# PAUL ACADEMY & ENGLISH MINES
# ENGLISH LANGUAGE (ENGLISH PAPER - 1)
# SPECIMEN QUESTION PAPER 10

**Maximum Marks: 80** **Time Allowed: Two Hours**

*Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.*

*You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.*

*This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.*

*The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.*

*Attempt all five questions.*

*The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [ ].*

*You are advised to spend not more than 30 minutes in answering Question 1 and 20 minutes in answering Question 2.*

*(Note: This practice paper is independently prepared by Paul Academy and English Mines for examination preparation and is strictly modeled upon the official CISCE pattern.)*

---

**Question 1**

*(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question.)*

**Write a composition (300-350 words) on any one of the following: [20]**

(i) Write an original short story illustrating the truth of the proverb: "All that glitters is not gold."

(ii) Describe a stormy monsoon evening in a coastal fishing village. Portray the darkening sky, the crashing surf pounding against the rocky shoreline, the frantic efforts of fishermen securing their outrigger boats, the howling gale rattling tin roofs, and the warm glow of oil lamps in beachfront cottages.

(iii) "Fast fashion and modern consumerism pose an irreversible threat to environmental sustainability." Express your views either for or against the statement.

(iv) Relate an experience when you discovered an unexpected vulnerability in an adult role model--such as a parent, teacher, or mentor. Describe how this revelation altered your perception of strength, dispelled illusions of perfection, and deepened your empathy.

(v) Study the picture given below. Write a story, a description or an account of what the scene suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.




---

**Question 2**

*(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)*

**Select any one of the following:**

**[10]**

(i) Write a letter to your cousin congratulating them on being awarded a prestigious national talent scholarship, expressing your immense joy, and inquiring about their future academic plans and university aspirations.

(ii) Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner proposing the establishment of a well-equipped public library and student reading room in your municipal ward. Point out the acute shortage of quiet, affordable study spaces for students from underprivileged backgrounds, and suggest practical municipal locations and community book donation drives.

## Question 3

(i) Your school is organising the Annual Inter-School English Debate Competition titled 'Eloquentia'. Write a notice to be put up on your school notice board informing students of Classes 9 and 10 and inviting them to register their teams for the preliminary selection rounds. [5]

(ii) Write an email to the Principal of a neighbouring convent school inviting their school to send a four-member student debating delegation (two speaking for the motion and two against) and a teacher escort to participate in 'Eloquentia'. [5]

## Question 4

**Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: [20]**

Seventy feet above the churning black Atlantic, inside the glass lantern chamber of the Great North Point Lighthouse, sixty-year-old Elias braced his boots against the iron decking as a ferocious Category 4 hurricane assaulted the rocky promontory. Outside, one-hundred-mile-an-hour gales drove horizontal sheets of freezing rain against the curved glass panes. Towering ocean swells exploded against the granite foundation with thunderous detonations, sending plumes of spray surging over the balcony rails. For thirty-five years, Elias had guarded this treacherous reef, but never had he witnessed the sea in such turbulent fury.

Suddenly, an ear-splitting crack detonated above the roar of the gale. A blinding blue flash illuminated the lantern room, followed by the acrid stench of scorched copper wiring. Lightning had struck the lightning arrester on the copper dome, frying the auxiliary diesel circuits and instantly paralyzing the electric drive motor that rotated the mammoth Fresnel lens. At the exact same moment, flying ocean debris shattered an upper windward pane, unleashing a howling vortex of wind and glass shards into the chamber. The beacon went dead. Two miles offshore in the darkness, a five-thousand-ton cargo freighter, the Celtic Star, was steaming blindly toward the submerged jagged reef.

Elias did not pause to contemplate fear. Shouting over the shriek of the tempest, he grabbed a heavy canvas tarpaulin and lashed it across the shattered window aperture with marine hemp rope to stem the hurricane gusts. He then turned to the auxiliary brass mechanical clockwork gear train beneath the lens pedestal--a Victorian apparatus designed for emergency manual rotation. The heavy counterweight cable had jammed in its iron sheath. Bruising his knuckles against frozen cast iron, Elias dislodged the seized cable and slotted the heavy manual winding crank into the brass flywheel.

