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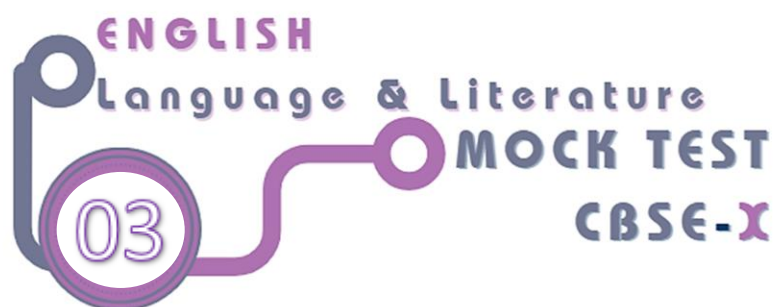
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Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum marks : 80

General Instructions :

1. The Question Paper contains **THREE** sections-READING, WRITING & GRAMMAR and LITERATURE.
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

SECTION-A

READING SKILLS (20 MARKS)

1. **Read the following text.** (10 m)
(1) India has stood for freedom: Even before Independence we viewed our own struggle and difficulties on the larger canvas of global problems. If democracy is basically tolerance for others' opinions, the concept of coexistence is democracy on the international plane, for it embodies tolerance of other nations and systems. Similarly non-alignment gives depth to our independence and self-reliance for it enables us to retain our freedom of judgement and action on international issues in the light of our national interests. We avoid involvement in the conflicts and disputes of others and this helps to blunt conflict between power blocs. I should like to think that it has also helped world stability.
- (2) A country is an extended family. When income and resources are limited, one must budget to ensure that waste is avoided, resources husbanded, priorities established, education and other social needs catered to, special provision made for those who are weaker or smaller. Industry has to be balanced with agriculture; technology with culture; state ventures with private initiative; economic growth with social justice; the large with the small. Every section of society must be stimulated to creative activity.
- (3) That is our planning. In no way is it totalitarian or coercive. Industrializing, modernizing and transforming an ancient society of immense size, population and diversity is a daunting venture and inevitably, a gradual

one. Otherwise there will be resentment. Transformation should not cause too much dislocation or suffering for the people nor should it jettison the basic spiritual and cultural values of our civilization.

- (4) India's planning experience sums up the successes and problems of our democratic development. The magnitude and significance of democracy's operation in India are not well understood, for it is often treated as an adventitious or borrowed growth. Why has democracy worked in India? Our national leadership was dedicated to it and we wanted it to work, but, also, because in our society there were elements and traditions which supported the growth of democracy.
- (5) In our democratic system, there may be differences in many spheres but we rise above them. To achieve the objective of keeping the country united, we have to transcend political and party-based differences, which create dissensions. If we cannot remain united and the country does not remain strong, with whom shall we have differences? Against whom shall we fight? With whom shall we be friends? Brothers and sisters, if the country falls, nobody survives. When we were fighting for the freedom of our country, it did not mean only political freedom. It also meant social justice, equality and economic justice. Only one phase is over and another one is under way. We have to cover a long and difficult path. Whereas the enemies were visible during those days; now they are in disguise. Some of them are openly our enemies, but many become unintentional pawns of others.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage.

- i. Why has democracy worked in India? Justify your answer in about 40 words. (2)
- ii. "Similarly non-alignment gives depth to our independence and self-reliance". Here the word non-alignment means _____ . (1)
- A. choosing a side already
B. not choosing to be affiliated with a big power bloc
C. being incooperative towards big power blocs
D. being aloof towards all nations
- iii. Fill in the blank appropriately. (1)
- Industry has to be balanced with agriculture likewise economic development with _____ .
- iv. "In no way is it totalitarian or coercive" in other words the author means the planning is _____ . (1)
- A. in no way inclusive or forceful
B. a completely iron clad and self-driven
C. in no way dictatorial and forceful
D. none of these

kidney disease, hypertension and cancer. Second, they face developmental troubles because of their weight and their health, especially if they are unable to go to school on a regular basis. And finally, they also face social development problems as they struggle to develop their personality while facing peer pressures beyond what the average child is facing.

