

SYLLABUS And SCHEME OF ASSESMENT FOR GENERAL ENGLISH

CLASS – XI

MAX MARKS: 100

TIME: 3 HOURS

80 (THEORY)+20 (INTERNAL ASSESSMENT)

Prescribed Textbooks

1. *Hornbill*: Textbook in English for Class-XI (Core Course) published by NCERT, New Delhi

2. *Snapshots*: Supplementary Reader in English for Class XI (Core Course) published by NCERT, New Delhi.

Q No	DESCRIPTION	Weightage
SECTION A: READING COMPREHENSION		20 marks
1	One unseen passage of 400-500 words in length for note-making (5 marks) and summarizing (5 marks).	10 marks
2	One unseen prose passage of 400-500 words in length followed by five ten objective type questions including MCQ's, fill ups, true/false, yes/no to assess comprehension, vocabulary, interpretation and inference. OR One unseen poetry passage of 15-30 lines in length followed by five MCQ's and five objective type questions to assess comprehension, interpretation and inference.	1x10= 10 marks
SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR		30 marks
3	One out of two questions on notice/ poster/ advertisement. (50 words)	4 marks
4	One out of two questions on letter writing (business or official letters for making enquiries, registering complaints, asking for and giving information, placing orders and sending replies, letters to the editor giving suggestions/opinions on an issue; letter to the school or college authorities, regarding admissions, school issues, requirements / suitability of courses, etc.) (120-150 words)	6 marks
5	One question on writing a personal email (to a friend/relative/etc.). (50-80 words)	4 marks
6	One out of two questions on article/speech/report/ narrative/debate writing. (200-250 words)	8 marks
7	One passage 100-150 words in length for assessing through error correction the following items: determiners, tenses, punctuation, modals, conjunctions and prepositions. (8 items).	8 marks
SECTION C: LITERATURE		30 marks
8	An extract from the prescribed poems followed by three objective type questions (two to be attempted) assessing reference to context comprehension and appreciation.	1x2=2 marks

9	Five out of six short answer type questions (four each from <i>Hornbill</i> and <i>Snapshots</i>) based on poetry, prose and plays to assess inference and critical thinking.	2x5=10 marks
10	One out of two long answer questions from <i>Hornbill</i> to assess global comprehension and extrapolation beyond the texts. Questions to provide evaluative and analytical stimuli to the learners, using incidents, events, themes as reference points.(120-150 words)	6 marks
11	One out of two long answer questions from <i>Snapshots</i> based on incidents or events to test global comprehension and extrapolation beyond the texts. Questions to elicit creative responses and ability to form opinions.(120-150 words)	6 marks
12	One out of two long answer questions from <i>Hornbill</i> to provide evaluative and analytical stimuli to the learners using incidents, events, themes as reference points.(120-150 words)	6 marks

INTERNAL ASSESSMENT

Assessment of Listening and Speaking Skills

Assessment of Listening and Speaking Skills will be for 20 marks. Practice and assessment is to be based on the activities included in the prescribed textbooks and by taking recourse to various resources and techniques available in the school.

Suggested Reading

For grammar, teachers and students can refer to any standard grammar textbook for further reading and clarification of concepts. Some of the books include:

- English Grammar in Use by Raymond Murphy published (Cambridge University Press)
- Oxford Practice Grammar by John Eastwood published (Oxford University Press)
- Grammar Practice Activities by Penny Ur (Cambridge University Press)
- A Practical English Grammar by Thomson and Martinet (Oxford University Press)
- High School English Grammar by Wren and Martin (S Chand Publishing)

Question Paper Design

General English XI Marks -80+20=100

Section	Competencies	Total Marks	
Reading Comprehension	Conceptual understanding, decoding, Analyzing, inferring, interpreting, appreciating, literary, conventions and vocabulary, summarizing and using appropriate format/s	20 Marks	
Writing Skill and Grammar	Reasoning, appropriacy of style and tone, using and tone, using appropriate format and fluency, inference, analysis, evaluation and creativity	30 Marks	
Literature Textbook and Supplementary Reader Text	Recalling, reasoning, appreciating literary convention, inference, analysis, creativity with fluency	30 Marks	
	TOTAL	80 Marks	
Assessment of Listening and Speaking Skills	-	20 Marks	-
	GRAND TOTAL	100 Marks	