With aching shoulders and gasping lungs, the veteran keeper began turning the crank with unbroken, agonizing cadence. With each rhythmic rotation, the three-ton prismatic lens assembly crept into motion upon its mercury bath. Elias reignited the pressurized vaporized kerosene emergency mantle with a storm match. Instantly, an intense two-million-candlepower beam of brilliant white light pierced the tempest, sweeping across the boiling surf like a radiant sword of salvation.

For five exhausting hours until dawn, Elias remained chained to the crank, refusing to yield to muscular paralysis or overwhelming fatigue. His unceasing vigilance bore fruit. Offshore, the lookouts aboard the Celtic Star sighted the sweeping warning flash, reversed their engines frantically, and swung hard to starboard, clearing the razor-sharp rocks by a mere two hundred yards. When the grey morning light revealed calm waters, Elias slumped against the railing, his bloodied hands numb, gazing down at the safe, majestic freighter steaming peacefully toward the open sea.

**(i) For each word given below choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided:**
**[2]**

**1. vigilance**

(a) constant alert watchfulness (b) careless relaxation
(c) stubborn defiance (d) fearful hesitation

**2. turbulent**

(a) serene and motionless (b) violently agitated and stormy
(c) mildly cloudy (d) warm and pleasant

**(ii) Which word in the passage means the opposite of 'vulnerable'?**
**[1]**

(a) paralyzed (b) treacherous
(c) safe (d) turbulent

**(iii) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:**

(a) What extreme weather conditions battered the Great North Point Lighthouse during the hurricane? [2]

(b) State two immediate catastrophes caused when lightning struck the lantern dome. [2]

(c) How did Elias secure the broken lantern chamber against the violent tempest? [2]

(d) Describe how Elias manually restored the rotating beacon of light. [2]

(e) How did Elias's five-hour ordeal save the cargo ship Celtic Star? [1]

**(iv) In not more than 50 words, summarise the mechanical crisis, emergency manual repairs, and heroic efforts made by Elias to guide the vessel as described in the passage. You will be penalized for exceeding 50 words. Write the rough draft first and then write the final summary in the grid format provided. [8]**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

## Question 5

**[20]**

(i) Fill in each numbered blank with the correct form of the word given in brackets after it. Do not copy the passage. Write the numbers in the correct serial order, and against each, the word/s appropriate to the blank it stands for.

Example: (0) watched
[4]

On 20 July 1969, an estimated six hundred million people worldwide (0) _____ (watch) live television broadcasts as the Apollo 11 Lunar Module touched down on the Moon. Astronaut Neil Armstrong, ...(1)... (step) onto the powdery lunar surface, ...(2)... (declare) his immortal words: 'That is one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.' Together with Buzz Aldrin, Armstrong ...(3)... (spend) over two hours ...(4)... (collect) twenty-one kilograms of core samples. The mission, which ...(5)... (fulfill) President Kennedy's visionary pledge, ...(6)... (prove) that humanity ...(7)... (can) overcome cosmic frontiers. The astronauts ...(8)... (return) safely to Earth on 24 July, splashing down in the Pacific.

**(ii) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word. You are required to write only one word: [4]**

(a) The tropical rainforests of the Western Ghats abound _____ rare endemic medicinal flora.

(b) The government announced strict regulatory measures to bring _____ the retail prices of food grains.

(c) The charismatic orator managed to carry _____ first prize in the national debate championship.

(d) The legal counsel spent three weeks drawing _____ the comprehensive corporate partnership agreement.

(e) Inexperienced young investors often fall _____ the trap of speculative, high-risk financial schemes.

(f) The school code of conduct lays _____ clear disciplinary regulations for all students.

(g) Brave municipal firefighters worked through the night to put _____ the chemical warehouse blaze.

(h) The dynamic vice-president will take _____ executive leadership of the software firm next month.

**(iii) Choose the correct option to make one complete sentence without using and, but or so: [4]**

**1. The youth committee praised Amit for his outstanding community service. They also presented him with the citizenship medal.**

(a) The youth committee praised Amit for community service and also presented him with the citizenship medal.

(b) Not only the youth committee praised Amit for his community service, but they also presented him with the medal.

(c) Praising Amit for his community service, so the youth committee presented him with the citizenship medal.

(d) Not only did the youth committee praise Amit for his outstanding community service, but they also presented him with the citizenship medal.