- (3) Children and teens become obese for a variety of reasons: they tend to eat a poorly balanced diet filled with fast foods and very limited fruits and vegetables. One study showed that girls and boys ages 10 to 15 admitted that French fries were the only vegetable that they consumed on a regular basis. Another study showed that girls would eat other vegetables but only if they were covered in a cheese sauce.
- (4) In addition to poor food choices, they tend to be very sedentary, most of them spending most of their time in front of a television or computer screen or texting and talking on their cell phones. Finally, the children in the study that were found to be the most overweight also had overweight parents, suggesting not only a genetic link to explain their weight but an atmospheric one as well. After all, children of smokers tend to be smokers themselves, so it would stand to reason that obese parents typically will produce obese children.
- (5) The problem with weight and young teens, especially girls, is the fact that dieting and weight loss programs tend to backfire. In a three year study that monitored boys and girls, ages 9 to 14, the dieters ultimately gained more weight than those who did not diet at all. It is necessary to use a different approach when dealing with young children and teens who are overweight. First, the family must be in total agreement that there is a problem. Several school districts came under fire in recent years when they sent home letters regarding a child's weight and the health risks. The parents were either unaware that their child could develop such "adult" health problems as Type II diabetes or heart disease, or they did not accept that the child was anything but "stocky" or "husky". Rather than face the legal ramifications, the school districts stopped informing the parents, hoping that the child's doctor would take on the battle instead.
- (6) It is normal for a girl to increase her body fat during puberty; it is simply the way that the female body works. At this time, it is common for the girls to start paying more attention to their physical appearance, with many of them developing eating disorders because they are unhappy with what they see. It should also be noted that these girls are more likely to develop depression, which may also increase their chance of gaining even more weight.
- (7) Boys start adding more muscle and also increase in height, leading them to feel more satisfied with their bodies, while young girls are getting increasingly more upset by what they see in the mirror. By the age of 15, over half of the girls in 16 countries are dieting. The United States is the country that has the most weight-obsessed girls, with 47% of girls aged 11, dieting and 62% of 15 year olds doing so. Ethnicity plays a role in how the girls feel about their bodies, with African American girls feeling more body satisfaction than Caucasian girls of the same age group.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage.

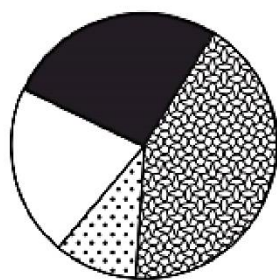
- i. What are the problems that overweight children develop? Answer in about 40 words. (2)
- ii. Select the incorrect statement from the ones given below. (1)
- A. The number of children and teens that are overweight has decreased.
B. Girls are more likely to be overweight than boys.
C. The family must be in total agreement that there is a problem.
D. Hispanic and African teens are slightly more likely to be obese than other races.
- iii. What can be inferred from the following sentences? (1)
“While boys grow leading them to feel more satisfied with their bodies, young girls are getting increasingly upset.”
- A. Boys are made to feel bad about growing.
B. Growing up is not good for girls.
C. Women are made to feel bad about their bodies.
D. It is better to remain as children.
- iv. According to the study, the girls that develop eating disorders are more likely to develop depression which in turn can also _____. (1)
- A. help them gain self-esteem B. lead to malnutrition
C. lead them to gain even more weight D. cause them to feel better
- v. In which period of life are girls more likely to become obese and what they do? Answer in about 40 words. (2)
- vi. Select the option that lists what the given sentence refers to. (1)
‘Finally, the children in the study that were found to be the most overweight also had overweight parents.’
- A. Obesity is caused by virus. B. Obesity is contagious.
C. There is a genetic disposition to being obese. D. Children shouldn’t imitate parents’ food habits.
- vii. Which country has the most weight obsessed girls? (1)
- viii. Complete the sentence appropriately. (1)
According to the study, girls would eat other vegetables but only if they were covered in a _____.

