

CAREERS360
PRACTICE Series

Maharashtra HSC

**English Sample
Paper 2025**

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MAHARASHTRA HSC BOARD SAMPLE PAPER

ENGLISH

Time:- 3hr

Max Marks:- 80

Important instructions :

- (1) Each activity has to be answered in complete sentence/s. One-word answers will not be given complete credit. Just the correct activity number written in case of options will not be given credit.
- (2) Web diagrams, flow charts, tables etc. are to be presented exactly as they are with answers.
- (3) In point 2 above, just words without the presentation of the activity format/design, will not be given credit. Use of colour pencils/pens etc. is not allowed. (Only blue/black pens are allowed.)
- (4) Multiple answers to the same activity will be treated as wrong and will not be given any credit.
- (5) Maintain the sequence of the Sections/Question Nos./Activities throughout the activity sheet.

SECTION - I: PROSE

(Reading for Comprehension, Language Study, Summary and Mind Mapping)

Q. 1. (A) Read the extract and complete the activities given below :

At a corner of Sixth Avenue electric lights and cunningly displayed wares behind plateglass made a shop window

Attractive. Soapy took a stone and dashed it through the lass. People came running, round the corner, a policeman in the lead. Soapy stood still with his hands in his pockets and smiled at the sight of the brass button.

"Where's the man that done that?" inquired the officer agitatedly.

"Don't you think that I might have had something to do with it?" said Soapy, with a friendly voice, as one greets good fortune.

The policeman refused to accept Soapy even as a clue. Men who smash windows do not remain to chat with the police. They take stoppage ir 2 heel95 The pcöce+an saw a man halfway down the block running to catch a car With the drawn club he joined in the pursuit. Soapy, with disgust in his heart, drifted along, twice unsuccessful.

On the opposite side of the street was a restaurant of no great pretensions. It catered to large appetites and modest purses. Its crockery and atmosphere were thick; its soup and napery thin. Into this place, Soapy betook himself without challenge. At a table he sat and consumed beefsteak, flapjacks, doughnuts and pie. And then he told the waiter the fact that the minutest coin and himself were total strangers.

"Now, get busy and call a cop," said Soapy. "And don't keep a gentleman waiting."

"No cop for you," said the waiter, with a voice like butter cakes and an eye like the cherry in the Manhattan cocktail. "Hey, Con!"

Neatly upon his left ear on the callous pavement, two waiters pitched Soapy. He arose, joint by joint, as a carpenter's rule opens, and dusted his clothes. Arrest seemed

now but an elusive dream. The island seemed very far away. A policeman who stood before a drugstore two doors away laughed and walked down the street.

A1. True / False :

Read the following sentences and state whether they are true or false. Correct the false statements and rewrite them.

- (a) Soapy broke the glass of the shop window.**
- (b) Nobody heard the breaking of the glass window.**
- (c) The policeman chased Soapy.**
- (d) Soapy did not run away from the place.**

Solution:

- (a) True
 - Soapy broke the glass of the shop window.
- (b) False
 - Corrected: People heard the breaking of the glass window and came running.
- (c) False
 - Corrected: The policeman did not chase Soapy; instead, he chased another man running to catch a car.
- (d) True
 - Soapy did not run away from the place.

A2. Rearrange :

Rearrange the following statements in order of their occurrence in the extract.

- (a) The policeman refused to accept Soapy even as a clue.**
- (b) Soapy took a stone and dashed it through the glass.**
- (c) "Now, get busy and call a cop," said Soapy.**
- (d) Soapy, with disgust in his heart, drifted along twice unsuccessful.**

Solution:

The correct order of the statements as they occurred in the extract is:

1. (b) Soapy took a stone and dashed it through the glass.
2. (a) The policeman refused to accept Soapy even as a clue.
3. (d) Soapy, with disgust in his heart, drifted along twice unsuccessful.
4. (c) "Now, get busy and call a cop," said Soapy.

A3. Guess :

Read the following sentences and write down what they mean.

(a) "Don't you think that I might have had something to do with it?"

(b) He told the waiter the fact that the minutest coin and himself were total strangers.

Solution:

(a) Don't you think that I might have had something to do with it?

- This means Soapy is hinting or suggesting to the policeman that he was the one who broke the shop window, hoping to get arrested.

(b) He told the waiter the fact that the minutest coin and himself were total strangers.

- This means Soapy told the waiter that he did not have any money to pay for the meal he just consumed.

A4. Personal response :

Suppose you are a manager of a hotel, a poor boy has had dinner in the hotel and then finds, he has not enough money to pay the bill. Describe how you will react in the situation.

Solution:**Personal Response**

Firstly, I would approach the boy calmly and ask him to explain his situation. Understanding his circumstances would be important to address the issue appropriately.

"Hello there, I understand you've had dinner with us but found you don't have enough money to pay the bill. Could you tell me more about what happened?"

If he genuinely seemed to have no means to pay, I would consider a few options:

1. Offer Assistance:

- "It's alright, these things can happen. Let's see how we can help you. Do you have anyone you can contact for assistance?"

2. Finding a Solution:

- If he had no immediate help, I might suggest a way for him to contribute in a non-monetary manner.
 - "How about you help us out with some tasks around the hotel for a bit? This way, we can consider your meal covered."

3. Compassionate Response:

- If it appeared that he was genuinely in need and couldn't offer any immediate solution, I might offer the meal as a courtesy.
 - "Don't worry about the bill for now. I'll cover it. If you find yourself in a better situation in the future, you can come back and settle it then. Take care of yourself."

4. Referral to Support Services:

- I would also inform him of local support services that could assist him further.
 - "Here are some local services that might be able to help you get back on your feet. Please reach out to

them."

Throughout the interaction, I would ensure the boy feels respected and understood, reinforcing that the hotel values all its patrons, regardless of their financial situation.

A5. Language study :

- (i) On the opposite side of the street was a restaurant of no great pretensions.**
- (ii) Men who smash windows do not remain to chat with the police.**
- (Make the above sentences simple)**

Solution:

- (i) On the opposite side of the street was a simple restaurant.
- (ii) Men who smash windows run away from the police.

A6. Vocabulary:

Match the following words in column 'A' with their meanings in column 'B'.

Column 'A'	Column 'B'
(b) enchantment	(ii) meaningless speech
(c) arrest	(iii) threw
(d) pitched	(iv) nab

Solution:

- (a) gibberish - (ii) meaningless speech
- (b) enchantment - (i) magic
- (c) arrest - (iv) nab
- (d) pitched - (iii) threw

B1. Grammar / Language Study (Non-Textual Grammar) Do as directed :

- (i) We can accept our life gracefully.**

(Rewrite using modal auxiliary showing 'compulsion')

- (ii) As I entered the post office, the Post Master presented me with a telegram.**

(Begin the sentence with "No sooner.....")

