

# WHY **MASTERMIND** QUESTION BANK ?

- 👍 **MASTERMIND QUESTION BANK** is prepared chapter-wise to facilitate systematic study of the whole syllabus for students.
- 👍 **MASTERMIND CHAPTER-WISE QUESTION BANK** can be referred any time during the session.
- 👍 Three sample papers for Self-Evaluation as well as a previous year board examination paper have been given in **MASTERMIND CHAPTER-WISE QUESTION BANK**.
- 👍 The student can assess his/her understanding after completing the syllabus through sample papers given in **MASTERMIND CHAPTER-WISE QUESTION BANK**. The student can opt to prepare the chapters with weak points through questions strictly following the exam pattern and can attain the highest possible marks.
- 👍 Truly, **MASTERMIND CHAPTER-WISE QUESTION BANK** is the best choice so far for students to have an exhaustive preparation for exams.

## The **Salient Features** of the Question Bank are:

### ⊕ **CHAPTER-WISE**

**MASTERMIND QUESTION BANK** has been prepared Chapter-wise, so that a student can prepare the entire syllabus chronologically

### ⊕ **2019 EXAMINATION PAPER**

This will help a student to understand the pattern of the question paper and assess his/her difficulty level

### ⊕ **SECTIONAL CATEGORISATION**

The Question Bank has been categorised in different sections, viz. Reading, Writing and Grammar and Literature Textbook and Supplementary Reading Text to facilitate planned preparation

### ⊕ **PREVIOUS 10+ YEARS' QUESTIONS**

CBSE examination questions (2008 onwards) acquaint the students with the pattern of questions asked in Board Examination

### ⊕ **SECTIONAL QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH QUESTION PAPER DESIGN**

In each section, the questions are categorised strictly in accordance with the question paper design

### ⊕ **CHAPTER SUMMARIES**

The section on Literature Textbook (First Flight) and Supplementary Reading Text (Footprints without Feet) contains Summaries of prose and poetries.

### ⊕ **FORMATS OF LETTERS**

The formats of letters of different categories are given. This will help the student to attempt letter writing with confidence

### ⊕ **TIPS ON STORY-WRITING**

Tips to write a story are given. This will help the students to score good marks in story writing

### ⊕ **QR CODES**



Chapter-wise QR codes are given to have instant access to additional unsolved practice material in the form of chapter test

### ⊕ **SAMPLE PAPERS**

Sample papers (80 Marks each) according to the latest blueprint specified by CBSE have been embedded

# English Language & Literature Class 10

## Sample Paper (Solved)

Maximum Marks – 80

### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

I. The question paper is divided into three sections :

|             |                     |          |
|-------------|---------------------|----------|
| SECTION A : | Reading             | 20 MARKS |
| SECTION B : | Writing and Grammar | 30 MARKS |
| SECTION C : | Literature          | 30 MARKS |

II. All questions are compulsory.

III. You may attempt any section at a time.

IV. All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

### Section A – Reading (20 Marks)

1 Read the following passage carefully.

#### HUNTING FOR AN ECO-FRIENDLY WEED KILLER

- Human beings have been struggling hard against weeds—any plants that thrive where they are not wanted—since the beginning of agriculture. Weeds eliminate grazing areas and account for one-third of all crop losses in the world. Crops and other desirable plants die because the ‘interlopers’ compete for water, soil, nutrients and sunlight. Weeds also interfere with irrigation potential of the place. Harvesting is also hampered.
- The global need for weed control has been answered mainly by the chemical industry. As we know, herbicides are often effective and necessary to get good agricultural results. Yet some pose serious problems, particularly if they are misused. For example, toxic and otherwise harmful compounds threaten animal and public health when they accumulate in our ecosystems.
- In recent years, the chemical industries have introduced several herbicides that are more ecologically sound than those of the past, notably glyphosates and a series of compounds called sulfonylureas. Also the most effective chemical herbicides kill virtually all plants they contact, sparing only the few species possessing natural resistance to the chemicals and species that have been genetically modified for resistance. Apart from this, chemicals typically have to be applied several times in a growing season.

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4. Of late, it is realised that introducing new chemicals alone will not solve the growth of weed and problems related to it in the world. Hence, an increasing number of scientists all over the world are engaged in exploring biological alternatives that harness the innate weed-killing powers. The biological agents now in use are environment-friendly and many offer the significant benefit of specificity. They are chosen for their ability to attack selected targets, leaving crops and other plants untouched. These biological agents are administered once, after which no added applications are needed.