SECTION A: READING COMPREHENSION

1.	<p>Read the following passage. Make notes and write a summary with a suitable title.</p> <p>Hundreds of thousands of our qualified youngsters take off from different international airports every year for higher studies or highly lucrative jobs in the US, the UK, Germany, France and Australia. And most of these Indians prefer to settle abroad, attracted by the facilities and the higher quality of life provided by these countries. We have been crying hoarse about brain drain from India over the last five decades or more, without going in for a well-set blueprint to check the counter-productive phenomenon. Some of the public schools in our metros and our IITs (Indian Institutes of Technology) and IIMs(Indian Institutes of Management) are providing world-class education. One might wonder that having spent a lot on infrastructure, training and other facilities and the best teaching staff, can the Government and the people of India look away as the talent, assiduously nurtured in India, is utilized by other countries for their development and excellence in different fields. During the decades-long debate on brain drain, it was said that our youngsters leave India just because excellence is neither recognized nor rewarded in India. This could have been partly true at the beginning of this debate. But today, things have changed beyond recognition and talented people can reach the highest position if only they are prepared to work hard. Youngsters from India – whatever be the field they are working in – are today suitably recognized and rewarded. Take the field of sports where many of the celebrities are household names – Sania Mirza, Narain Karthikeyan, Sachin Tendulkar, Anju Bobby George, P.T. Usha and several others. Innovation and managerial skill get recognition when Indians can vie others in excellence from any part of the world.If there is one individual who has catapulted India to the number one position in milk production in the world, it's none other than Dr.VergheeseKurien, the father of the White Revolution. A top engineer who completed the Konkan Railway in record time, Mr E. Sreedharan has built up the world class Delhi Metro. Mr. Amitabh Bachchan is no longer a mega star of the Indian screen only. His presentation of <i>Kaun BanegaCrorepati</i> and other ventures have made him a living legend of global proportions. Take the story of Ambani brothers, the Tatas, the Mittals and others who are having their footprints in different continents. We have had so many Indians who rose to the summit as Miss Universe and Miss World, but none has earned so much acclaim globally in Bollywood, Hollywood or the Cannes Film festival as Ms. Aishwarya Rai. In the wake of globalization, India has produced a galaxy of eminent entrepreneurs in IT, biotechnology, civil aviation, steel production and the like, just mention a field and we are already in the vanguard or moving ahead at a frenetic pace. A time may come when India would be capable of reversing the so called brain drain to India's supreme advantage.</p>	10 Marks
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2	<p>Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.</p> <p>Given the standing of some of its institutions of higher learning, the IITs and IIMs, India is a potential 'knowledge power'. Realising the potential, however, is not going to be easy. The impressive strides made by Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan notwithstanding, universal access to quality school education— "a minimum necessary condition for any progress towards making India a knowledge society", as the 2006 report of the National Knowledge Commission puts it – remains a distant goal. There is as yet no legislation at the national level to affirm the right to education, a fundamental right under the Constitution. The number of school buildings for elementary and secondary education falls far short of requirements and so does the number of qualified teachers. The pressure on government budgets, which forces governments to hire teachers on contract paying a pittance of a salary, is playing havoc with quality. While the incursion of the private sector in the field is providing some competition, mechanisms to enforce the required standards are lacking. Not that there are no national standards or standards-enforcing agencies. We have the National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) to bring out text books in various subjects for school education. The central government runs several model schools. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) conducts examinations for schools affiliated to it across the country. The states too have their school boards to conduct exams and enforce minimum standards. However, the standards vary widely. In their anxiety to show spectacular performance, some states are overly lenient in marking answer papers. Questions arise even over the standards applied by CBSE. Going by the number of students securing 90 per cent or more in their higher secondary exam, it would appear India is on the brink of a knowledge revolution. The numbers are so large that the cut-off point for admission to top colleges is now above 90 per cent. However, admissions to IITs and medical colleges are not based on CBSE or state board exam results. Leading undergraduate colleges offering non-professional degree courses hold their own admission tests. Obviously, higher secondary school results are not taken to be a reliable index of the quality of a student's learning capability or potential. It is not difficult to see why. In the CBSE class XII exam, the number of successful candidates securing more than 90 percent in economics this year turned out to be over 8,000 in the Delhi region alone; in English it was above 9,000. The numbers seem to be growing every year. If the country produces so many children who attain very high levels of performance even before graduation, we can expect India to produce Amartya Sens by the dozens. While scoring high marks or even 100 out of 100 may not be out of a good student's reach in subjects like mathematics or physics, it is difficult to figure out the quality of the answers that fetch 90 percent marks in economics or English.</p> <p>a. A distant goal is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (ii) quality school education (iii) National Knowledge Commission (iv) knowledge society 	1x10= 10 Marks
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b. The main factor that has affected the quality of education:

- (i) private sector
- (ii) pittance of a salary
- (iii) teachers on contract
- (iv) some competition

c. The two standard enforcing agencies are:

- (i) IT and CBSE
- (ii) CBSE and NCERT
- (iii) IIT and EIM
- (iv) IIT and NCERT

d. Leading undergraduate colleges hold their own admission tests because:

- (i) they are proud of their admission tests
- (ii) they dislike higher secondary school results
- (iii) they distrust higher secondary school results
- (iv) they are leading undergraduate colleges

e. The problem created by the result by CBSE is:

- (i) CBSE gives 90% marks to 8000 students
- (ii) CBSE gives 90% marks to 9000 students
- (iii) CBSE gives good marks to all the students
- (iv) CBSE has created a gap between knowledge at schools and institutions of higher level

f. Synonym of 'havoc' is:

- (i) possession
- (ii) upgraded
- (iii) destruction
- (iv) obvious

g. In their anxiety to show spectacular performance, some states are overly lenient in marking answer papers. (true/false)

h. The antonym of private is _____.

i. CBSE conducts examinations for schools _____ to it across the country.

j. In the phrase 'pittance of a salary', the word pittance can be replaced by

- (i) peanuts
- (ii) walnuts
- (iii) hard nuts
- (iv) reasonable

SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR

3	Your institute, Golden Care Hospital, has decided to organise an 'Organ Donation Camp' to generate awareness about the cause. Draft a Poster giving all the necessary details. (50 words) OR As General Manager, Golden Software Solutions, New Delhi, you need a	4 Marks
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	software engineer for your organisation. Draft an advertisement for 'Situation Vacant' columns of a national newspaper stating your requirements regarding age, qualifications, experience and salary offered. (50 words)	
4	<p>A 72-year-old Municipal Councillor of your area expired last Friday and as she had desired, her body was donated to Army Medical College. It would be a second life for some persons receiving some vital organs retrieved from her body. Write a letter to the Editor, 'Indian Times', Chennai, highlighting the importance of donation of eyes and other organs to persons in need. You are Navita/Namit, 125, Main Road Road, Kacchha Danga. (120 – 150 words)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Fire broke out in one corner of the auditorium when your school's annual day function was going on. Latha/Lalith, Headgirl/Headboy took command of the situation and got all the doors opened at once, used fire extinguishers, vacated the auditorium, provided first-aid and called the ambulance. Imagine you are the Principal of M.V. Public School. Write a letter to the Director of Education, recommending your student's name for a bravery award. (120 – 150 words)</p>	6 Marks
5	Write an email to your friend thanking him for hosting such a great party. (50-80 words)	4 Marks
6	<p>Sales of iPhones have touched an all-time high in the festive season this year in your city. Write an article for a newspaper giving an analysis of the trend.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>A massive fire due to a short circuit gutted an entire shopping centre in your city. As a reporter with Greater Kashmir write a report for the newspaper. (200-250 words)</p>	8 Marks
7	<p>Eight grammatical errors in the following passage have been underlined and numbered 1 to 8. Correct them and write down the correct forms only against the respective number.</p> <p>My grandmother <u>or</u>(1) I were good friends. My parents <u>leave</u>(2) me with her when they went to live in the city and we were constantly together. <u>she</u>(3) used to wake me up in the morning and get me ready for school. She said her morning prayer in a monotonous sing-song while she <u>bath</u>(4) and dressed me in the hope that I would listen and get to know it by heart; I listened because I loved her voice <u>therefore</u>(5) never bothered to learn it. Then she <u>will</u>(6) fetch my wooden slate which she had already washed and plastered <u>by</u>(7) yellow chalk, a tiny earthen ink-pot and a red pen, tie them all in a bundle and hand it to me. After a breakfast of a thick, stale chapatti with a little butter and sugar spread on it, we went to school. She <u>had carried</u>(8) several stale chapattis with her for the village dogs.</p>	8 Marks
SECTION C: LITERATURE		
8	<p>Read the extract given below and answer any two of the questions that follow: See Betty And Dolly, "She'd say, " and look how they Dressed us for the beach, "The sea holiday" Was her past, mine is her laughter.</p> <p>i. How did she react whenever she looked at the snapshot?</p>	1x2=2 Marks

	<p>ii. Explain: The sea holiday! "was her past"</p> <p>iii. Why is the mother's laughter 'past' for the narrator?</p>	
9	<p>Answer any five of the following questions:</p> <p>i. Describe the happiest half-hour of the day for the grandmother. (<i>The Portrait of a Lady</i>)</p> <p>ii. Why did the author complain of headache? How did he get relief?</p> <p>iii. Why does the father say, 'Silence surrounds us.'? (<i>Father to Son</i>)</p> <p>iv. When did Ranga plan to marry and why?</p> <p>v. What helped the writer to fulfil the pledge he made to Shahid?</p> <p>vi. Why did the sight of Mourad's horse both delightful and frightening for Aram?</p>	<p>2x5= 10 Marks</p>
10	<p>All the dangers and disasters could be confronted with patience , courage and determination. The writer with his family and crew members reached safely to the island, only because of these virtues. How far are these virtues essential for life? Discuss.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Albert Einstein attached more importance to ideas than facts and dates, one could learn them form books. This made him an extraordinary scientist. Do you agree that teacher and learner relation failing to highlight talent among students? Discuss.</p>	<p>6 Marks</p>
11	<p>What impression do you get form for Mrs. Annie Pearson?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>How does a melon become the ruler of the state? Why are the people happy with him?</p>	<p>6 Marks</p>
12	<p>What do you learn about the system of education in old British schools from the play <i>The Browning Version</i>?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>What do you understand by outsider art? Write a note on worldwide recognition of Nek Chand's contribution to outsider art.</p>	<p>6 Marks</p>