SECTION-B

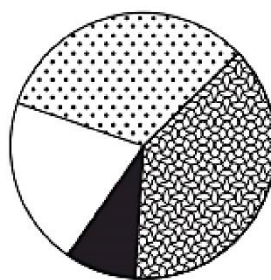
WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR (20 MARKS)

GRAMMAR

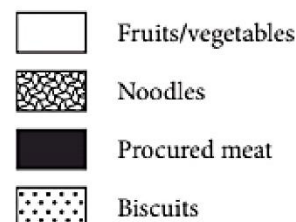
(10)



China - 40% meat
 30% noodles
 20% fruits/vegetables
 10% biscuits



India - 45% biscuits
 25% noodles
 20% fruits/vegetables
 10% meat



OR

5. B. "Joint Family or Nuclear Family there is no guarantee of a happy family."
 Write an analytical paragraph exploring the idea of a nuclear family and if it should be the ideal choice in about 120 words. (5)

SECTION-C

LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 MARKS)

6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. (5)
- A. When I returned, there was an appalling spectacle. There was complete silence from the box, but from its airholes and chinks around the lid, blood had trickled and dried. I whipped off the lock and tore open the lid, and Mij, exhausted and blood-spattered, whimpered and caught at my leg. He had torn the lining of the box to shreds; when I removed the last of it so that there were no cutting edges left, it was just ten minutes until the time of the flight, and the airport was five miles distant. I put the miserable Mij back into the box, holding down the lid with my hand. I sat in the back of the car with the box beside me as the driver tore through the streets of Basra like a ricocheting bullet.
- i. Choose the speaker that uses the phrase 'appalling spectacle' correctly. (1)
- Speaker 1 – We got back home to see that our pet dog had eaten kheer my mother had kept out of the fridge. Indeed, an appalling spectacle.
- Speaker 2 – We got back home and witnessed that our cousin had dressed our pet dog in his t-shirt. Have to admit that it was an appalling spectacle.
- Speaker 3 – We got back home to see that our pet dog sitting with a mangled rat. It was an appalling spectacle.
- Speaker 4 – We got back home from the airport and observed our pet dog sound asleep on the rug. What an appalling spectacle!
- A. Speaker 1 B. Speaker 2 C. Speaker 3 D. Speaker 4

ii. “whipped off”, is an example of a phrasal verb i.e. a combination of a verb and a preposition. Choose the option that DOES NOT fit the given definition. (1)

1.

down	after
take	
out	off

2.

up	out
look	
along	down

3.

up	in
give	
away	back

4.

up	in
get	
out	back

- A. Option (1) B. Option (2) C. Option (3) D. Option (4)

iii. Choose the option that correctly states Maxwell’s likely feelings, in the situation below. (1)

“... I put the miserable Mij back into the box, holding down the lid with my hand.”

- (1) anxious (2) disappointed (3) terrified
 (4) guilty (5) insulted

- A. (1) and (5) B. (2) and (3) C. (1) and (4) D. (3) and (5)

iv. What happened when Maxwell returned after having a quick meal? Answer in about 40 words. (2)

OR

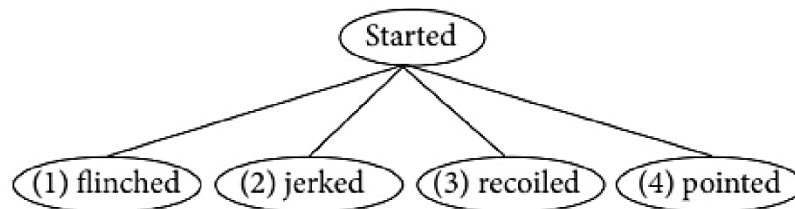
B. The two boys started in surprise at the fresh muddy imprints of a pair of bare feet. What was a barefooted man doing on the steps of a house in the middle of London? And where was the man?

As they gazed, a remarkable sight met their eyes. A fresh footmark appeared from nowhere!