**On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions.**

**(1 × 8 = 8 Marks)**

- a. Weeds account for ..... of all crop losses in the world.
- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| (i) one-third | (ii) one-fourth |
| (iii) half    | (iv) one fifth  |
- b. What is the correct order of the information given below:
- I. Herbicides are effective and necessary to get good agricultural results.  
II. Weeds eliminate grazing areas.  
III. The biological agents are administered only once.  
IV. Chemicals have to be applied several times in a growing season.
- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| (i) II, I, IV, III   | (ii) I, II, IV, III |
| (iii) II, I, III, IV | (iv) II, IV, I, III |
- c. Weeds provide harm to crops and other desirable plants because they:
- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| (i) destroy the plants        | (ii) interfere with irrigation potential of the place |
| (iii) introduce grazing areas | (iv) require soil and nutrients                       |
- d. Biological agents are chosen for their ability to attack:
- |                                |                        |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| (i) crops and desirable plants | (ii) selected targets  |
| (iii) weeds and other crops    | (iv) insects and germs |
- e. The biological agents in use:
- I. interfere with irrigation potential.  
II. are environment-friendly.  
III. offer the significant benefit of specificity.  
IV. solve the growth of weed.
- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| (i) II and IV  | (ii) I and II   |
| (iii) I and IV | (iv) II and III |

- f. The most effective chemical herbicides spare only the few species possessing ..... to the chemicals.
- g. A large number of scientists around the world are engaged in exploring biological alternatives to harness the ..... .
- h. Toxic and harmful compounds threaten human health when they accumulate in our ecosystems. (True/False)

**2 Read the following passage carefully.**

1. High-altitude climbing is still a very dangerous task in spite of the availability of oxygen masks and other protective equipments which modern climbers take with them. These, of course, are indispensable accessories of climbing, but more important than these is the stamina of the climber which ultimately determines the success of his attempt. Throughout his superb presence of mind, he has to tread every inch of the ground with the utmost care, death is his constant companion which he can keep at a distance only with his utmost care, for a false step may not only strike him a fatal blow but also bring disaster to the whole expedition. That is why all expeditions invariably take with them local guides who are experienced climbers and who have a thorough knowledge of the nature of the terrain. Moreover, a huge amount of capital is needed for financing these expeditions, and this is generally provided by government or rich private organisations.
2. The primary object of a mountaineering expedition is to get to the top of a high mountain, which, in the past, has withstood all attempts to conquer it. But it should not be presumed that the expedition is a complete failure if it does not reach its destination. Sometimes, operations are temporarily suspended because of bad weather, loss of some valuable equipment or the sudden death of a very important member of the party. Every big expedition takes with it men who are interested in botany, biology, geology, and various other branches of science, and these men carry with them equipment for recording their observations concerning the weather, the terrain, and different forms of life in higher altitudes. Other scientists, explorers and exhibitionists utilise the fruits of their observations. Thus, every unsuccessful expedition contributes to the success of later expeditions. The British Expedition led by Colonel Hunt would have found their way to the Everest much more difficult had not the earlier expeditions armed them with useful knowledge about the death-dealing weather which they had to encounter in the vicinity of the summit.

**I. On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each. (2 × 4 = 8 Marks)**

- a. What are the indispensable accessories of high altitude climbing? What is more important than these?
- b. Why should a climber need to be very cautious in his attempt?
- c. Why do expeditions take experienced local guides with them?
- d. Should an expedition be presumed as a complete failure if it does not reach its destination?

Comment

**II. On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions:**

**(1 × 4 = 4 Marks)**

- a. The synonym of the word 'fatal' in para 1 is:
  - (i) deadly
  - (ii) disaster
  - (iii) dangerous
  - (iv) terrain
- b. The synonym of 'crucial' as given in para 1 is .....
- c. Which word in para 2 means 'of short duration'?
  - (i) Withstood
  - (ii) Conquer
  - (iii) Suspended
  - (iv) Temporarily
- d. The antonym of 'immortal' as given in para 2 is .....

**Section B – Writing and Grammar (30 Marks)**

- 3 A lot of garbage is thrown on the main road near the bus stop outside your colony causing bad smell. It becomes worse when it rains. Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner, asking him to take urgent action in the matter. You are Sarita/Saurabh Gupta of 12, Vivek Nagar, Delhi. (8 Marks)**

**OR**

**Prime Minister in his Independence Day speech has linked his 'Clean India' project to Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary celebrations in 2019. It is a great idea to pay tribute to the Father of the Nation. Write an article in 100-150 words, appreciating the PM's focus on 'Clean India' and mentioning the measures people can take to make this project of 'Clean India' a great success. You are Rama/Ram.**

- 4 Write a short story, in 150–200 words, using the beginning given below. Give a suitable title to the story. (10 Marks)**

Sujata was lost in her thoughts while passing through the busy market area of the city. She had no idea that a man was following her ...