- (iii) The mother looks after her child.**

(Make it a rhetorical question)

Solution:

- (i) We must accept our life gracefully.
- (ii) No sooner did I enter the post office than the Post Master presented me with a telegram.
- (iii) Doesn't the mother look after her child?

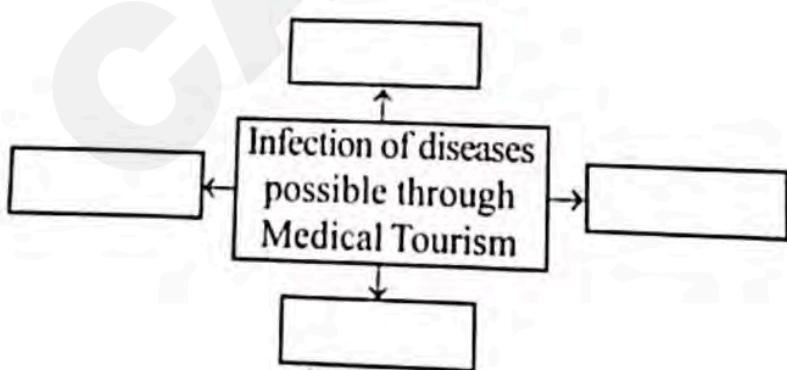
B2. Spot the error in the given sentence and rewrite the correct sentence.**(i) Summers in Delhi are extreme hot.****Solution:**

The correct answer is

(i) Summers in Delhi are extremely hot.

Q. 2. (A) Read the following extract and complete the activities given below:

The government of India is encouraging medical tourism in the country by offering tax benefits and export incentives to the participating hospitals. Medical visas are being cleared quickly without any hassles. With a view to facilitating the growth of the medical tourism industry, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare along with the Ministry of Tourism has set up a task force to evaluate the opportunities in the industry. Efforts are being made to standardise procedures and to guide foreign patients to select the hospitals most suited to their needs. Meanwhile, several private hospitals are seeking to take advantage of the booming medical tourism industry and are investing huge page 5, However, medical tourism carries some risks that locally provided medical care does not. Some countries like India, Malaysia and Thailand have very different infectious diseases rarely found in Europe and North America. Exposure to diseases without having built-up natural immunity can be a hazard for weak individuals, especially with respect to gastrointestinal diseases like Hepatitis A, amoebic dysentery etc., which could slow down the recovery process. Also, medical tourists may be at risk from mosquito-transmitted diseases, influenza and tuberculosis. The quality of postoperative care can also vary dramatically depending on the hospital and the country. Finally, after returning home, a patient has limited contact with their surgeon. This may make it difficult to deal with any complications that may arise later, such as a delayed infection. The concept of medical tourism raises some important questions regarding accessibility, affordability and ethics in medical care. It is unfortunate that a large section of the Indian population has little or no access to private health care. The public health care system is inadequate and lacks proper infrastructure and facilities. One wonders if it is sensible to make provisions for medical tourism in a democratic country like India, which has failed to provide nourishment, sanitation and health care to its masses.

A1. Complete the web :**Solution :**

Based on the diagram and the context of the extract you provided, which discusses infections that can be transmitted through medical tourism, let's fill in the web diagram. The central idea is "Infection of diseases possible through Medical Tourism." We'll populate the diagram with specific examples of diseases and issues related to this central concept:

1. Gastrointestinal Diseases: This could include ailments such as Hepatitis and amoebic dysentery, which are mentioned in the extract as risks due to differing hygiene standards and lack of immunity among medical tourists.

2. Mosquito-Transmitted Diseases: Mentioned in the extract, these would include diseases like malaria, dengue, and other vector-borne illnesses that are prevalent in countries popular for medical tourism but rare in the tourists' home countries.

3. Respiratory Diseases: This could include diseases like influenza and tuberculosis, which were specifically noted in the extract as potential risks for medical tourists.

4. Postoperative Complications: This is not a disease but a critical risk factor associated with medical tourism, where dealing with complications after returning home can be problematic due to limited access to the surgeon or medical team who performed the procedure.

Here's how each of these points directly relates to the risks associated with medical tourism, specifically in the context of infectious diseases and health complications.

A2. Complete the following statements with the help of information provided in the extract :

(i) Building up natural immunity is a must for all because

Solution :

(i) Building up natural immunity is a must for all because exposure to diseases without having built-up natural immunity can be a hazard, particularly for individuals who are weak or have pre-existing health conditions. This is especially relevant in the context of medical tourism, where travellers may encounter infectious diseases that are rarely found in their home countries, like certain gastrointestinal diseases and mosquito-transmitted illnesses.

(ii) The concept of medical tourism can not be very successful in India because _____

Solution :

(ii) The concept of medical tourism cannot be very successful in India because a large section of the Indian population has little or no access to private healthcare, and the public healthcare system is inadequate, lacking proper infrastructure and facilities. This raises ethical concerns about allocating resources to medical tourists rather than addressing the basic health needs of the local population. Additionally, the challenges of postoperative care and the risk of contracting local infections further complicate the viability of medical tourism in India.

A3. Complete the following table with reference to the statement 'Medical Tourism is a mixed blessing' :

Positive Aspects of Medical Tourism	Hazard/Negative Aspects of Medical Tourism
1	1
2	2

Solution :

To address the statement "Medical Tourism is a mixed blessing," let's complete the table with positive and negative aspects of medical tourism based on the extract provided:

Positive Aspects of Medical Tourism:

- 1. Economic Benefits:** The government of India, by offering tax benefits and export incentives to participating hospitals, indicates that medical tourism can significantly boost economic growth, attracting foreign exchange and creating employment opportunities in healthcare and related sectors.
- 2. Enhanced Healthcare Infrastructure:** In an effort to attract medical tourists, private hospitals are investing heavily in advanced medical technologies and facilities, which can also benefit local patients by improving the overall healthcare infrastructure.

Hazard/Negative Aspects of Medical Tourism:

- 1. **Health Risks to Tourists:** Medical tourists may be exposed to infectious diseases that are uncommon in their home countries, such as gastrointestinal diseases like Hepatitis and amoebic dysentery, as well as mosquito-transmitted diseases, influenza, and tuberculosis.
- 2. **Ethical and Accessibility Concerns:** The focus on medical tourism might divert resources from the local population, who often have limited access to healthcare services. This raises ethical concerns about the equity and fairness of healthcare distribution in the country.

These points outline how medical tourism can simultaneously bring economic and infrastructural benefits while also presenting significant health and ethical challenges.

A4. 'We need to promote the concept of Wildlife Tourism in India'. State whether you agree or disagree with the statement. Mention any two arguments.