Further footprints followed, one after another, descending the steps and progressing down the street. The boys followed, fascinated, until the muddy impressions became fainter and fainter, and at last disappeared altogether.

i. Why were the boys surprised to see a barefooted man in London? What did they feel? Answer in about 40 words. (2)

ii. Pick out the option that is NOT related to ‘started’ as used in the extract. (1)



- A. Option (1) B. Option (2) C. Option (3) D. Option (4)

- iv. "He went at the pirate like a robin at a worm" (2)
 Why has this comparison been used in the extract? Answer in about 40 words.

OR

B. But I can get a hair-dye
 And set such colour there,
 Brown, or black, or carrot,
 That young men in despair
 May love me for myself alone
 And not my yellow hair.

- i. Given below are the taglines of four hypothetical brands. Choose the correct option that fits the best with the first three lines of the given stanza. (1)

1. LITELIFE Food that makes you light.	2. GET SET My home. My gym.
3. LOOKBOOK No game over, get makeover.	4. PLANET FOOD Eat! Eat! Eat! Repeat!

- A. Option (1) B. Option (2) C. Option (3) D. Option (4)
- ii. The form of the given stanza is a part of a/an _____. (1)
 A. agreement
 B. disapproval
 C. engagement
 D. argument
- iii. The "yellow hair" is a symbol in the poem. Briefly support the statement with reference to the poem "For Anne Gregory". (2)
- iv. Read the statements 1 and 2 given below and choose the option that correctly assesses these statements. (1)
- The speaker wants to change her hair colour so that it may appeal to young men.
 - The speaker's appearance due to her gorgeous yellow hair is largely the reason young men hope to get her attention.
- A. (1) is false, (2) is true and clearly inferred from the poem.
 B. (1) is true, (2) cannot be clearly inferred from the poem.
 C. (1) cannot be clearly inferred from the poem, (2) is false.
 D. (1) is true and can be inferred from the poem, (2) is false.

8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words. (4 × 3 = 12)

- i. Why, according to the author, did the baker and his family never starve? (3)
- ii. Describe the tiger in the cage. (3)
- iii. What ideals do Nelson Mandela set for the future of South Africa? (3)
- iv. Give a reason for Anne wanting to keep a diary. (3)
- v. Why did the narrator follow the black aeroplane? (3)

9. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words. (2 × 3 = 6)

- i. What was the significance of the balcony in the story, The Midnight Visitor? (3)
- ii. For what unusual reason was Bholi sent to school? (3)
- iii. Why did Hari Singh approach Anil? (3)

10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. (1 × 6 = 6)

- A. One can learn a lot from the characters and the surroundings in the lesson "Madam Rides the Bus". Valli learns a lot from others. Describe the qualities of her character that enable her to take in information from others and interact with her surroundings.

OR

- B. The play "The Proposal" tells us to rise above the pettiness and focus on what's really important in life. Prepare a speech draft with reference to the chapter in not more than 120 words.

11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. (1 × 6 = 6)

- A. Pen down the incidences in support of values one should inculcate from Mr. James Herriot.

OR

- B. What kind of person is Matilda Loisel? Support your answer by giving examples from the story "The Necklace".

SQP

3

SOLUTIONS

1. i. Democracy has worked in India because our national leadership has always been dedicated to it and we wanted it to work, but also because in our society there were elements and traditions that also supported the growth of democracy in the country.

ii. B. not choosing to be affiliated with a big power bloc

iii. social reform

iv. C. in no way dictatorial and forceful

v. Transformation is the most important aspect of a country's development, but too much transformation affects the weaker sections of society because it causes dislocation or suffering for them and also jettisons the basic spiritual and cultural values of our civilization. Transformation should be balanced so that every section of society is stimulated by it.

vi. A. 1. and 5.

vii. C. Transformation should jettison the basic spiritual and cultural values of our civilization.