OR

Arvind was distracted. He couldn't concentrate in the class. The incident which had happened that morning had shattered him ...

- 5 Complete the following passage by choosing the correct answers from the options given below.**

**(4 Marks)**

Education is defined as (a) ..... ability of a person to read (b) ..... write. (c) ..... sadly, millions of children (d) ..... uneducated in India.

- |               |           |            |              |
|---------------|-----------|------------|--------------|
| a. (i) the    | (ii) an   | (iii) some | (iv) any     |
| b. (i) and    | (ii) but  | (iii) as   | (iv) while   |
| c. (i) Yet    | (ii) What | (iii) But  | (iv) Perhaps |
| d. (i) aren't | (ii) are  | (iii) out  | (iv) were.   |

- 6 The following paragraph has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the error and its correction as shown in the example.**

**(4 Marks)**

|   | Error     | Correction |
|---|-----------|------------|
| Overeating is one of the more wonderful     | e.g. more | most       |
| practices among those which think that they | (a)       |            |
| can afford it. In fact that is said that    | (b)       |            |
| near all those who can get as much          | (c)       |            |
| as he desire, overeat to their              | (d)       |            |
| disadvantage.                               |           |            |

- 7 Rearrange the following words / phrases to form meaningful sentences.**

**(4 Marks)**

- reward / its / is / honesty / own
- teaches us / our dealings / honest / religion / in / to be
- everywhere / and / is respected / honest man / an / admired
- Jack / London / go / will / tomorrow / after / day / to

### Section C – Literature (30 Marks)

- 8 Read the following extract carefully and answer the questions.**

**(1 × 4 = 4 Marks)**

Day after day she watched the bus, and gradually a tiny wish crept into her head and grew there: she wanted to ride on that bus, even if just once. This wish became stronger and stronger, until it was an overwhelming desire. Valli would stare wistfully at the people who

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got on or off the bus when it stopped at the street corner. Their faces would kindle in her longings, dreams, and hopes. If one of her friends happened to ride the bus and tried to describe the sights of the town to her, Valli would be too jealous to listen and would shout, in English: 'Proud! proud!'.

- a. 'She' here in the extract refers to the .....
- b. After continuously watching the bus arrive and depart for some days, she wished to:
  - (i) make a desire for tour
  - (ii) take ride on it just once
  - (iii) look at people's faces
  - (iv) have a journey to other country
- c. Valli would be fascinated by looking at people's faces who:
  - (i) used to sit in the bus
  - (ii) would travel by bus
  - (iii) would step in or out of the bus
  - (iv) would be jealous of their friends
- d. Valli would be jealous if any of her friends would go by bus and recite their experiences.  
(True/False)

OR

The trees inside are moving out into the forest,  
the forest that was empty all these days  
where no bird could sit  
no insect hide  
no sun bury its feet in shadow  
the forest that was empty all these nights  
will be full of trees by morning.

- a. The poet of the poem is .....
- b. The trees are moving out into the .....
- c. Since the forest outside was empty, no ..... could sit on the branches of trees.
  - (i) insects
  - (ii) birds
  - (iii) pigeons
  - (iv) parrots

d. The poet feels that the empty forest will be full of trees by the:

- (i) evening
- (ii) day after tomorrow
- (iii) next morning
- (iv) afternoon

**9 Answer any five of the following questions in 30-40 words each. (2 × 5 = 10 Marks)**

- a. What did Maddie observe when she looked at the drawing for a long time?
- b. What do we come to know about the chameleon in 'How to Tell Wild Animals'?
- c. How did the book change Think-Tank's opinion about the Earthlings?
- d. Why did Max enter Ausable's room? How did he do so?
- e. According to Nelson Mandela, define 'courage' and 'the brave man'.
- f. How did Valli react when someone called her 'child'?

**10 Answer any one of the following questions in 100-150 words. (8 Marks)**

Explain how one can enjoy life in the region of Coorg.

OR

Describe Rajvir and Pranjol's journey to Assam.

**11 Answer any one of the following questions in 100-150 words. (8 Marks)**

On the basis of your reading of the story, write a character-sketch of the hack driver.

OR

Comment on the aptness of the title of the story 'A Triumph of Surgery'.



