. One day as they went to water the ground, they saw a sapling coming out of the earth. They were amazed. Their hard work had paid. They ran inside to inform grandfather and came back immediately to have another look at nature's beauty. Within a few weeks the sapling turned into a plant and buds grew on it. The boys were elated. They were waiting for the flowers to come out of the buds. Never had they felt so ecstatic as they were today because their hard work had borne fruits. They realised that nature is bountiful. They decided to grow more plants and trees as they are of great help to us apart from giving us a peace of mind.

(b) Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) must be installed in every class room.

For the statement : With an increase in number of violent scenes created in classroom, I think that closed circuit television must be installed in every classroom.

Students go to school to gain education but not all are interested in it. Some of them attend the school under parental pressure. They are the back-benchers who usually create indiscipline in the class. The CCTV cameras help to keep an eye on such students who are always on the look out to act like a miscreant. Thus we can say that the installation of such cameras reduces the incidents of bullying as well. Students are under fear of being caught through the CCTV and so many-a-times they are on back foot.

CCTV also prevents exits from back door specially in the case of large classrooms or senior students. These cameras also make the classrooms safe and secure in today's scenario where some students are always in a mood to be a spoil sport.

All the above said points do not convey that CCTV can only keep an eye on students behaviour. There is one more advantage of these. They do not give one-sided picture in the classroom. If some sort of indiscipline has taken place in the class, they come in handy to take disciplinary action against the offender as they give the true picture of what happened in the classroom.

Moreover, the CCTV footage helps the school authorities to keep a check on classroom teaching as well. They ensure quality teaching and also provide transparency in the time of need.

To sum up we can say that closed circuit television must be installed in every classroom for better teaching quality and to maintain discipline in class.

Against the statement : In the age of science and technology everyone wants to move a step ahead and do something to improve the standard and quality of their institution. One such example is the use of Closed Circuit Television in the classroom. But I want to ask a question. Were the students unruly or indisciplined when CCTVs were not installed in classrooms? Was the quality of teaching worse when CCTVs were not in use in the previous days? The answer is a big 'no'. Before such monitored classes, students used to take lessons in the class without being indisciplined. Every coin has two sides. In the same manner, there are students of all types in the classroom. They all come from different socio-economic background. It is the duty of a teacher to

control the class. The lesson should be made so interesting that it captivates the interest of all students and they forget everything about breaking rules. The role of teacher is an integral part of classroom.

Moreover, if at all, CCTVs are installed in the classrooms it is sometimes done at such a point where monitoring is not possible. It can't cover the whole classroom. Some corners still may be left. Thus human eye is far better in monitoring classrooms than CCTVs. They seem to be violating the privacy of the classroom.

Moreover the cost of purchasing and installing school CCTV security camera systems would be high. Monitoring and maintaining then adds extra expenses. If they are vandalized or stolen by others, it can be very costly.

The security camera can influence the trust of teachers and students, they could feel that the school management does not trust them. And everyone would be conscious that any action of theirs would be seen as a negative thing and could lead to a 'guilty until proven innocent' attitude. Some of the educators feel that surveillance in schools will create an authoritarian atmosphere, and students may come to school with a sense of apprehension. Thus CCTV cameras should not be installed in schools and some other constructive way should be developed to maintain discipline and decorum in schools.

(c) Conducting A Morning Assembly

It was the first Saturday of January when my class teacher called me and informed me that our class had to conduct the morning assembly next week. I was a bit nervous in the beginning as I am stage-shy but then I decided to accept the challenge and to bid farewell to my fear. I went back to the class and informed everyone about it. Now, I wanted the names of the students who would help me in conducting it. The response was good and many of them raised their hands. I made two groups of five students each to go to the stage on different days. I, myself, decided to take the slot where I had to say a 'Thought for the Day' which would inspire the students. I allotted the duty of announcing the current affairs to the monitor and that of 'enriching vocabulary' to two of the boys who had a good command on it.

Then, we all were head over heels into it to give our best in the assembly. I looked for many thoughts in various books, jotted them down and pondered over the ones which would have the desired effect of motivating the students. I took the help of my mother as well and after selecting one, I learnt it by heart. The day arrived. I was well-prepared but had cold feet. My group-mates were also well-prepared but did not seem a bit disturbed. They were not at all nervous. I also decided to

put on a brave front and say no to fear which was gripping my heart as I went towards the stage. I felt my legs shaky, hands trembling and ears turning crimson. But keeping a bold face, we all reached the stage. We all gave our best performance. I didn't forget any word while reciting the thought and was happy for that. It was then that I realised that fear is only a stage of mind. All, we have to fear is fear itself. We should never let fear to take advantage out of it. After that week, I am always the first one to raise my hand whenever the turn of our class comes to conduct the Morning Assembly. It was an enriching and memorable experience.