Solution :

I agree with the statement that we need to promote the concept of wildlife tourism in India. Here are two arguments supporting this stance:

- 1. Conservation Awareness:** Promoting wildlife tourism can enhance awareness and appreciation for India's diverse ecosystems and wildlife. By bringing tourists closer to nature, it can foster a sense of responsibility and urgency towards conservation efforts. Educational tours and guided wildlife safaris can inform visitors about the challenges facing these ecosystems, such as habitat destruction, climate change, and poaching, ultimately contributing to more sustainable environmental practices.
- 2. Economic Development:** Wildlife tourism can be a significant source of income for local communities. It can create jobs in areas that might otherwise have limited employment opportunities. Jobs can range from hospitality management to guiding tours, which not only help in poverty alleviation but also reduce the dependency of local populations on environmentally destructive practices such as logging and mining. This economic benefit can incentivize communities to participate actively in conservation efforts, ensuring the protection of wildlife and natural habitats.

A5. Language study :

(i) 'Govt. of India is encouraging medical tourism in the country'. (Choose the correct present perfect form of the given statement.)

- (a) Govt. of India is encouraged medical tourism in the country.
- (b) Govt. of India had encouraged medical tourism in the country.
- (c) Govt. of India has been encouraged medical tourism in the country.
- (d) Govt. of India has encouraged medical tourism in the country.

Solution :

The correct present perfect form of the statement "Govt. of India is encouraging medical tourism in the country" is:

- (d) Govt. of India has encouraged medical tourism in the country.

This option accurately reflects the change from present continuous to present perfect, indicating that the government has taken actions up to the present to promote medical tourism.

(ii) 'This may make it difficult to deal with any complication'.

(Identify the replaced version of the statement using the auxiliary of certainty or definiteness.)

- (a) This can make it difficult to deal with any complication.
- (b) This might make it difficult to deal with any complication.
- (c) This will make it difficult to deal with any complication.
- (d) This have made it difficult to deal with any complication.

Solution :

The replaced version of the statement "This may make it difficult to deal with any complication" using an auxiliary of certainty or definiteness that appropriately reflects the original meaning is:

- (b) This might make it difficult to deal with any complication.

This option retains the uncertainty or possibility expressed by "may" in the original sentence, using "might" as a suitable alternative.

A6. Identify the words from the passage with the following meaning:

- (i) growing immensely
- (ii) threat
- (iii) obtaining
- (iv) able to approach/possible to approach

Solution :

Based on the meanings provided and without access to the entire text, I can suggest likely words from the context of medical tourism, as discussed:

(i) growing immensely - This could be represented by words like "booming" or "expanding," often used to describe rapidly growing industries like medical tourism.

(ii) threat - A word that could be used in the context of risks or dangers in medical tourism might be "risk" or "hazard," especially when discussing the health risks associated with traveling abroad for medical procedures.

(iii) obtaining - In the context of facilitating medical tourism, the word might be "clearing" as in "visas are being cleared quickly," which involves obtaining the necessary permissions efficiently.

(iv) able to approach/possible to approach - This could be depicted by the word "accessible," particularly in discussions about making healthcare services available to medical tourists or addressing the accessibility issues for the local population.

If these interpretations don't seem to match the text you have, feel free to provide specific excerpts for a more accurate identification.

(B) Summary Writing:

Write a summary of the above extract with a suitable title, with the help of the given points/hints.

- Govt. of India promoting medical tourism.....
- Side effects of medical tourism - Response of the Indian population - Prospects of medical tourism in India.

Solution :

Title: The Double-Edged Sword of Medical Tourism in India

The Government of India is actively promoting medical tourism as a significant economic opportunity. By providing tax benefits and export incentives to participating hospitals and ensuring the swift processing of medical visas, the government aims to make India a desirable destination for medical tourists. This initiative is supported by the creation of a task force by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare along with the Ministry of Tourism to further evaluate and expand the industry.

However, the drive towards medical tourism is not without its complications. There are significant side effects associated with this initiative. Medical tourists are at risk of exposure to local infectious diseases to which they have no immunity, such as gastrointestinal diseases like hepatitis and amoebic dysentery, and mosquito-borne diseases. Furthermore, the quality of postoperative care varies greatly, and the limited contact with surgeons post-treatment makes managing complications difficult once tourists return home.

The response from the Indian population to the growth of medical tourism has been mixed. There is concern that while the industry may be booming, it diverts critical healthcare resources away from the local population, which still struggles with inadequate public healthcare infrastructure. This raises ethical questions about the distribution of healthcare resources in a country where many citizens lack basic healthcare services.

Despite these challenges, the prospects of medical tourism in India remain strong, due to the potential economic benefits and the opportunity to improve healthcare infrastructure. However, for this potential to be fully realized, the industry must address the underlying ethical and health safety concerns to ensure it benefits not only international visitors but also the local population.

This summary outlines the nuanced perspective of medical tourism in India, highlighting its benefits and drawbacks, and emphasizing the need for a balanced approach to its development.

(C) Mind Mapping :

Prepare a mind map on the topic 'Human Interest' using your ideas, flow, design and structure,

Solution :

To create a mind map for the topic "Human Interest," we can focus on various aspects that engage and appeal to the human condition, covering emotions, social issues, and personal growth. Here's a structured breakdown for a mind map:

Human Interest Mind Map

1. Emotion

- Joy (Celebrations, Achievements)
- Sadness (Loss, Challenges)
- Fear (Uncertainty, Threats)
- Hope (Aspirations, Future Prospects)

2. Social Issues

- Poverty (Impact, Solutions)
- Education (Access, Importance)
- Health (Wellness, Medical Access)
- Equality (Gender, Racial, Economic)

3. Personal Growth

- Education (Learning, Development)
- Career (Advancement, Choices)
- Relationships (Family, Friends, Partners)
- Hobbies (Personal Interests, Leisure Activities)

4. Cultural Impact

- Traditions (Festivals, Customs)
- Arts (Music, Literature, Visual Arts)
- Innovations (Technological, Social)

5. Stories and Narratives

- Heroic Acts (Rescue, Sacrifice)
- Transformations (Personal, Community)
- Adventures (Travel, Exploration)
- Mystery and Discovery (Investigations, Revelations)

6. Philanthropy and Activism

- Charity (Organizations, Events)
- Volunteering (Local, International)
- Advocacy (Human Rights, Environmental Conservation)

7. Inspirational Figures

- Leaders (Political, Community)
- Innovators (Science, Business)
- Artists (Influential Works, Life Stories)
- Survivors (Overcoming Adversity, Inspiring Others)

This mind map organizes themes around human interest, making it easier to delve into specific topics while keeping an interconnected view of how these aspects influence and drive human emotions and societal dynamics.

SECTION - II: POETRY (Poetry and Appreciation)

Q. 3. (A) Read the extract and complete the activities given below

She walks in beauty, like the night
 Of cloudless climes and starry skies;
 And all that's best of dark and bright
 Meet in her aspect and her eyes;
 Thus mellowed to that tender light
 Which heaven to gaudy day denies.
 One shade the more, one ray the less,
 Had half impaired the nameless grace
 Which waves in every raven tress,
 Or softly lightens o'er her face;
 Where thoughts serenely sweet express,
 How pure, how dear their dwelling-place.
 - And on that cheek, and o'er that brow,
 So soft, so calm, yet eloquent,

The smiles that win, the
 But tell of days in goodness spent.
 A mind at peace with all below,
 A heart whose love is innocent!