viii. freedom from inequality, social and economic injustice

2. i. Children who are obese tend to develop multiple problems because of their weight. They are susceptible to illnesses including cancer, hypertension, cardiovascular disease, and others that an obese adult is more likely to develop. In addition to developing developmental problems from being overweight, children also battle with social developmental issues as they try to form their own identities while dealing with greater peer pressure than the ordinary child does.

ii. A. The number of children and teens that are overweight has decreased.

iii. C. Women are made to feel bad about their bodies.

iv. C. lead them to gain even more weight

v. Girls are more likely to become obese during puberty, as it is normal for them to increase their body fat at this stage of life because this is simply the way a female body works. At this stage, they start noticing their physical appearances a lot, with many of them developing eating disorders because they are unhappy with what they see in mirrors.

vi. C. There is a genetic disposition to being obese.

vii. The United States of America

viii. cheese sauce

3. i. every

ii. Puneet asked his father which team he had supported in the previous night's cricket match between the two.

iii.	Error	Correction
	give	gives

iv. B. I have no plans for the evening

v. C. is planning

vi. he had any difficulty

vii. was playing

viii.	Option No.	Error	Correction
	A.	would	could

ix. C. should

x.	Error	Correction
	see	saw

xi. A. would

xii. ran away

4. A.

Sonam

C/5, West Bengal

15 April 20xx

The Manager

Globe Travel Agency

The Mall Road, Shimla

Subject : Hotel accommodation and other facilities

Dear Sir,

I am planning to visit Shimla during the summer vacation. I intend to reach there on 16 May by the IC 308 flight and stay there for a week. You are requested to book a deluxe double bedroom in a five star hotel, as I will be accompanied by my friend. I shall also need a chauffeur-driven car to take us in and around Shimla.

Please make these facilities available for a week, i.e., from 16 May to 22 May 20xx. A bank draft for ₹ 5000 is enclosed as advance. Please confirm the bookings so that the remaining amount may be sent to you.

Yours faithfully,

Sonam

OR

4. B.

A 33, Jargan Colony

13th March, 20xx

The Editor

The Times of India

Nagpur, Maharastra

Subject : Poor Sanitary Conditions in Jagran Colony

Dear Sir/Ma'am

Through the columns of your prestigious daily, I wish to draw the attention of the concerned authorities towards the extremely pitiable conditions in Jagran Colony. Sanitation is the cornerstone of public health and our colony drastically lacks it. Improper disposal of domestic waste and open sewages have been causing catastrophic effects on the health of children as well as adults in our colony.

This, in turn, is giving rise to serious diseases like diarrhoea, cholera, etc. Waterlogging and open manholes are other sources of diseases like malaria. They have also posed a risk before parents who are scared of sending their children out for playing. Yet the local authorities are indifferent to such a grave concern. This is not only astonishing but also shameful on their part.

I would like to request the civil authorities to show their concern in this regard and take necessary steps immediately.

Thanking you

Yours truly

Dimpy

5. A. The two given pie charts depict types of food consumption in 2008 showing comparison of two countries India and China. Overall the data shows processed food as the major food consumption category.

Processed food comprises the highest category (comprising of biscuits and noodles) of the global consumption. In China and India as well, processed foods are consumed the most, the rate of consumption being 40% and 70% respectively. On an average, vegetables and fruits constitute total 40% of consumption. In China, vegetables and fruits comprise 20% of food consumption which is equal to India. For Indians, animal food accounts for 10% of their diet, whereas Chinese consumption stands at a striking 40%.

The most consumed food item by China is meat whereas for India it is biscuits. And the given data shows the least consumed product by India as meat and biscuits by China. There is a striking contrast in both the countries' most and least preferred food item.

Overall, food consumption largely comprises of processed food. Chinese consumption of meat is unbelievably higher than India

OR

5. B. The nuclear family or smaller family is usually preferred and recommended in today's modern lifestyle as it gives more freedom, financial stability and independence when compared to the joint family structure.