# Answers to Sample Paper

## Section A – Reading

### Passage 1

**Ans.** a. (i) b. (i) c. (ii) d. (ii) e. (iv) f. natural resistance g. innate weed killing powers  
h. True

### Passage 2

- I.** a. The indispensable accessories of high altitude climbing are oxygen mask and other protective equipments. More important than these is the stamina of the climber.  
b. A climber needs to be very cautious in his attempt because a false step may not only lead to his death but also bring disaster to the whole expedition.  
c. Expeditions take experienced local guides with them because they are experienced climbers who have a thorough knowledge of the nature of the terrain.  
d. No, an expedition should not be presumed as a complete failure if it does not reach its destination because sometimes operations are temporarily suspended because of bad weather, loss of some valuable equipment or the sudden death of a very important member of the party.
- II.** a. (ii) deadly  
b. indispensable  
c. (iv) Temporarily  
d. death-dealing

## Section B – Writing and Grammar

**3.** 12 Vivek Nagar

Delhi

20 October, 20XX

The Municipal Commissioner

Municipal Corporation

Delhi

**Sub:** Garbage Heaps on Road

Sir

I want to draw your kind attention to the filthy sight created by heaps of garbage on the main road near the bus stop outside our colony. The pile goes on increasing day by day. It emits bad smell. The stench is too foul to bear. The garbage is also breeding insects dangerous to health. The position becomes worse when it rains.

I, therefore, request you to take urgent action in the matter and get this nuisance cleared as soon as possible.

Hoping for an early action.

Yours sincerely  
Saurabh Gupta

OR  
**Clean India**

*By Rama/Ram*

Mahatma Gandhi said, 'Cleanliness is next to Godliness'. It is important that we should be clean and tidy as well as keep our surroundings clean.

It is appalling to see some people throw trash in the open. Very often, we seen garbage dumped on the roadside and at crossings. Flies, dogs and cattle that feed on it are also an unpleasant sight and the stench is nauseating. This also influences spread of diseases like cholera. Garbage should be thrown in bags and disposed of after collecting. Each one of us should also inculcate healthy habits like washing hands before meals, bathing, brushing teeth and cutting nails. If we always maintain personal hygiene and keep our surroundings clean, we can lead a more healthy life. People should use dustbins to throw garbage, should not litter in public places and should not spit in the open. *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan is an effective way in this direction.*

**4. The Start of a Friendship**

Sujata was lost in her thoughts while passing through the busy market area of the city. She had no idea that a man was following her for the last few minutes. Sujata kept on walking towards her home and suddenly a man brushed past her in a crowd. After walking a little distance, she discovered that her cell phone was missing. Her first reaction was of anger.

'How dare he do this,' she fumed. Then she reacted quickly. She could see the man walking only a few metres ahead of her. She stopped a young man and quickly narrated what had happened.

'Will you please call on my cell phone,' she requested. 'He might stop to attend to the call or to switch it off. We should be able to catch him then.'

The young man dialled her number quickly, and sure enough, the man stopped in his tracks for an instant to switch off the phone. That was enough for the young man to grab him by his neck.

'Shall I hand you over to the police or will you give the young lady's phone back,' he demanded.

‘What are you talking about? I don’t have any phone,’ replied the man.

Sujata, in the meantime, had already got hold of a constable on duty. Upon seeing them, the man quickly handed over Sujata’s phone and vanished in the crowd.

‘Thank you so much,’ said Sujata to the young man. ‘Please let me reward you with a treat.’

The young man was hesitant to take any such reward. He said, ‘There is no need of any treat as being a fellow human being it was my duty to help you in such condition.’

Sujata anyhow managed to convince him for the treat. And that was the beginning of their beautiful friendship.

OR

### The Lesson Learnt

Arvind was distracted. He couldn’t concentrate in the class. The incident which had happened that morning had shattered him and he could not stop thinking about it. Arvind had reached his bus stop early due to the uncertain and erratic timings of his bus. As he stood waiting for the bus with his father, they saw a very old couple sitting on the pavement. They looked decent and well-dressed, so Arvind’s father approached them and enquired if they needed any assistance. The old lady burst into tears, and as the old man comforted her, he told them that their son had thrown them out of the house telling them there was no place for them in his life and in the house. Just then Arvind’s school bus arrived and he had to go. However, he could not forget the sad and distrustful look on the old couple’s faces. His mind was full of thoughts about how terribly some children treat their old parents when parents do everything that they can to bring up their children in the best possible way. They make numerous sacrifices for their children, love them unconditionally, and when in old age they need their children the most, these children treat them most unfeelingly. At that very moment, Arvind decided to be a dutiful son and encourage his friends to be the same.