(d) **A Hot Day**

There is no denying the fact that summers are becoming hotter with each passing year. It is the effect of global-warming which sometimes turns into a killing experience.

It was the 24th of May. I was returning back from school at 1 pm. I could feel the scorching heat of the sun. I had forgotten my cap at home, which I normally wear, while returning back from school. My school-van driver had fallen sick and had refused to provide services on that day. Since it was very hot, I could not find any other conveyance on the road. The road was rather deserted. I started walking towards my home. Within few minutes, I could feel the beads of perspiration on my forehead and back. I kept on moving. The hot air was oppressing. I decided to take long, brisk steps to reach my home quickly. On the way I noticed that even birds and animals were also affected by the intense heat. I could see some dogs sitting in a pool of water to lessen the effect of heat. Birds could be seen flying as if they were also looking for water to quench their thirst. I was also parched. I took out my water bottle from my bag. There was only a little water in it but at that stage it was a welcome drink. I longed for my cool room and cold shower. I wished to reach my home as early as possible but that day my home seemed farther than usual. I thought of taking rest under a shady tree for some time but looking at the deserted road, dropped the idea and kept on walking. The weight of my bag was pulling my back as I moved ahead. I wished someone would come and take me home. But that happens only in fairy tales. It took me twenty minutes to reach my home but those twenty minutes seemed like twenty hours. Once I reached home, I pondered over the effects of nature's fury on us and decided to make my friends aware and neighbours of not destroying nature's gift in the form of trees, water, etc.

(e)



The given picture highlights the grieving situation of existing pan-masala or other such shops near the schools. We can clearly see little children in school uniform buying from the shopkeepers. We feel bad when we realise that man has gone so down to fulfil the self-interest that he is targeting children to get money out of them. The innocent children are their latest hits. They sell tobacco products by opening their small shops at a stone's throw distance from school. Children get allured and some get addicted to these tobacco products. They are running a flourishing business at the cost of our future generation. Little do they realise that these children are our future. When the school authorities raise their voice against it, they shut down these make-shift shops for a few days and can be seen back again. The government has banned the sale of tobacco products near the school but it seems that they openly flout the ban. Despite repeated reminders from the school authorities, they keep on selling their product to innocent children. It is high time that the concerned authorities should become aware and stop this. There should be a blanket ban on the sale of tobacco products near educational institutions. The help of flying squads or some other kind of surprise checking may be done to stop the sale of such products outside schools or colleges.

Infact, it is necessary to ban tobacco and other such products for the smaller age groups as children get addicted to these toxins easily which is very harmful. We know that the government is generating a large amount of revenue from tobacco industries.

However, the government never estimates that the revenue generated is far less than the amount of money being invested on tobacco awareness programmes and providing free medicine to the patients suffering from cancer. The sale of tobacco and ran has increased in and around the vicinity of schools and colleges

and it has to be stopped in order to keep young students from being lured into adopting these vices, which could lead them to indulge in anti-social behaviour.

2. (Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.) [10]

Select any one of the following :

- (a) You want to start a new club in your school. Write a letter to your Principal requesting permission to start the club, explain your role in it and give reasons to prove that the club will be beneficial for the school.
- (b) Your friend has not fared well in the recent examinations. Write a letter to him / her expressing your concern. Give him / her some advice to how to score better marks and offer to help him / her to improve his / her performance.

Ans.(a) 104 Nalanda Apartments
Noida

24 January, 2019

The Principal
St. Marks School
Noida

Subject : Request to start a Cultural Club

Dear Madam

With due respect, I state that I am a student of class X B. I am representing other students. We want that a cultural club should be started in the school. This will help us to form strong bonds with one another while engaging everyone in different kinds of activities. Various activities help students to know the importance of team work and co-operation. They get more information

3. (a) Your school is hosting an Inter-School Quiz Competition. [5]
Write out a notice to be displayed in your school giving all details for the event.
- (b) Write an e-mail to the Principal of a neighbouring school requesting him / her to send a team of three members to participate in the Quiz Competition. [5]

Ans. (a)

about many subjects in a play-way method and find subjects like Science, Music, Maths, etc. very exciting.

