



B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS
A CBSE DAY-CUM-BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

PERIODIC TEST 1 2025-26

ENGLISH

Marking Scheme

Class: X
Date: 02.07.25
Admission no:

Time : 1hr
Max Marks: 25
Roll no :

Section – A Reading

I. Read the passage and answer the questions given below.

7M

1. Inclusive education is a transformative approach that ensures all students, regardless of their abilities, backgrounds, or identities, have access to quality education in a shared learning environment. This philosophy is rooted in the belief that diversity enriches the classroom and fosters empathy, collaboration, and mutual respect. Historical records show that inclusive education gained momentum in the late 20th century when global movements advocated for equal rights for individuals with disabilities, inspired by landmark policies like the UNESCO Salamanca Statement of 1994.
2. Inclusive education serves as a bridge to social cohesion, breaking down barriers between students of different abilities, cultures, and socio-economic backgrounds. Educators and researchers have noted that inclusive classrooms provide opportunities for students to learn from one another's unique perspectives. Beyond social benefits, inclusive education also supports academic growth by tailoring teaching methods to diverse learning needs, such as using visual aids for students with hearing impairments or providing additional support for those with learning disabilities.
3. In today's digital age, inclusive education has evolved beyond traditional classrooms. Technology plays a pivotal role in making education accessible to all. For instance, e-learning platforms now offer subtitles, audio descriptions, and adjustable interfaces to accommodate students with visual or auditory challenges. Moreover, virtual classrooms have opened doors for students in remote areas or those unable to attend physical schools due to mobility issues, ensuring that education is no longer confined by geographical or physical limitations.
4. The rise of inclusive education has also reshaped societal attitudes. Teachers trained in inclusive practices are seen as pioneers, guiding students toward a future where diversity is celebrated rather than marginalized. These educators adapt curricula to meet varied needs, fostering an environment where every student feels valued. Inclusive education also encourages peer support, where students learn to assist one another, cultivating a sense of community and shared responsibility.
5. During challenging times, such as the global shift to online learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, inclusive education proved its resilience. Schools and educators quickly adapted to ensure that students with special needs were not left behind, using tools like screen readers and interactive apps. This adaptability highlighted the importance of inclusive education in building equitable societies, as it empowered students to overcome barriers and engage meaningfully with their education.

I. Why would the author describe inclusive education as a "transformative approach"?

Answer: **B. because it changes how education is accessed and experienced by diverse students**

Explanation: The term "transformative approach" suggests a significant change in how education is delivered. The passage emphasizes that inclusive education ensures all students, regardless of abilities

or backgrounds, have access to quality education, fundamentally altering the educational experience for diverse learners.

ii. Which of the options displays the MOST LIKELY reason why the UNESCO Salamanca Statement was significant?

Answer: **B. It set guidelines for integrating students with disabilities into mainstream education.**

Explanation: The passage mentions the UNESCO Salamanca Statement of 1994 as a landmark policy that inspired global movements for equal rights in education, particularly for individuals with disabilities. This makes it most likely that the statement provided guidelines for integrating these students into mainstream settings.

iii. Which of these options uses the same literary device as the line "Inclusive education serves as a bridge to social cohesion..."?

Answer: **A. This classroom is a paradise of learning!**

Explanation: The phrase "bridge to social cohesion" is a metaphor, comparing inclusive education to a bridge that connects people. Similarly, "paradise of learning" is a metaphor, likening the classroom to a paradise, making it the correct choice.

iv. State one way how inclusive classrooms could enable students to learn from one another's unique perspectives.

Inclusive classrooms enable students to learn from one another's perspectives by fostering collaboration among students with diverse backgrounds, such as through group projects where they share their cultural or personal experiences.

v. Provide one example of how inclusive education can support academic growth for diverse learners.

Inclusive education supports academic growth by tailoring teaching methods, such as using visual aids for students with hearing impairments, to meet diverse learning needs, thereby helping all students engage with the material effectively.

vi. Complete the following with a phrase from paragraph 3.

