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INDIAN SCHOOL SALALAH
FIRST TERM EXAMINATION – SEPTEMBER 2026



ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (184)

Class: IX

DATE: 10/09/2026

Time: 3 Hrs.

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

Read the instructions carefully and follow them:

1. This question paper comprises 14 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. The question paper contains THREE sections –
Section – A: Reading Skills
Section – B: Creative Writing Skills and Grammar
Section – C: Literature Textbook
3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION A: READING SKILLS (20 Marks)

1. Read the passage given below:

1. Plastic pollution has become one of the most pressing environmental issues, as rapidly increasing production of disposable plastic products overwhelms the world's ability to deal with them. Plastic pollution is most visible in developing Asian and African nations, where garbage collection systems are often inefficient or non-existent. But the developed world, especially in countries with low recycling rates, also has trouble properly collecting discarded plastics. Plastic trash has become so ubiquitous that it has prompted efforts to write a global treaty negotiated by the United Nations.

2. Plastics made from fossil fuels are just over a century old. Production and development of thousands of new plastic products accelerated after World War II. It transformed the modern age so much that life without plastics is unrecognizable today. Plastics revolutionized medicine with life-saving devices, made space travel possible, lightened cars and jets - saving fuel and pollution - and saved lives with helmets, incubators, and equipment for clean drinking water.

3. The conveniences plastics offer, however, led to a throw-away culture that reveals the material's dark side: today, single-use plastics account for 40 percent of the plastic produced every year. Many of these products, such as plastic bags and food wrappers, have

a lifespan of mere minutes to hours, yet they may persist in the environment for hundreds of years.

4. Most of the plastic trash in the oceans, Earth's last sink, flows from land. Trash is also carried to sea by major rivers, which act as conveyor belts, picking up more and more trash as they move downstream. Once at sea, much of the plastic trash remains in coastal waters. But once caught up in ocean currents, it can be transported around the world.

5. Millions of animals are killed by plastics every year, from birds to fish to other marine organisms. Nearly 700 species, including endangered ones, are known to have been affected by plastics. Nearly every species of seabirds eats plastics. Most of the deaths of animals are caused by entanglement or starvation. Seals, whales, turtles, and other animals are strangled by abandoned fishing gear or discarded six-pack rings.

6. The solution is to prevent plastic waste from entering rivers and seas in the first place, many scientists and conservationists - including the National Geographic Society - say. This could be accomplished with improved waste management systems and recycling, better product design that takes into account the short life of disposable packaging, and reduction in manufacturing of unnecessary single-use plastics.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage:

10

i. Which of the following statements best describes the reason why plastic pollution has become one of the most pressing environmental issues? 1

- A. Plastic trash collection systems have become inefficient or non-existent.
- B. Rapidly increasing production of disposable plastic products overwhelms the world's ability to deal with them.
- C. Some plastics have a lifespan of mere minutes to hours, yet they may persist in the environment for hundreds of years.
- D. The developed world, especially in countries with low recycling rates, has trouble properly collecting plastics.

ii. What is the tone of the writer in the given lines from paragraph 2? justify your response in about 40 words. 2

It transformed the modern age so much that life without plastics is unrecognizable today.

iii. The passage includes some words that are synonyms of each other. From the sets (A) - (E) below, identify the two sets of synonyms. 1

- A. garbage and trash
- B. starvation and strangled
- C. disposable and reduction
- D. persist and downstream
- E. transformed and revolutionized

iv. Complete the sentence appropriately: 1

The writer says that most of the plastic trash is found in the Earth's last sink and the reason why it is transported around the world is

v. Based on the reading of the passage, explain in about 40 words, the downside of the convenience that plastic offers. 2

vi. Complete the sentence appropriately: 1
According to the passage, most animal deaths caused by plastic are due to and

vii. Based on the passage, how can we contribute to the reduction of plastic waste? 1

A. by internationalising the waste management system

B. by minimizing the use of single-use plastics

C. by not abandoning fishing gear

D. by not using helmets made of plastic

viii. State one reason why plastic pollution is most visible in developing Asian and African nations. 1