While less conflict and decreased family stress is an advantage of the nuclear family, it also puts the family at a disadvantage. Conflict is a part of life, and conflict resolution skills are

beneficial in school, the community and the workplace. Nuclear families can develop like-minded thinking, leading to fewer arguments within the family unit. While joint family is like a nursery to teach social virtues. It helps to develop social virtues like co-operation, sympathy, sacrifice, affection, spirit of selfless service, obedience and broadmindedness.

Feeling of loneliness is one of important drawbacks in nuclear family. At the time of emergency one can get any help and support from other members. Joint family acts as insurance for the members of the family at the time of crisis. It provides social security to its members especially to the old, the infirm, the unemployed persons, the orphans, the widowed daughters and sisters as well.

The choice to raise a family by the nuclear model does not guarantee success or happiness but can provide a basis for obtaining those ideals. Awareness of the possible advantages and disadvantages allows a big-picture view of this family structure. No family is perfect, but when you work together with family members, you ensure the best possible outcomes for everyone involved.

6. A. i. C. Speaker 3

ii. B. Option (2)

iii. C. (1) and (4)

iv. Maxwell was shocked when he returned after having a hurried meal, as he saw a horrifying spectacle. There was a complete silence from the box, and he found that blood had trickled and dried from the airholes and chinks around the lid of the box.

OR

- B. i. The boys were surprised to see a barefooted man in London because it was pretty cold there, and to see someone move around barefoot surprised them. They felt that the footprints they saw were those of a mysterious man.
- ii. D. Option (4)
- iii. B. captivated, curious, puzzled
- iv. A. (1) gaped (2) gawked
7. A. i. C. 2 and 3
- ii. A. It is to emphasize on the might and boldness of Custard.
- iii. D. (1) petrified (2) shocked
- iv. Custard is being compared to a robin in the given extract because when the pirate entered the house, everyone was scared of him, but just like the robin catches the worm, Custard attacked him without delay, hit him hard with its tail, and gobbled him up.

OR

- B. i. C. Option (3)
- ii. D. argument
- iii. The poem is a conversation between a girl named 'Anne' and the poet. The 'yellow hair' of Anne in the poem symbolises her youth and beauty and is a reminder that both are temporary and fleeting; the beauty of youth fades away with time, and death is inevitable.
- iv. A. (1) is false, (2) is true and clearly inferred from the poem.
8. i. Baking was a profitable profession to be in the older days. Bread used to be (and still is) an integral part of every Goan tradition and festivals. Therefore, the fire in the baker's furnace never extinguished. As a result, the baker and his family never had to face the situation where they had to starve. Instead, the baker, his family and even the servants looked happy and prosperous.
- ii. The tiger in the cage is just a diminished form of his original self. He paces up and down in the cage restlessly. He is confined in the narrow cell and keeps staring at the stars as if longing for freedom. He is helpless and draws pity for his condition.
- iii. In his address Nelson Mandela sees a bright future of the country. He promises that under his presidentship the country shall never face the oppression of one by another. It shall progress and progress further. The sun shall never set on its freedom. Freedom shall rule. All people shall be free to do what they like. God shall bless their doing so.
- iv. Anne always felt lonely even when she was surrounded by her friends and loved ones. The only person Anne needed the most in her life was a true friend. Anne says that she did not feel closer to her existing friends, so she did not confide in them. A diary, on the other hand, would be ideal

because Anne would easily express what's on her mind and in her heart. Unlike others, a diary wouldn't judge her or be dismissive of her.

v. The narrator saw a black aeroplane which had no lights on its wings. The narrator saw the face of the pilot of the other plane in the black clouds who was waving and signalling him to follow in order to get out of the storm. So, the narrator followed the black aeroplane because he had lost the way in the storm and was unable to see anything. Following the other plane could help him to get out of the storm and land safely.