Phrase: opened doors

Meaning: enables access to education for all

Explanation: The phrase "opened doors" in paragraph 3 refers to virtual classrooms making education accessible to students in remote areas or with mobility issues, aligning with the meaning of enabling access for all.

vii. Teachers trained in inclusive practices are seen as pioneers... Which of these best describes the tone in the above line?

Answer: **B. optimistic**

Explanation: The term "pioneers" carries a positive connotation, suggesting that teachers are leading the way in a progressive movement. This reflects an optimistic tone about their role in shaping an inclusive future.

Section – B (Writing & Grammar)

II. You are Polly Chawla, a resident of Worli Park, Mumbai. You recently saw a documentary about the youth of the nation titled, '**A Country in Good Hands**'. Write a letter of appreciation to the Editor of The Youth Times, in not more than 120 words, drawing her attention to the good that the youngsters around you are doing. Suggest ways in which they can further contribute to the betterment of society.

4M

Polly Chawla
Worli Park,
Mumbai – 400018

10 June 2025

The Editor,
The Youth Times,
Mumbai

Subject: Appreciation for the Documentary – A Country in Good Hands

Dear Editor,

I recently watched your inspiring documentary A Country in Good Hands, and I must say it beautifully captured the spirit of today's youth. Around me, I see young people volunteering at animal shelters, organizing beach clean-ups, and teaching underprivileged children.

To further contribute, they can participate in digital awareness campaigns, promote sustainability in their communities, and engage in civic duties. With platforms like yours highlighting their work, the youth will feel encouraged to keep making a difference.

Thank you for such motivating content.

Sincerely,
Polly Chawla

III. You visited a Science Exhibition organised by CBSE at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. Write a factual description of the event in about 100-120 words.

3M

Science Exhibition at Pragati Maidan

The CBSE Science Exhibition was held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, from 15th to 18th October 2024. The event featured over 250 exhibits from schools across India, showcasing innovative science projects and models. The focus was on renewable energy, artificial intelligence, water conservation, and space technology. Students explained their models confidently, and many used working prototypes to demonstrate their ideas. The exhibition was inaugurated by the CBSE Chairperson. Several dignitaries, including scientists and educators, attended the event. The arrangements were well-organized, and safety protocols were strictly followed. The exhibition was informative and inspiring, encouraging scientific thinking and creativity among students. It was a great learning experience for all the visitors.

IV. Identify and correct the four subject-verb agreement errors.

4M

The collection of rare manuscripts are valuable,
but neither the librarian nor the archivists has reviewed them;
either the curator or the assistants is responsible, and
the staff are in disagreement over their preservation.

Error	Correction
a.	
b.	
c.	
d.	

- a) are → is
- b) has → have
- c) is → are
- d) are → is

Section C (Literature)

V. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

3M

*"Nor marbles, nor the gilded monuments
Of princes shall outlive this powerful rhyme;
But you shall shine more bright in these contents
Than unswept stone, besmeared with sluttish time."*

1. According to the speaker, what two things will not outlive his poetry?

Answer: Marbles and gilded monuments (of princes).

2. What does the phrase "besmeared with sluttish time" suggest about the fate of physical monuments?

Answer: They will decay/be ruined over time (Time is personified as careless or destructive).

3. Identify the figure of speech used in "you shall shine brighter in these contents."

Answer: Metaphor (poetry compared to a luminous, eternal force) OR Hyperbole (exaggeration of immortality through verse).

VI. Answer the questions in brief.

4M

1. "Mrs. Packletide's desire to shoot a tiger was not driven by courage but by rivalry." Justify this statement with examples from the text, and discuss what this reveals about her character.

Expected Answer:

She wanted to outdo Loona Bimberton, who had recently flown in an airplane (social competition).
Paid villagers to ensure an old, weak tiger was available (lack of genuine hunting spirit).
Focused on publicity rather than the act itself (vanity and superficiality).

2. If Abel had actually died, how would the family's behaviour change? Would the playwright's message remain effective? Why?

Expected Answer:

Their hypocrisy would remain, but the satire would lose its punch (no confrontation).
The ending's humour and shock value rely on Abel witnessing their greed first-hand.