I hope you will give it a thought and allow us to start the Cultural Club. We look forward to a positive response from your end.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully,

Varun Sharma

X-B

- (b) 55 Diamond Avenue
Kanpur

14th March 2019

Dear Sumegha

I received your letter yesterday where in you have mentioned that you have not fared well in the examination.

I can understand that you must be under a lot of stress but this is not the end of everything. We now that hard work is the key to success and we can achieve every goal with hard work and patience. Failure is the stepping stone to success. You must not lose your heart. It is not the time to brood or be anxious. You should make a timetable and strictly follow it. Work on your weak subjects and try to get a good score next time.

I hope you will pay heed to what I have written and try to put it into action. I expect a positive and encouraging response from your end.

Yours lovingly,

Ritika

St. XAVIER'S SCHOOL

NOTICE

14th October 20XX

INTER SCHOOL QUIZ COMPETITION

All the students of classes IX-XII are hereby informed that our school is hosting an Inter-School Quiz Competition. The details are as follows :

Date : 24 October 20XX

Time : 9 am - 11.30 a.m.

Venue : School Auditorium

Students, who are interested to participate in the same may give their names to their class teacher. For any other detail, contact the undersigned.

Sudhakar

(Head Boy)

(b)

To : Principal Zenith Public School@gmail.com

Subject : Inter School Quiz Competition

Dear Sir

We are pleased to inform you that our school is hosting an Inter School Quiz Competition for the students of classes IX-XII on 24 October 20XX from 9 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

We request you to send you two teams comprising of four students each to participate in the event. The students should be accompanied by two teachers.

Kindly fill in the online registration form and send the names of the participants latest by 12th October. We look for a positive response from your end.

Yours faithfully

Y. K. Singh

4. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

Billy Weaver had travelled down from London and by the time he arrived it was nine o'clock in the night and the moon was coming up.

"Excuse me," he asked a porter, "but is there a cheap hotel nearby?"

"Try The Bell Hotel," the porter answered, pointing down the road.

Billy thanked him, picked up his suitcase and set out to walk the distance to The Bell Hotel. He had never been to Richmond before. But the man at the office had told him it was a *splendid* city.

Billy was seventeen years old. He was wearing a new navy-blue overcoat, a new brown hat, and a new brown suit, and he was feeling fine. He walked briskly down the street. He was trying to do everything briskly these days. The big shots up at the Head Office were fantastically brisk all the time. They were amazing. 10

The road was lonely and dark with a few scattered houses.

Suddenly, in a downstairs window Billy saw a printed notice propped up against the window glass. It said Bed and Breakfast.

He moved a bit closer and peered through the window into the room, and the first thing he saw was a bright fire burning in the hearth. On the carpet in front of the fire, a little dog was curled up asleep with its nose tucked into its belly. The room in half-darkness was filled with pleasant furniture. There was a piano and a big sofa and several plump armchairs; and in one corner he *spotted* a large parrot in a cage. Animals were usually a good sign in a place like this, Billy told himself and it looked to him as though it would be a pretty decent house to stay in. 20

Then a queer thing happened to him. He was in the act of stepping back and going away from the window when he felt a strange urge to ring the bell. He pressed the bell. He heard it ring and then

at once the door swung open and a woman was standing there.

She gave him a warm welcoming smile.

"Please come in", she said pleasantly. Billy found himself *automatically* moving forward into the house. 30

"I saw the notice in the window," he said, holding himself back.

"Yes, I know."

"I was wondering about a room."

"It's all ready for you, my dear," she said. She had a round pink face and very gentle blue eyes.

"How much do your charge?"

"Five dollars a night, including breakfast."

It was fantastically cheap. He could easily afford it.

(a) Give the meaning of each of the following words as used in the passage: [3]
One-word answers or short phrases will be accepted.

(i) *splendid* (line 7)

(ii) *spotted* (line 20)

(iii) *automatically* (line 29)

(b) Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words:

(i) How did the porter assist Billy? [2]

(ii) Why did Billy want to do everything briskly? [2]

(iii) Why did Billy think animals were a good sign in a place like this? [2]

(iv) Which sentence tells you that something strange happened to Billy? [2]

(v) How much did the room cost? [1]

(c) In not more than 50 words, give a brief account of what Billy saw as he looked through the window of the room. [8]

Ans. (a) (i) magnificent

(ii) noticed

(iii) without conscious attention

(b) (i) The porter assisted Billy by telling him the name of a cheap hotel *i.e.* 'The Bell Hotel'.