9. i. The significance of the balcony in the story 'The Midnight Visitor' is quite inevitable to the essence of the story. There was no balcony there in reality. Ausable creates a story to deceive Max. Max had the gun pointed at Ausable and he had to create a story to outwit Max while keeping calm. He also tells Max that there is police at his door when there was knocking. The whole incident proved Ausable to be an alert and smart detective.

ii. Tehsildar sahib had asked Ramlal to send his daughters to school. Since he could not disobey Tehsildar sahib, Ramlal decided to send Bholi to school. The other reason for doing so was that Bholi had little to no chances of getting married because she was slow witted, had pock marks on her face and body, and she stammered.

iii. Hari Singh was a thief who had not much luck in his work recently. So he approached Anil with the intention of robbing him, as he seemed to be an easy going and simple man. According to Hari, winning Anil's confidence was an easy task.

10. A. Valli was an eight-year-old girl who was born in a small village. She liked gazing at the hustle and bustle of the street and her most favourite part was the sight of a bus arriving and departing every hour. Valli was curious about the bus rides and used to listen to other people talking about their bus ride and dreamt of riding on bus herself. She asked those people questions about their experience of the ride so that she could gather information regarding the bus journey.

When Valli gets on the bus she acts confidently and behaved maturely. She tries to carry herself as an adult and refuses to take help from others. When the bus reached the town, she was observant and explored the town. Later she learns about the death of a cow and gets sad. She handled it with maturity and accepted death as a part of life

OR

B. Good morning, everyone. Today, I'd like to talk about the play 'The Proposal'. But before that, I would like to tell everyone that we are human beings, and jealousy, anger, etc. are the emotions that we all possess. But what really matters is how we rise above all these in our lives and worry about more important things.

The play 'The Proposal' teaches us how anger and arguments can easily ruin a relationship. It is true to an extent that people usually give more importance to the unimportant issues forgetting their priorities. Just like how Lomov came to propose Natalya but due to their argument that matter was left unaddressed.

Thus, it becomes very important to set priorities in life. One must ignore the unimportant issues. It is a waste of time to have discussions over them. One should not pay too much attention on the trivialities. This energy can be saved on spending it over some useful and important issues that give a fruitful result.

To conclude my speech, I would say that we should understand that wasting time in meaningless conversations or doing things that just bring stress is unnecessary. So, stop spiralling and always come to the point, whatever or however you do.

11. A. The narrator, a veterinary surgeon, is a capable, compassionate and wise doctor. He handles Tricki properly which shows that he is sincere about his profession. He does not operate upon the dog unnecessarily and cures him by altering his diet and activities. He is a tactful person as he knew exactly how to convince Mrs. Pumphrey to hospitalise Tricki for a surgery. He understands and sympathises with Mrs. Pumphrey's mental state regarding Tricki's health therefore, to ease her suffering, Mr. Herriot lets her know that Tricki is recuperating. His decision to inform Mrs. Pumphrey to collect Tricki, supports his sensibilities even though he was tempted to keep Tricki as a permanent guest.

These are some of the values that each of us can inculcate in ourselves. Also, Mr. Herriot was in a profession, which he liked, therefore, he cared about his work and his patients. We too must pursue that field of work, which we deeply love and care about.

OR

B. Matilda Loisel was a beautiful young woman who was born in a family of clerks. She believed that she deserved a life of luxuries and delicacies. Therefore, she was constantly unhappy and dissatisfied with the modest life she led. She had no choice but to marry a petty clerk, M. Loisel, who worked at the Board of Education and was completely opposite of her. She felt tortured by the lack of exquisite dinners, elegant dresses, jewels, etc.

Jeanne Forestier, a rich friend of hers, who Matilda went to school with, further added to her discomfort because Matilda envied her friend. Matilda borrowed a necklace from Mme. Forestier to wear with her dress on the evening of the ball. The precious piece of jewellery was there to appease her vanity, pretensions and false ego; it gave her the joy. The necklace was lost by her, and the Loisels had no other option but to replace the necklace. Thus, Matilda Loisel spiraled down to utter poverty. She had to do all sorts of menial jobs and suffered a needless sacrifice for ten years to pay off the debt. In these ten years, the adverse situation made her a strong, hard, crude woman of poor household. Therefore, she remained bitter and unhappy throughout her life.