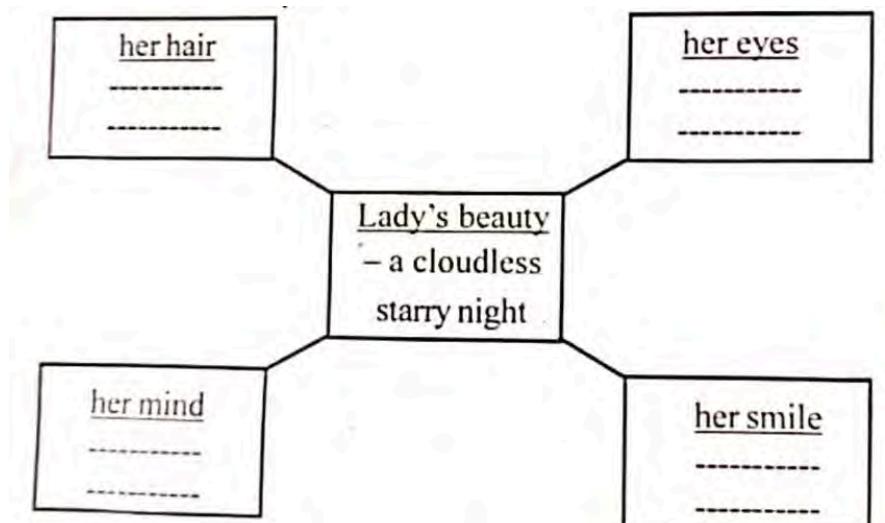
A1. Select and write the two statements from the given list which justify the theme of the poem.

- (a) The poet is blunt and direct in his expression of love.
- (b) Internal beauty is as important as the external beauty.
- (c) The poet is in love with lady's outward beauty.
- (d) Beauty lies in the eyes of beholder.

Solution :

- (b) Internal beauty is as important as the external beauty.
- (d) Beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder.

A2. Complete the following web describing the various aspects of the lady's beauty. One is done for you at the centre place.



Solution :

Her Hair

- Waves in every raven tress
- One shade the more, one ray the less

Her Eyes

- Meet in her aspect and her eyes
- All that's best of dark and bright

Her Mind

- A mind at peace with all below
- Thoughts serenely sweet express

Her Smile

- The smiles that win
- Tell of days in goodness spent

A3. Write your idea of 'a beautiful person' in your own words.

Solution :

A beautiful person, in my view, possesses both inner and outer qualities that radiate warmth and kindness. Externally, they may have an inviting smile and a gentle demeanour that puts others at ease. However, true beauty lies in their character: their compassion, empathy, and integrity. They listen attentively, offer support without judgment, and spread positivity wherever they go. Their actions reflect a genuine concern for others, and their presence brings a sense of peace and comfort. To me, a beautiful person is someone who enriches the lives of those around them through their kindness, understanding, and unwavering commitment to doing good.

A4. Find out and explain an example of 'Antithesis' from the given extract.

Solution :

Antithesis: Antithesis is a rhetorical device in which two opposite ideas are put together in a sentence to achieve a contrasting effect.

Example from the extract:

"And all that's best of dark and bright"

Explanation:

In this line, the poet contrasts "dark" and "bright," which are opposite in meaning. By placing these opposing concepts together, the poet highlights the harmonious blending of contrasting qualities in the lady's beauty, suggesting that her appearance combines the best aspects of both darkness and brightness. This use of antithesis emphasizes the balance and perfection in her features.

A5. Compose a poem of your own in about 2 to 4 lines on the topic 'Beauty'.

Solution :

Beauty whispers softly in the morning light,
A dance of shadows, a glow so bright.
In every heart, its essence blooms,
A timeless grace that forever looms.

(B) Appreciation:

Read the extract and write the appreciation of the poem :

They hear no sound, the swell is strong; Though the wind hath fallen they drift along, Till the vessel strikes with a shivering shock,'O Christ! it is the Inchcape Rock!'

Sir Ralph the Rover tore his hair; He curst himself in his despair; The waves rush in every side, The ship is sinking beneath the tide.

But even in his dying fear One dreadful sound could the Rover hear, A sound as if with the Inchcape Bell, The Devil below was ringing his knell.

Solution :

Title: Inchcape Rock

Poet: Robert Southey

***heme:** The poem "Inchcape Rock" revolves around themes of greed, karma, and the inevitable consequences of one's actions. It tells the story of Sir Ralph the Rover, who out of malice, cuts off the bell on the Inchcape Rock, which had been placed there to warn sailors of the dangerous rock. Later, his own ship strikes the same rock, leading to his demise.

Content and Summary:

The poem describes a calm sea where the ship of Sir Ralph the Rover drifts unknowingly towards Inchcape Rock. Despite the calm wind, the strong swell causes the ship to strike the rock with a violent

shock. Realizing his doom, Sir Ralph curses himself in despair as the waves rush in and the ship begins to sink. In his final moments, he hears a dreadful sound that he imagines is the Devil ringing his death knell with the Inchcape Bell, symbolizing his realization of the consequences of his earlier actions.

Poetic Devices:

1. **magery:** The poet uses vivid imagery to describe the scenes, such as "the swell is strong" and "the waves rush in every side."
2. **Personification:** The sea is personified as having the power to bring about Ralph's downfall.
3. **Irony:** The irony in the poem lies in the fact that Sir Ralph's own treacherous act leads to his tragic end.
4. **Alliteration:** Examples include "Shivering Shock" and "Ralph the Rover."

Tone: The tone of the poem is dark and foreboding, especially as the poem progresses towards the inevitable doom of Sir Ralph the Rover. There is a sense of poetic justice as the villain meets his deserved fate.

Moral: The moral of the poem is clear: malicious actions motivated by greed and spite ultimately lead to one's downfall. It underscores the idea that one cannot escape the consequences of their wrongdoings.

Personal Response:

I find "Inchcape Rock" to be a powerful reminder of the importance of integrity and the inevitability of justice. The vivid imagery and the dramatic unfolding of Sir Ralph's fate effectively convey the poem's message. The poetic devices enhance the storytelling, making it a memorable and thought-provoking piece.

Section-III (Writing Skill)

Q. 4. (A) Complete the activities as per the instructions given below :

(1) You are Gopal, a receptionist, in the office of a company manufacturing garments. A sales manager Mr. Deshmukh visited and handed over the sales report to be submitted to the general manager who was busy attending a meeting. Mr Deshmukh: Hellow! I am here to submit the available sales report to the General Manager.