2. Read the following passage carefully:

1. Educational technology is the combined use of computer hardware, software, educational theory, and practice to facilitate learning. When referred to with its abbreviation EdTech, it points to the industry of companies that create educational technology. With education growing online, India's EdTech market size is expected to grow 3.7 times in the next five years.
2. Education in both rural and urban India is expected to be supported by technology in the near future.
3. As per a 2019-2020 report, only 22.3 per cent of schools had an internet connection. Moreover, 61 per cent of schools in the country didn't even have computers.
4. With the internet rate estimated to reach above 55 per cent by the end of 2025 in India, digitisation of education will impact the country's development and become one of the topmost priorities for the government.
5. Budget 2021-22 allocated 93,224.31 crore to the Ministry of Education. It was an increase of over Rs. 8,100 crore from the revised estimates for the current fiscal year and the department of higher education was allocated rupees 38,350.65 crore.
6. The role of technology in education is more critical now than ever in addressing educational disparity. It has already made learning affordable and accessible. In particular, the use of technology in education in rural India is one of the biggest boons of recent times.
7. With help from apps and software, teachers can enhance their teaching ability and provide information about the most recent developments. Students can enjoy an interactive learning experience. Teachers can employ animation, power point slides and graphs to catch the interest of their pupils. Gamification lends interest in the subject.
8. The online education system is a sector in which growth and development will work for the betterment of many sectors which include educating learners and increasing job opportunities for educators and technical teams.

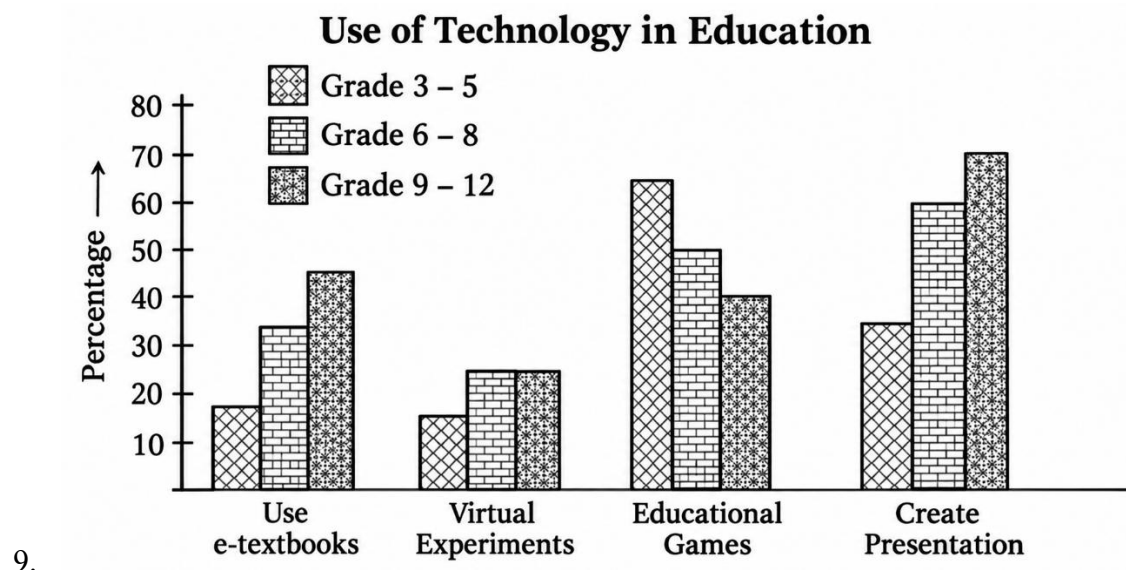


TABLE I.

REASONS FOR BOOM IN EDTECH

1. Lower cost involved in the dissemination of online education
2. Convenient, flexible and affordable
3. Initiatives by the Government which include programmes like SWAYAM and DIKSHA
4. Increasing number of education-based start-ups
5. Increment in the internet user base
6. Increasing penetration of mobile devices
7. Inflow of investments and acquisitions in this sector
8. It overcomes the geographical barriers

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage:

10

i. Does the following statement agree with the information given in para 1?

1

Education technology is the practice of introducing information and communication technology tools into the classroom.

Select from the following:

True - If the statement agrees with the information

False - If the statement contradicts the information

Not Given - If there is no information on this

ii. What two facilities are essential for the digitisation of education?

2

iii. Select the option that shows why the use of technology in education in rural India is considered one of the biggest boons of recent times.