**2. The elderly botanist had mentored dozens of young researchers. The national academy honoured him with a lifetime award.**

(a) The elderly botanist which the national academy honoured had mentored dozens of young researchers.

(b) The elderly botanist whom the national academy honoured with a lifetime award had mentored dozens of young researchers.

(c) The elderly botanist had mentored dozens of researchers so the national academy honoured him.

(d) The elderly botanist had mentored dozens of researchers whom the national academy honoured him.

**3. Walk carefully along the frozen mountain trail. You might slip and fall into the ravine.**

(a) Walk carefully along the frozen mountain trail lest you should slip and fall into the ravine.

(b) Walk carefully along the frozen mountain trail lest you should not slip into the ravine.

(c) Walk carefully along the frozen mountain trail so you might slip and fall into the ravine.

(d) Walk carefully along the frozen mountain trail but you might slip and fall into the ravine.

**4. The documentary film had a minimal production budget. It captivated international audiences with its powerful message.**

(a) The documentary film had a minimal production budget but it captivated international audiences.

(b) In spite of the documentary film had a minimal budget, it captivated international audiences.

(c) Although the documentary film had a minimal production budget, it captivated international audiences with its powerful message.

(d) The documentary film had a minimal production budget so it captivated international audiences.

**(iv) Choose the correct option and rewrite the sentence according to the instruction given after each: [8]**

**1. No sooner had the presiding judge entered the chamber than the advocates stood up. (Begin: As soon as...)**

(a) As soon as the presiding judge had entered than the advocates stood up.

(b) As soon as the presiding judge entered the chamber, the advocates stood up.

(c) As soon as the presiding judge entered when the advocates stood up.

(d) As soon as the presiding judge enters, the advocates stood up.

**2. The Pacific Ocean is the deepest of all oceans on Earth. (Begin: No other ocean...)**

(a) No other ocean on Earth is as deep as the Pacific Ocean.

(b) No other ocean on Earth is deeper as the Pacific Ocean.

(c) No other ocean on Earth is the deepest as the Pacific Ocean.

(d) No other ocean on Earth was as deep as the Pacific Ocean.

**3. The captain said to the crew, "What a magnificent victory we have achieved today!" (Begin: The captain exclaimed that...)**

(a) The captain exclaimed that we had achieved a magnificent victory today.

(b) The captain exclaimed what a magnificent victory they had achieved that day.

(c) The captain exclaimed that they have achieved a very magnificent victory that day.

(d) The captain exclaimed that they had achieved a very magnificent victory that day.

**4. The committee will announce the national scholarship results next Monday. (Begin: The national scholarship results...)**

(a) The national scholarship results will announced by the committee next Monday.

(b) The national scholarship results would be announced by the committee next Monday.

(c) The national scholarship results will be announced by the committee next Monday.

(d) The national scholarship results are being announced by the committee next Monday.

**5. The antique sculpture was so delicate that the museum curators could not transport it by road. (Use: too... to)**

(a) The antique sculpture was too delicate that the museum curators could not transport it by road.

(b) The antique sculpture was too delicate transporting it by road for the curators.

(c) The antique sculpture was so delicate too transport by road.

(d) The antique sculpture was too delicate for the museum curators to transport by road.

**6. The cargo ship had barely cleared the harbour mouth when the storm warning sounded. (Begin: Barely had...)**

(a) Barely had the cargo ship cleared the harbour mouth when the storm warning sounded.

(b) Barely had the cargo ship cleared the harbour mouth than the storm warning sounded.

(c) Barely the cargo ship had cleared the harbour mouth when the storm warning sounded.

(d) Barely did the cargo ship cleared the harbour mouth than the storm warning sounded.

**7. If the captain had not altered course immediately, the steamer would have collided with the iceberg. (Begin: Had the captain...)**

(a) Had the captain altered course immediately, the steamer would have collided with the iceberg.

(b) Had the captain not altered course immediately, the steamer would collide with the iceberg.

(c) Had the captain not altered course immediately, the steamer would have collided with the iceberg.

(d) Had not the captain altered course immediately, the steamer would have collided.

**8. She has already submitted her nomination papers for the council elections, _____? (Choose the correct question tag)**

(a) haven't she?

(b) hasn't she?

(c) isn't she?

(d) didn't she?