Gopal: I am sorry but the General Manager is in the meeting. Can you leave a message for him along with the reports?

Mr. Deshmukh: Sorry, I have to leave immediately to collect the other reports. Please inform the General Manager, that I have to leave immediately and I will see him in the evening at 5:30 P.M. with other reports. Thank you.

As a receptionist draft a virtual message for the General Manager.

Solution:

Virtual Message for the General Manager

To: General Manager

From: Gopal, Receptionist

Date: [Current Date]

Time: [Current Time]

Subject: Message from Mr. Deshmukh

Dear General Manager,

Mr. Deshmukh visited the office today to submit the available sales report. However, he had to leave immediately to collect the other reports. He has asked me to inform you that he will see you in the evening at 5 P.M. with the remaining reports.

Thank you.

Best regards,

Gopal
Receptionist

Note: Make sure to fill in the current date and time before sending the message.

OR

(2) Statement of Purpose :

You have a special interest in journalism. You are planning to go for a degree course in mass communication and work in future, especially in the field of crime reporting. You have heard about the reputed 'Royal Institute of Mass-communication' in the United Kingdom. Prepare a statement of purpose in about 150 words to get admission to the Institute.

Solution :

Statement of Purpose

Dear Admissions Committee,

I am writing to express my fervent interest in pursuing a degree in Mass Communication at the Royal Institute of Mass Communication, a venerated institution renowned for its rigorous curriculum and distinguished faculty. My aspiration to delve into journalism, particularly crime reporting, stems from a

profound commitment to uncovering truth and fostering transparency within society.

Throughout my academic journey, I have honed my skills in critical thinking, research, and factual writing through various school projects and as an editor for our school newspaper. These experiences have not only solidified my passion for journalism but have also prepared me for the challenging yet rewarding field of crime reporting. I am particularly drawn to your program because of its emphasis on hands-on learning and opportunities for internships with major media outlets.

I am eager to bring my dedication and perspective to the Royal Institute of Mass Communication, where I aim to further develop my skills under the guidance of esteemed professionals. I am confident that my background, combined with the knowledge and experience gained at your institute, will prepare me to make a meaningful impact in the field of journalism.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to and grow within your esteemed academic community.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

OR

Group Discussion :

(iii) Imagine, your class has attended a guest lecture on "Career Development." Write the group discussion in the form of dialogues associated with this lecture among 3 to 4 student participants.

Solution :

Participants: Riya, Akash, Priya, and Sam

Riya: That was an insightful lecture on career development, wasn't it? I never realized how important it is to start planning our careers early.

Akash: Absolutely, Riya. The speaker really emphasized the need for setting clear goals and continuously upgrading our skills. I think I need to be more proactive about this.

Priya: I agree. What stood out to me was the part about networking. Building a professional network can open so many doors. I've always underestimated its importance.

Sam: Same here, Priya. I used to think that just having good grades would be enough. But now I see that internships, extracurricular activities, and connections play a huge role in career growth.

Riya: Yes, and the idea of having a mentor was quite interesting too. I think having someone experienced to guide us can really make a difference. I'm considering reaching out to some of my teachers for mentorship.

Akash: Good point, Riya. I also liked the advice on soft skills. Communication, teamwork, and leadership are just as important as technical skills. We should start working on those too.

Priya: Definitely. I'm thinking of joining a public speaking club to improve my communication skills. The lecturer mentioned that being able to express ourselves clearly can set us apart in job interviews and the workplace.

Sam: That's a great idea, Priya. I'm planning to take up some online courses related to my field of interest. Continuous learning seems to be key in staying relevant in today's job market.

Riya: We should also attend more workshops and seminars like this one. They provide valuable insights and can help us stay updated with industry trends.

Akash: Totally agree. Let's make a pact to actively pursue these opportunities and support each other in our career development journeys.

Priya: Sounds like a plan! It's great that we're all on the same page and can motivate each other.

Sam: Indeed. Here's to our future success and continuous growth. Let's keep pushing forward and make the most of the resources available to us.

(B) Attempt 'Any One' of the following activities:

E-mail :

(i) Draft an E-mail to the manager of a company to request him/her to give you an opportunity as an apprentice to serve you as an experience for your career development.

Solution :

Subject: Request for Apprenticeship Opportunity

Dear [Manager's Name],

I hope this message finds you well. My name is [Your Name], and I am currently pursuing my [Your Degree] at [Your Institution]. I am writing to express my keen interest in an apprenticeship opportunity at [Company Name].

I have always admired [Company Name] for its innovative approach and commitment to excellence in [industry/field]. As I am nearing the completion of my academic program, I am eager to gain practical experience and apply the knowledge and skills I have acquired in a professional setting. I believe that an apprenticeship with your esteemed company would be an invaluable opportunity for my career development.

I am particularly interested in [specific department or area of interest], and I am confident that my strong academic background and enthusiasm for learning will allow me to contribute positively to your team. I am dedicated, hardworking, and eager to learn from experienced professionals in the field.

I would be grateful for the opportunity to discuss how my skills and aspirations align with the goals of [Company Name]. Thank you for considering my request. I look forward to the possibility of contributing to your team and growing professionally through this apprenticeship.

Please find my resume attached for your review. I am available at your convenience for an interview or further discussion.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

[Your Full Name]

[Your Contact Information]

[Your Email Address]

[Your LinkedIn Profile (if applicable)]

OR

Report Writing :

(2) You are a representative of the N.S.S. unit of your college. Write a brief report of the camp in which various social activities including cleanliness have been conducted by all the participants.

Solution:

Report Writing: N.S.S. Camp Activities:

Report on N.S.S. Camp Activities

Date: [Current Date]

Venue: [Camp Location]

Duration: [Start Date] to [End Date]

Submitted by: [Your Name], Representative, N.S.S. Unit, [College Name]

The N.S.S. unit of [College Name] successfully conducted a week-long camp from [Start Date] to [End Date] at [Camp Location]. The camp aimed at promoting social welfare and community service among students. Various activities were organized to engage participants in meaningful and impactful projects. Here is a brief report on the key activities conducted during the camp.

1. Cleanliness Drive:

The camp commenced with a cleanliness drive in and around the camp location. Students participated enthusiastically in cleaning the streets, public spaces, and community areas. They collected and properly disposed of waste materials, promoting the importance of hygiene and cleanliness among the local residents.

2. Health Awareness Campaign:

A health awareness campaign was conducted to educate the community about basic health and hygiene practices. Workshops on handwashing, dental care, and general wellness were held. Free medical check-ups were provided, and basic first-aid kits were distributed to the needy.

3. Tree Plantation:

To promote environmental conservation, a tree plantation drive was organized. Participants planted over 100 saplings in the community park and along the roadside. This initiative aimed to enhance the green

cover and raise awareness about the importance of trees in maintaining ecological balance.

