PAUL ACADEMY

English Mines™ | Prepared by Paul Masih

Class 10 English Communicative (101)

Sample Question Paper 07

Academic Session 2026–27 | Board Examination 2027

Time allowed: 3 hours Maximum marks: 80

General Instructions

1. This paper has 12 main questions in FOUR sections. All main questions are compulsory; follow the internal choices.

2. Write the question number and subpart clearly. Attempt only the required number of alternatives.

3. Follow the word limits. Reading short answers and literature short answers require 30–40 words; literature long answers require about 150 words.

4. Writing limits are maxima: application 50, factual description 100, formal letter 120 and article 150 words.

5. All unseen texts and datasets are original practice material. Names, addresses and survey data are fictional. No external knowledge is needed for reading answers.

Section A Reading Skills 22 marks

1 Read the passage and answer all parts 12 marks

The thermometer under the tree

1. The eco-club wanted to discover which part of the school felt hottest. Members placed one thermometer near a wall and another beneath a tree. At lunchtime the wall-side reading was higher. The club's first poster announced that trees always reduced temperature by the difference they had recorded.

2. Before displaying it, a science teacher asked whether the instruments had been checked together. They had not. Nor had the students recorded the distance from the wall, the time spent in position or whether direct sunlight reached each instrument. The reading was an observation, but the poster had turned it into a universal claim.

3. The students began again. They compared the thermometers side by side, used the same observation times and recorded weather conditions. They marked each location on a sketch and repeated measurements over several days. The pattern still suggested that the shaded site was cooler during their checks, but the size of the difference varied.

4. Their final poster looked less dramatic. It described the method, displayed the readings and stated the limits of the comparison. Some students worried that admitting limits made their work weaker. The teacher argued that it made the evidence usable. Another group could now repeat the procedure, question the interpretation and investigate a different site. The project had moved from producing an impressive answer to producing a question that others could test.

i. Which step made the first poster overconfident?
A. Describing one reading as a universal effect
B. Recording a location on a sketch
C. Comparing instruments side by side
D. Admitting that weather changed [1]

ii. State one unchecked difference that could affect the original comparison. [1]

iii. How did the revised method make the work repeatable? Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

iv. “Universal” in paragraph 2 means _____.
A. true only yesterday
B. applying everywhere or in all cases
C. deliberately handwritten
D. measured in centimetres [1]

v. What persisted after the revised measurements, despite variation? [1]

vi. True or false: The final poster claimed the temperature difference was identical every day. [1]

vii. Why can acknowledging limits strengthen an investigation? Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

viii. Find the word in paragraph 4 meaning “the steps followed in carrying out a task”. [1]

ix. Which description best fits the final poster?
A. More testable and cautious
B. More certain about every place
C. Unrelated to observations
D. Designed to prevent questions [1]

x. What changed in the purpose of the project by the end? [1]

2 Read the text and data and answer all parts 10 marks

Energy exhibition record

A school exhibition used an energy meter to compare three display setups over equal two-hour periods. The number of visitors was not the same in each period. The table records energy used, in kilowatt-hours, and visitors counted.

The team did not measure brightness or visitor comfort. It wants to reduce energy use while keeping the displays readable. A lower energy total is relevant to that aim, but cannot show by itself whether a setup provided an equally good experience. The team plans to collect feedback before choosing a permanent arrangement.

Setup	Energy used	Visitors
A	6 kWh	60
B	4 kWh	80
C	3 kWh	50

Fictional demonstration data; every measurement period lasted two hours.

i. Which setup used the least energy in total? [1]

ii. What was the energy reduction from A to B?
A. 1 kWh
B. 2 kWh
C. 3 kWh
D. 4 kWh [1]

iii. Why is equal duration helpful, and what important difference remains? Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

iv. How many more visitors were recorded for B than C? [1]

v. Complete: Readability requires further evidence because the team did not measure _____. [1]

vi. Which conclusion is justified?
A. C was definitely the most comfortable.
B. B served exactly the same visitors as A.
C. A recorded the highest total energy use.
D. Visitor feedback is unnecessary. [1]

vii. Recommend a next step before permanent adoption, in 30–40 words. [2]

viii. True or false: Each period lasted three hours. [1]

Section B Writing Skills 22 marks

3 Application 3 marks

Write in a maximum of 50 words.