1

- a. Frees up teachers so they can concentrate on farming.
- b. It has made learning more affordable and accessible, helping to address educational disparity.
- c. It helps identify learning needs and enables effective technology development.
- d. Simplifies assignment management with user-friendly methods.

- iv. Which one of the following is NOT mentioned in Table I as a reason for the growth of EdTech? 1
- A. Increasing number of education-based start-ups
 - B. Increasing penetration of mobile devices
 - C. Opportunities for skill development
 - D. Initiatives by the Government
- v. The word 'critical' in para 6 most nearly means 1
- a. difficult
 - b. crucial
 - c. complementary
 - d. causative
- vi. Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option: 1
- Technology in education works for the betterment of many sectors such as
- a. farmers, educators and businessmen
 - b. educating learners, job opportunities for educators and technical teams
 - c. doctors, engineers and technocrats
 - d. banking, construction workers and software technicians
- vii. Digital education will become a top priority for the government because 1
- viii. Based on your reading of the passage, state a specific point or statistic to challenge the following statement: India's EdTech market size is expected to double in the next five years. 2

SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (30 Marks)

GRAMMAR

3. Identify the error in the given sentences and supply the corrections: 4

- a) Thousands of people have dead in the fighting.
Error: Correction:
- b) I need not talk to her when she is in a bad moods.

Error	Correction

- c) The quality of these products are excellent.
Error:
Correction:
- d) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a news report:

According to a health survey, carbonated drinks are harmful to health and children are

addictive to fizzy drinks as adults are to nicotine.

Option No	Error	Correction
(i)	a	the
(ii)	to	from
(iii)	health	healthy
(iv)	addictive	addicted

4. Rearrange the following words to form meaningful sentences:

3

- a) he/ my letter/ received/ must have/ by now
- b) unexpectedly / arrived / before / the / guests / scheduled / time / the
- c) born / 27 June /1880 / Helen Keller / in Tuscumbia / on / was

5. Read the following dialogues and complete the tasks that follow:

3

- a) Anil: What's the matter, Anita?
Anita: Oh, nothing. You cannot help me. I only want that blue umbrella.
Anil asked Anita what the matter was. She replied that it was nothing and he could not help her as
- b) Report the following question.
I said to her, "How did you solve this problem?"
- c) Which option displays the correct change of the following to reported speech?
He said, "Ravi, why are you sounding so depressed today?"
 - A. He asked Ravi why did he sound so depressed that day.
 - B. He asked Ravi why he was sounding so depressed that day.
 - C. He told Ravi why he sounded so depressed today.
 - D. He asked Ravi that why he was sounding so depressed that day.

WRITING SKILLS

6. You are Anuj/Anita, the Head Boy/Girl of your school. Draft a notice in about 50 words inviting all the House Captains to a meeting to discuss the arrangements for the upcoming Annual Sports Meet.

3

OR

You are Riya/Rohan. Your parents are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary. Write an informal invitation to your close friends inviting them to the celebration. Include the date, time and venue.

7. You are Nitin/Niya, a resident of Green Park, Delhi. The increasing use of single-use plastic in your locality has led to blocked drains, littering, and environmental pollution. Write a letter to the Editor of a local newspaper highlighting the problem and suggesting measures to control it. (120-150 words)

5

OR

Write a letter to the Editor of an English daily in about 150 words, urging people to switch to solar energy to conserve electricity and reduce their electricity bills.

8. Write an article in 120-150 words for your school magazine on the importance of developing the habit of reading among students. Discuss its benefits and suggest ways to encourage students to read regularly. 5

OR

Write a magazine article on the theme “Clean School, Green School”. Suggest ways in which students can help keep their school clean and make it more environment-friendly. (120-150 words).

9. Imagine that your school recently organised a science exhibition. Write a descriptive essay in 200–250 words describing your visit, the models and exhibits on display, the activities organised, and the experience that impressed you the most. 7

OR

You are fortunate to have a true friend. Write an essay in 200–250 words describing your friend’s personality, qualities, and the support your friend offers you. Explain how your friendship reflects the saying, “A friend in need is a friend indeed.”