4. Educational Programs:

Educational sessions were conducted for children and adults in the community. Volunteers taught basic literacy and numeracy skills to children, while adults were given awareness on topics like financial literacy and digital literacy. Interactive sessions and games were used to make learning engaging and effective.

5. Cultural Activities:

Evenings at the camp were filled with cultural activities where participants showcased their talents through dance, music, and drama. These activities not only provided entertainment but also helped in building camaraderie and team spirit among the participants.

6. Community Interaction:

Participants interacted with the local community to understand their needs and challenges. This interaction helped in identifying areas where the N.S.S. unit could provide further assistance and support. It also fostered a sense of empathy and social responsibility among the students.

Conclusion:

The N.S.S. camp was a great success, with active participation from all students and positive feedback from the community. The various activities conducted not only benefitted the local residents but also enriched the students' experience, instilling in them the values of service and community involvement.

We look forward to organizing more such camps in the future to continue our efforts in making a positive impact on society.

[Your Name]

Representative, N.S.S. Unit

[College Name]

[Contact Information]

OR

Interview Questions :

(3) Imagine that you have met with the topper in the M.P.S.C. Examination. You wish to interview of him/her to know his/her journey of success. Prepare a set of 8 to 10 questions to be asked.

Solution:

Interview Questions for M.P.S.C. Examination Topper

1. Congratulations on topping the M.P.S.C. Examination! Can you share with us how you feel about this incredible achievement?
2. What motivated you to pursue the M.P.S.C. Examination, and when did you decide to start preparing for it?

3. Can you describe your daily study routine and how you managed your time effectively during your preparation?
4. What were the key resources and study materials you used during your preparation?
5. Did you attend any coaching classes or did you prepare on your own? How did you find the coaching (if attended) beneficial?
6. Can you share some strategies or techniques that you found particularly helpful for remembering vast amounts of information?
7. How did you handle stress and stay motivated throughout the preparation period, especially during challenging times?
8. What role did your family and friends play in your journey to success?
9. Can you tell us about any obstacles or difficulties you faced during your preparation, and how you overcame them?
10. What advice would you give to future aspirants who are preparing for the M.P.S.C. Examination?
11. What are your future plans and aspirations after this remarkable achievement?
12. Is there any specific area or topic that you believe requires more focus for future candidates preparing for the M.P.S.C. Examination?
13. Finally, what message would you like to convey to the youth who look up to you as an inspiration?

These questions are designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the topper's journey, strategies, and insights, offering valuable guidance for future aspirants.

(C) Attempt 'Any One' of the following activities:

Speech Writing :

- (1) You are an active member of an NGO working for water conservation. Prepare a speech for the school children/students where you are invited on the eve of 'World Environment Day' to guide them about water harvesting. Your speech should not exceed 150 words.

Solution :

Speech on Water Conservation and Harvesting

Good morning, everyone!

Today, as we gather to celebrate World Environment Day, I want to talk to you about a vital topic—water conservation and the importance of water harvesting.

Water is a precious resource, yet we are facing a global water crisis that threatens our ecosystems and our way of life. However, each one of us can make a difference, starting with something as simple as rainwater harvesting. This technique collects and stores rainwater for reuse before it reaches the ground, helping to reduce dependence on wells and municipal water systems.

Implementing rainwater harvesting systems in our homes and schools not only conserves water but also educates us about the value of this essential resource. By capturing rainwater, we can use it for gardening, flushing toilets, and even washing vehicles.

Let's pledge to be water-wise warriors! Start small, think big, and act now. Together, we can ensure a sustainable water future for ourselves and generations to come.

Thank you for your attention, and let's make every drop count!

This concise speech is designed to motivate and educate students about the importance of water conservation and the practical steps they can take through water harvesting.

OR

Comparing:

(ii) Imagine you are given the responsibility to 'compare' a programme by your college authorities. You need to prepare your script on the programme titled 'Cultural Fest 2024.' Draft the script to decide the flow of the programme. You may take help of the given points.

- Prayer
- Lighting of the lamp
- Introduction
- Felicitation
- Cultural Fest Programme
- Speech of the Chief Guest
- Presidential address
- Prize distribution
- Vote of thanks

Solution :

Opening:

Good [morning/afternoon/evening],

Respected dignitaries, esteemed guests, faculty members, and dear students. I am [Your Name], and it is my honour and privilege to be your host for this exciting and vibrant event, the Cultural Fest 2024. Today, we come together to celebrate the rich cultural diversity and immense talent that our college possesses. Without further ado, let us begin this auspicious occasion.

Prayer:

To invoke the blessings of the Almighty, let us begin with a prayer. I request [Name of the Student/Group] to lead us in the prayer.

Lighting of the Lamp:

Thank you for the beautiful prayer. Now, let us proceed with the traditional lighting of the lamp, symbolizing the dispelling of darkness and the ushering in of knowledge and wisdom. I invite our honourable Chief Guest, [Chief Guest's Name], our respected Principal, [Principal's Name], and other dignitaries to come forward and light the lamp.

Introduction:

With the lamp lit, let us move to the introduction of our esteemed guests. It is my pleasure to introduce our Chief Guest, [Chief Guest's Name], who has graciously agreed to be a part of our celebration. [Provide a brief introduction about the Chief Guest].

Felicitations:

To honour our Chief Guest, we now proceed to the felicitations ceremony. I request [Name of the Person] to present a token of our appreciation and respect to [Chief Guest's Name].

Cultural Fest Programme:

And now, the moment we have all been waiting for – the Cultural Fest Programme. Our talented students have put in immense effort to bring you a variety of performances. We will start with a traditional dance performance by [Group/Name], followed by a musical rendition by [Group/Name], and many more exciting acts.

Speech of the Chief Guest:

I hope you all enjoyed the wonderful performances. Now, I invite our distinguished Chief Guest, [Chief Guest's Name], to share a few words of wisdom with us.

Presidential Address:

Thank you, [Chief Guest's Name], for your inspiring words. Next, I invite our esteemed Principal, [Principal's Name], to deliver the Presidential Address.

Prize Distribution:

Moving forward, we come to one of the most awaited parts of our event – the Prize Distribution. I request [Name of the Person] to announce the names of the winners, and I invite our Chief Guest and Principal to present the prizes.

Vote of Thanks:

As we near the conclusion of our event, it is time to express our gratitude. I invite [Name of the Person] to deliver the Vote of Thanks.

Closing:

Ladies and Gentlemen, this brings us to the end of Cultural Fest 2024. Thank you for your participation and enthusiasm. Let us continue to celebrate the spirit of unity and diversity. Have a wonderful day ahead!

This script ensures a smooth flow of the program and covers all the key points mentioned. Feel free to adjust the details and names as per your specific requirements.

OR

Expansion of Idea :

(3) Expand the following idea by using the points 'Time and tide wait for none'.