- (ii) Billy wanted to do everything briskly because he had noticed the big shots at the Head Office doing everything briskly all the time and he found them to be amazing.
 - (iii) Billy thought that animals were a good sign in a place like this because it indicated that the owners were kind-hearted people and he would get a decent place to stay in.
 - (iv) The sentence 'Billy found himself automatically moving forward into the house' suggests that something strange happened to Billy.
 - (v) The room cost five dollars a night and that included breakfast too.
- (c) Summary

As	Billy	looked	through	the
window	he	noticed	a	bright
fire	burning	in	the	heart.
The	room	was	in	half-
darkness	and	filled	with	pleasant
furniture.	There	was	a	piano,
a	big	sofa	and	some
arm-	He	noticed	a	curled
chairs.				
up	little	dog	and	a
large	parrot	in	a	cage.

5. (a) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. [4] Do not copy the passage, but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space.

Example :

(0) *roamed*

Once upon a time, in the days when genies and giants (0) _____ (roam) the land, there (1) _____ (live) a farmer (2) _____ (name) Baba Ayub. He lived with his family in a little village by the name of Maidan Sabz. Because he had a large family to feed, Baba Ayub (3) _____ (see) his days (4) _____ (consume) by hard work. Every day, he (5) _____ (labour) from dawn to sundown, (6) _____ (ploy) his field and (7) _____ (turn) the soil and (8) _____ (tend) to his meagre pistachio trees.

- (b) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word : [4]
- (i) The puppy was hiding _____ the sofa.
 - (ii) Stop worrying _____ your future.
 - (iii) When I stepped _____ the lift, I found it had stopped working.
 - (iv) We had to use a bridge to go _____ the river.
 - (v) I have lived in this town _____ ten years.

- (vi) Please switch _____ all lights and fans when you leave the room.
 - (vii) Ronnie is married _____ my cousin.
 - (viii) The gift came _____ a birthday card.
- (c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using *and, but or so*" [4]
- (i) He was very ill. He did not take any medicine.
 - (ii) You come back from your holiday. We will discuss the problem.
 - (iii) He remained absent on Friday. It was foolish of him.
 - (iv) Rahul ran all the way to the bus stop. He missed the bus.
- (d) Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. [8]
- (i) The old woman said to Arun, "Can you help me to cross the street?"
(Begin: The old woman asked Arun)
 - (ii) As soon as the sun rose over the hills, the fog disappeared.
(Begin: Nosooner.....)
 - (iii) It rained so heavily that they could not go for the picnic.
(Re-write: Using 'too to')
 - (iv) If your friends get here before 7 o'clock we can take them out for dinner.
(Re-write: Using 'unless'.)
 - (v) The school captain was elected by the students of classes XI and XII.
(Begin: The students)
 - (vi) Greenland is the largest island in the world.
(Re-write using: 'larger'.)
 - (vii) How cruel Shylock was to demand his pound of flesh!
(Begin: It was cruel)
 - (viii) Arun was asked by his mother to explain the missing buttons on his shirt.
(Re-write using: 'explanation'.)

- Ans. (a)
- (1) lived
 - (2) named
 - (3) saw
 - (4) consumed
 - (5) laboured
 - (6) plowing
 - (7) turning
 - (8) tending
- (b)
- (i) behind
 - (ii) about
 - (iii) into
 - (iv) across
 - (v) for
 - (vi) off
 - (vii) to
 - (viii) with
- (c)
- (i) Although he was very ill, he did not take any medicine.
 - (ii) We will discuss the problem when you come back from your holiday.

- (iii) It was foolish of him to remain absent on Friday.
- (iv) Though Rahul ran all the way to the bus stop, he missed the bus.
- (d) (i) The old woman asked Arun if he could help her to cross the street
- (ii) No sooner did the sun rise over the hills, than the fog disappeared.
- (iii) It rained too heavily for them to go for the picnic.
- (iv) Unless your friends get here before 7 o'clock, we can't take them out for dinner.
- (v) The students of classes XI and XII elected the school captain.
- (vi) Greenland is larger than any other island in the world.
- (vii) It was cruel of Shylock to demand his pound of flesh.
- (viii) Arun's mother asked for an explanation for the missing buttons on his shirt.