SECTION C: LANGUAGE THROUGH LITERATURE (30 Marks)

10. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: 5

The adjoining state of Gujarat has its own indigenous take on pankhas. These hand fans are elegant pure cotton-based fans embellished with mirror work. The beads hand fan is covered with colourful beads and has a silver handle. Gujarat is the centre for bead craft in India and these dainty pankhas are commonly used as wall decorations. Kutch is recognised for its hand-stitched leather hand fans decorated with thread and wool at its seams.

i. State whether the following sentence is true or false.

The Phadh hand fan is decorated with colourful beads and has a silver handle.

ii. Why is Gujarat considered significant in the craft of pankhas?

iii. Complete the following statement.

The beads hand fans are commonly used as wall decorations, which suggests that these fans

iv. Find a word from the passage which means the same as 'native' or 'originating naturally in a particular place'.

v. Select which one of the two statements is the correct assertion for the given reason.

Reason: The pankhas made in different parts of Gujarat have distinctive features.

A. The hand fans vary in their materials, decoration and craftsmanship.

B. Gujarat is the centre for bead craft in India.

OR

I did not know what to answer. Avva continued.

‘I have decided I want to learn the Kannada alphabet from tomorrow onwards. I will work very hard. I will keep Saraswati Puja day during Dassara as the deadline. That day I should be able to read a novel on my own. I want to be independent.’

I saw the determination on her face. Yet I laughed at her.

i. What quality of the grandmother is highlighted in the passage?

ii. The grandmother wanted to learn English alphabet first.

State whether the statement is TRUE or FALSE.

iii. Complete the following with a suitable reason.

The narrator laughs at her grandmother's decision to learn the alphabet because

iv. Find a word/phrase from the extract that means "*firmness of purpose or resolve*."

v. What is the significance of her choosing Saraswati Puja as the deadline?

11. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

5

“Blossoms bloom, a painted sight,
Dancing in the morning light.
Shades of green, red, and blue,
Nature’s artwork, ever new.”

- i. The movement of flowers in morning light suggests:
 - A. Stillness
 - B. Fear
 - C. Celebration
 - D. Sadness
- ii. If the garden is a canvas, the artist is
- iii. What does “Nature’s artwork, ever new” mean?
- iv. Identify two words used in the stanza to create movement and liveliness.
- v. Name the figure of speech used in “dancing in the morning light.”

OR

“The mighty Himavant is ours
there’s no equal anywhere on earth.
The generous Ganga is ours
which other river can match her grace?”

- i. What is referred to as “the mighty” in the lines?
 - A. Ganga
 - B. Himavant
 - C. Buddha
 - D. Upanishads
- ii. Why is the Ganga described as generous?
- iii. Complete the analogy:
Himavant : Mountain :: Ganga :
- iv. The extract emphasises India’s and natural wealth.
- v. What does the poet imply about the Himalayas and Ganga?
 - A. They are unmatched and unique
 - B. They are ordinary
 - C. They are only spiritual
 - D. They are small

12. Answer any FIVE of the following questions in 40 – 50 words each:

5x2=10

- a) What warning was given to Mesoba by the village council?
- b) Was it easy for Ravi to follow his grandfather? Give reasons for your answer.

- c) How does the poet portray the work of carpenters in the poem, 'Gifts of Grace: Honouring Our Vocations'?
- d) What sights and smells remind the poet of his mother in 'I Cannot Remember My Mother'?
- e) What is special about pankhas made in Bengal?
- f) Why is the earth described as a "palette"? (Canvas of Soil)

13. Answer any ONE of the following questions in 120 – 150 words each:

1x5=5

"Sentila's journey from repeated failures to becoming a skilled potter is an inspiring example of determination and perseverance. Discuss how her experiences highlight the importance of perseverance in achieving one's dreams."

OR

You are a neighbour of the grandmother from the story, 'How I Taught My Grandmother to Read'. You have just witnessed the touching moment when the grandmother expressed her deep respect and gratitude by touching her young teacher's feet. Write a letter to your friend in another village describing the incident and expressing your thoughts and feelings about the grandmother's determination, humility and love for learning.

14. Answer any ONE of the following questions in 120 – 150 words each:

1x5=5

How would you describe Ravi's character in 'Vitamin – M'? Explain how his experiences, actions and values reveal his personality.

OR

How does the poet remember his mother through different experiences in the poem, 'I Cannot Remember My Mother'? Explain with reference to the poem.