- Meaning of the proverb
- Importance of time
- Proper time management
- Add your own points

Solution:

Meaning of the proverb:

The proverb "Time and tide wait for none" emphasizes the inevitability and irreversibility of time. It suggests that time passes continuously and waits for no one, regardless of their status, wealth, or desires. Just as the tide in the ocean moves according to its own rhythm, time too moves forward without pause.

Importance of time:

Time is one of the most precious and valuable resources available to us. It is finite and once gone, cannot be retrieved. Every moment that passes is an opportunity lost forever. Understanding the importance of time allows us to prioritize our goals, make meaningful contributions, and achieve personal and professional fulfilment.

Proper time management:

Effective time management is crucial in making the most out of the limited time we have. It involves setting priorities, allocating specific time slots for tasks, and avoiding procrastination. By managing time well, individuals can reduce stress, increase productivity, and achieve a better work-life balance. Time management skills are essential for success in any endeavour, whether it's academics, career, or personal growth.

Additional points:

1. Opportunity cost: Time not only passes quickly but also imposes an opportunity cost. Choosing to spend time on one activity means forgoing another potentially valuable opportunity. Wise decisions about how we use our time can significantly impact our long-term success and happiness.
2. Value creation: Time is the foundation for creating value in our lives. Whether it's building relationships, pursuing education, honing skills, or contributing to society, all meaningful accomplishments require an investment of time. By utilizing time effectively, individuals can make positive contributions to their communities and leave a lasting legacy.
3. Self-discipline and consistency: Time management fosters self-discipline and consistency in actions. It requires making conscious choices, adhering to schedules, and staying focused on long-term objectives. Consistent effort over time leads to gradual progress and eventual achievement of goals.

4. Reflection and growth: Time also allows for reflection and personal growth. Taking time to evaluate our actions, learn from experiences, and adapt our strategies enables continuous improvement. Each passing moment offers an opportunity for learning, self-discovery, and becoming a better version of ourselves.

In conclusion, the proverb "Time and tide wait for none" serves as a poignant reminder of the fleeting nature of time and the importance of making the most of every moment. By recognizing the value of time, practicing effective time management, and consistently investing in meaningful pursuits, individuals can lead fulfilling lives and leave a positive impact on the world around them.

(D) Attempt Any One of the following activities :

(1) Drafting a Review:

Draft a review of any film/movie that you have recently watched. Prepare your review with the help of given points.

- Name of the movie/year of release
- Producer/Director
- Cast
- Technical aspects: Music/Photography
- Theme/plot line in brief
- Your opinion

Solution :

Movie Review: "Inception" (2010)

Producer/Director:

"Inception," released in 2010, is a mind-bending science fiction thriller produced and directed by the acclaimed Christopher Nolan.

Cast:

The film boasts an impressive cast including Leonardo DiCaprio as Dom Cobb, Joseph Gordon-Levitt as Arthur, Ellen Page as Ariadne, Tom Hardy as Eames, Ken Watanabe as Saito, and Marion Cotillard as Mal.

Technical Aspects:

The technical brilliance of "Inception" is one of its standout features. Hans Zimmer's hauntingly beautiful score elevates the film's intense atmosphere, perfectly complementing its complex narrative. The cinematography by Wally Pfister is exceptional, with stunning visual effects that bring the intricate dream sequences to life. The innovative use of practical effects, particularly in the famous rotating hallway fight scene, showcases the film's technical ingenuity.

Theme/Storyline:

"Inception" explores the concept of shared dreaming and the manipulation of subconscious minds. Dom Cobb, a skilled thief who specializes in extracting secrets from within the subconscious during the dream state, is offered a chance to have his criminal record erased. In exchange, he must perform the impossible task of "Inception" – planting an idea into someone's mind. The storyline delves into themes of reality versus illusion, the power of the mind, and the emotional weight of guilt and redemption.

Your Opinion:

"Inception" is a masterful blend of thought-provoking storytelling and visual spectacle. Christopher Nolan's intricate plot keeps the audience engaged and constantly guessing, while the emotional depth of the characters adds a profound layer to the narrative. The film's exploration of dreams and reality is both intellectually stimulating and visually captivating. In my opinion, "Inception" is a cinematic masterpiece that challenges viewers to ponder the nature of consciousness and the power of the subconscious mind. It's a film that warrants multiple viewings to fully appreciate its depth and complexity.

Overall, "Inception" is a must-watch for its groundbreaking technical achievements, compelling performances, and a storyline that continues to intrigue and inspire discussions long after the credits roll.

OR

Blog writing :

(2) Write/prepare a blog in about 150 words on the topic 'Social media is spoiling the spirit of Education'. Focus on the adverse/negative effects/influence of social media apps on the students' minds.

Solution :**Blog: Social Media is Spoiling the Spirit of Education**

In today's digital age, social media has become an integral part of our lives, especially for students. However, its influence on education is far from positive. Social media apps, while offering connectivity and entertainment, are significantly detracting from the true spirit of education.

Firstly, the constant notifications and updates from platforms like Instagram, TikTok, and Snapchat create endless distractions. Students find it hard to focus on their studies when their attention is perpetually diverted by social media. This fragmentation of attention leads to poor concentration, lower retention rates, and ultimately, subpar academic performance.

Moreover, superficial validation through likes and comments fosters a culture of instant gratification. This undermines the development of patience and perseverance—key traits necessary for academic success. The pursuit of short-term pleasure from social media often takes precedence over long-term educational goals.

Additionally, the pressure to maintain an online persona can lead to stress and anxiety, further impairing a student's ability to focus on studies. The constant comparison with peers on social media can also erode self-esteem and lead to mental health issues.

In essence, while social media has its place, its pervasive use is spoiling the spirit of education by promoting distractions, fostering instant gratification, and causing undue stress. To preserve the integrity of education, it is crucial for students to manage their social media usage responsibly and prioritize their academic and personal development.

OR

Appeal :

(3) Prepare an appeal to inculcate the habit :

- Slogans
- Use persuasive appeal
- Its necessity for development

Solution:**Appeal to Inculcate the Habit of Cleanliness and Hygiene**

Dear Friends,

Today, I appeal to each one of you to join hands in embracing the vital habit of cleanliness and hygiene. In our daily lives, amidst the rush and responsibilities, it is easy to overlook the profound impact that these habits can have on our health and community well-being.

Slogans:

- "Cleanliness is healthiness – Let's embrace it!"
- "Hygiene today, health tomorrow."
- "Clean surroundings, happy living."
- "Keep it clean, keep it green."

Use Persuasive Appeal:

Imagine a world where every corner is free from litter, where every hand is washed before meals, and where every individual takes pride in keeping their surroundings clean. This vision is not just a dream but a reality we can achieve together. By cultivating these habits, we not only protect ourselves from diseases but also create a more pleasant environment for everyone.