5. a. (i) the                      b. (i) and                      c. (iii) But                      d. (ii) are
6. a. which    who    b. that    it                      c. near    nearly    d. he                      they
7. a. Honesty is its own reward.
- b. Religion teaches us to be honest in our dealings.
- c. An honest man is respected and admired everywhere.
- d. Jack will go to London day after tomorrow.

## Section C – Literature

8. a. girl named Valli  
b. (ii) take ride on it just once.  
c. (iii) would step in or out of the bus  
d. True

OR

- a. Adrienne Rich  
b. open forest.  
c. (ii) birds  
d. (iii) next morning
9. a. When Maddie looked at the drawing for a long time, she saw something strange. She saw the face and the head of the drawing. It was like that of her. It looked like her own mouth. Wanda had drawn that drawing for her.  
b. A chameleon is a harmless creature of the tree. It is like a lizard. It is without ears. It does not possess a single wing. It is simple and friendly in nature.  
c. Think-Tank first thinks that the Earthlings are some primitives. He calls the books as sandwiches for communication. Omega and Oop tell Think-Tank about the nursery rhymes in the book. This makes Think-Tank think that the Earthlings are not primitives. They are highly intelligent and grow crops of metal and explosives.  
d. Max entered Ausable's room to intimidate him in order to take away the important report concerning new missiles. Max had a duplicate key of Ausable's room. He opened the room with the help of that key.  
e. The author defines 'courage' as not the absence of fear but as the triumph over it. Fear is really bad for the country. The 'brave man' is not he who does not feel fear of any kind. He is the one who conquers that fear.  
f. Valli reacted strongly when someone called her 'child'. She said that she was not a child and was just like everyone else travelling in the bus who could take care of herself. She had paid the full fare just like everyone else.
10. Coorg is a worth seeing and enjoying tourist place. It has evergreen rainforests, spices and coffee plantations. If one wants to visit, one must visit during September to March. During the monsoons, heavy rains spoil the charm of the trip. The Kaveri river is famous for Mahaseer, a large freshwater fish and kingfisher. Wildlife is plenty here. In the forests, one can be in the company of squirrels, langurs, elephants, and many other animals. The elephant ride is a great attraction for children.

People can also enjoy numerous water games. Brahmagiri hill gives the entire view of Coorg. One can enjoy walking over the rope-bridge. It leads to the sixty-four acre island of Nisargadhama. One can visit India's famous and largest Tibetan colony nearby Bylakuppe, which is famous for the Buddhist monks. Thus, there are many surprises which one can unveil in the region of Coorg.

OR

Rajvir and Pranjol studied in Delhi. They were classmates and friends also. Pranjol hailed from Assam. His father was the manager of a tea-garden there. Pranjol invited Rajvir to visit his home during the summer vacation. When they entered Assam, they saw very beautiful sights full of greenery. The fields were covered by tea-bushes. There were trees and grasslands everywhere. There were many shade-trees. There were rows of bushes of tea plants far and wide.

Rajvir was very excited to see these beautiful sights. His heart was filled with happiness. On a station when the train stopped, they took two cups of tea and sipped. The train again started for the next destination.

They had to reach Mariani Junction. There, Pranjol's parents came to receive them. On the way, Rajvir gave many important information about tea and its origin. Thus, their journey was very enjoyable.

- 11.** The hack driver, who was Lutkins himself, was a very cunning and clever person. He was good at deceiving people, and he made a complete fool of the narrator. He admired Lutkins' talent for dishonesty. He was infact, full of praise for this trait, that he himself possessed. He was a hard fellow to catch and due to his intelligence, he always evaded being caught. The hack driver impressed the lawyer with his eloquence. He was also a good story-teller. He invented a story and told the lawyer that Lutkins owed him fifty cents on a poker game. He felt not the least regret in making a fool of the narrator, and later had the audacity to even laugh at the narrator for his foolishness.

OR

Surgery is the hospital for the sick dogs. It also refers to medical aid in allopathy. The title refers to both of these meanings. Tricki is the dear dog of Mrs Pumphrey. It falls ill. Mrs Pumphrey gets sad at its illness. She calls the author who is also a veterinary surgeon. He takes Tricki to the Surgery. He regulates Tricki's diet. He makes it run with other dogs. Tricki recovers after the treatment at the Surgery. So, the importance of the Surgery is clear. The story is all about this. Hence, it is appropriately titled. The title is the main idea of the story. It runs through it.



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