Its Necessity for Development:

Cleanliness and hygiene are the cornerstones of societal development. They reduce the burden of healthcare costs, improve productivity, and enhance the overall quality of life. Countries that prioritize cleanliness see economic growth and greater social cohesion. Therefore, by adopting these habits, we contribute not only to our personal well-being but also to the progress of our nation.

Let us pledge today to make cleanliness and hygiene a part of our daily routine. Let's educate our families, friends, and communities about the importance of these habits. Together, we can create a cleaner, healthier, and more prosperous future for generations to come.

Join me in this noble endeavour. Together, we can make a difference.

Thank you for your attention and commitment.

Warm regards,

[Your Name]

[Your Position/Organization (if applicable)]

SECTION - IV (LITERARY GENRE - NOVEL)

Q. 5. (A) Complete the activities given below as per the instructions :

(i) Match the following items from column A with those from the column B:

Column 'A'	Column 'B'
(a) Murasaki Shikibu	(i) The Pilgrim's Progress
(b) Jonathan Swift	(ii) Gulliver's Travels
(c) John Bunyan	(iii) Raja Mohan's Wife
(d) Bankim Chandra	(iv) Tale of Genji

Solution:

To match the authors from Column 'A' with their respective works in Column 'B', here are the correct pairings:

- (a) Murasaki Shikibu - (iv) Tale of Genji
- (b) Jonathan Swift - (ii) Gulliver's Travels
- (c) John Bunyan - (i) The Pilgrim's Progress
- (d) Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay - (iii) Raja Mohan's Wife

Each of these authors is famously associated with these particular works.

(ii) Pick the odd word out:

- (a) Amit Ghosh, Vikram Seth, Henry Fielding, Amita Desai.
- (b) plot, novella, setting, theme
- (c) place, time, climate, epistolary
- (d) horror, mystery, picaresque, thriller

Solution:

Let's analyze each option:

- (a) The odd word out is Henry Fielding. Amit Ghosh, Vikram Seth, and Amita Desai are all Indian authors, whereas Henry Fielding is a British author. Therefore, (a) is the answer.
- (b) The odd word out is a novella. Plot, setting, and theme are elements commonly found in literary analysis, whereas novella refers to a specific type of narrative form. Therefore, (b) is the answer.
- (c) The odd word out is epistolary. Place, time, and climate are elements often discussed in literature, whereas epistolary refers to a style of writing that uses letters or correspondence. Therefore, (c) is the answer.

(d) The odd word out is picaresque. Horror, mystery, and thriller are genres of literature, whereas picaresque is a type of novel that follows a rogue or anti-hero through a series of adventures. Therefore, (d) is the answer.

In summary:

- (a) Amit Ghosh, Vikram Seth, Henry Fielding, Amita Desai - Henry Fielding
- (b) plot, novella, setting, theme - novella
- (c) place, time, climate, epistolary - epistolary
- (d) horror, mystery, picaresque, thriller - picaresque

(B) Activities based on the extract of the novel 'To Sir, With Love' (answer in about 50 words) :

(i) Give the character sketch of E.R. Braithwaite (the narrator).

Solution :

E.R. Braithwaite, the narrator of "To Sir, With Love," is a well-educated, intelligent, and compassionate individual. As a black man facing racial prejudice, he navigates the challenges of being an outsider with dignity and resilience. His background as an engineer turned teacher in a tough East End London school showcases his dedication and adaptability. Braithwaite's empathetic nature and commitment to his student's growth and development highlight his transformative influence as an educator. His personal journey and interactions reveal his inner strength, patience, and unwavering belief in the power of education to bridge social divides.

(ii) Describe how Miss Philips justifies the importance of P.T. to Denham.

Solution :

In "To Sir, With Love," Miss Philips justifies the importance of Physical Training (P.T.) to Denham by emphasizing its role in fostering physical fitness, discipline, and teamwork among students. She explains that P.T. is not merely about physical exercise but also about developing coordination, strength, and endurance, which are essential for overall well-being. Additionally, she underscores that P.T. helps in instilling a sense of fair play, cooperation, and respect for rules, which are crucial qualities for personal development and social interaction. By highlighting these aspects, Miss Philips aims to convey the comprehensive benefits of P.T. beyond just physical activity.

(C) Answer in about 50 words to the questions given below :

(i) Appreciate Phileas Fogg as the protagonist of 'Around the World in Eighty Days.'

Solution :

Phileas Fogg, the protagonist of "Around the World in Eighty Days," embodies determination, precision, and composure. His unwavering commitment to punctuality and his remarkable calmness in the face of challenges are admirable traits. Fogg's adventurous spirit drives the thrilling journey around the world, and his logical approach to problem-solving keeps the story engaging. Despite his seemingly rigid exterior, Fogg reveals a caring and courageous nature, especially in his interactions with his companions. His character growth throughout the novel, coupled with his remarkable feats, makes him a compelling and inspiring protagonist.

(ii) The most interesting part of the extract 'Around the World in Eighty Days' is its climax. Discuss.

Solution

The climax of "Around the World in Eighty Days" is undoubtedly one of its most interesting and thrilling parts. After numerous adventures and seemingly insurmountable obstacles, Phileas Fogg returns to London, believing he has lost the bet by a single day. The twist occurs when he realizes that by travelling eastward and crossing the International Date Line, he has actually gained a day. This revelation, just in the nick of time, transforms Fogg's despair into triumph as he wins the bet and completes his journey within the stipulated eighty days. The climax is a perfect blend of suspense and surprise, showcasing Jules Verne's masterful storytelling and keeping readers on the edge of their seats until the very end.

(D) Answer the questions given below:

(i) Describe how Sherlock Holmes discovered the connection between Miss Morstan receiving precious pearls with Major Sholto.

Solution:

Sherlock Holmes discovers the connection through his deductive reasoning and meticulous investigation. Miss Mary Morstan receives pearls annually from an anonymous benefactor, and Holmes suspects they are related to a hidden treasure linked to the Agra Fort in India. Upon further investigation, Holmes uncovers that Major Sholto, along with Miss Morstan's father and others, had acquired the treasure years ago during their military service. Major Sholto continued sending pearls to Miss Morstan as a form of guilt and compensation for their ill-gotten gains. Holmes pieces together the clues, including Major Sholto's secretive behaviour and the connection to the treasure, ultimately revealing the truth to Miss Morstan.

(ii) How does the mystery of Bartholomew's murder lead Holmes to track down Small.

Solution:

The mystery of Bartholomew Sholto's murder leads Holmes to track down Jonathan Small through a series of deductions and investigations. Holmes discovers that Jonathan Small was one of the original holders of the Agra treasure along with Major Sholto and Miss Morstan's father. Small had a falling out with the others over the division of the treasure, leading to betrayal and subsequent murders. Small, seeking revenge, kills Bartholomew Sholto, believing he held information about the location of the treasure. Through his network of informants and careful analysis of the evidence, Holmes traces Small's movements and connections, eventually locating him and unravelling the full story behind the Agra treasure and the murders associated with it.