You are Ritu Nair, X B, PAUL ACADEMY. Request permission to attend an after-school science exhibition rehearsal on 18 December 2026. Explain the task and state that your parent will collect you.

4 Factual description 4 marks

Write in a maximum of 100 words.

Describe a digital thermometer: white rectangular casing; small display; temperature shown in degrees Celsius; metal probe attached by cable; on/off button; battery compartment at rear; used by the eco-club for recorded observations.

5 Formal letter 7 marks

Attempt either A or B. Write in a maximum of 120 words.

A. You are Ritu Nair, 12 Palm Road, Kochi. Write to the Manager of Bright Instruments about a faulty digital thermometer delivered for a school project. State order details you may invent, describe the fault and request replacement. MCB Unit 3 Science.

OR

B. You are Adil Karim, 3 Harbour Lane, Kochi. Write to the Editor of The Public View about unnecessary lighting in empty public buildings. Suggest an energy audit and practical maintenance rather than unsupported savings claims. MCB Unit 4 Environment.

6 Article 8 marks

Attempt either A or B. Write in a maximum of 150 words.

A. As Ritu Nair, write “Good science welcomes a second check”. Cues: observation; fair comparison; records; uncertainty; repeating a method. MCB Unit 3 Science.

OR

B. As Adil Karim, write “Conservation needs a notebook”. Cues: measuring use; choosing priorities; maintenance; shared duties; reviewing results. MCB Unit 4 Environment.

Section C Grammar 10 marks

7 Gap filling 3 marks

Choose the correct option for each gap. Each part carries 1 mark.

The club usually (i) _____ readings at noon. It needs (ii) _____ identical instruments for the comparison. The teacher has granted permission: students (iii) _____ use the shaded courtyard today.

i. (i) A. records B. recorded yesterday C. recording D. have records [1]

ii. (ii) A. much B. a little C. two D. an [1]

iii. (iii) A. must not B. may C. cannot D. need not [1]

8 Editing 4 marks

Each numbered sentence has exactly one incorrect word. Write the error and its correction. Each part carries 1 mark.

i. Neither of the instruments show a fault. [1]

ii. The site who we selected is shaded. [1]

iii. We recorded what the two displays shows. [1]

iv. If the clouds clear, the display become brighter. [1]

9 Transformation and reordering 3 marks

Do as directed. Each part carries 1 mark.

i. Report: Ritu said, “These readings are useful.” Begin: Ritu said ... [1]

ii. Report: Adil said to Ritu, “Did you check both instruments?” Begin: Adil asked Ritu ... [1]

iii. Reorder the reply to “When should I read the display?”: until / wait / the reading / settles [1]

Section D Literature Textbook 26 marks

10 Reference to context 8 marks

Attempt ANY TWO of extracts A, B and C. Answer all four parts of each chosen extract briefly. Each extract carries 4 × 1 = 4 marks.

A Two Gentlemen of Verona

War had not broken their spirit. Their selfless action brought a new nobility to human life, gave promise of a greater hope for human society.

i. Whose spirit is being described? [1]

ii. What makes their action selfless? [1]

iii. How is “nobility” redefined here? [1]

iv. Why does their private conduct suggest public hope? [1]

B Ozymandias

And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,

Tell that its sculptor well those passions read

Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,

The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed;

i. Which trait does the “sneer of cold command” suggest? [1]

ii. What does “read” mean in relation to the sculptor? [1]

iii. Whose hand is referred to? [1]

iv. What paradox appears in passions surviving on lifeless things? [1]

C Snake

The voice of my education said to me

He must be killed,

For in Sicily the black, black snakes are innocent, the gold are venomous.

i. What does the “voice” represent? [1]

ii. Why does this voice conflict with the speaker’s response? [1]

iii. What effect does “must” create? [1]

iv. Should the colour rule be read as factual wildlife advice from this poem? [1]

11 Short answers 10 marks

Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 30–40 words each. Each answer carries 2 marks.

i. How does Ali’s payment to Lakshmi Das reveal the intensity of his hope? (The Letter) [2]

ii. Why does John’s financial dependence on Jenkins matter to the opening conflict? (A Shady Plot) [2]

iii. What does Patol Babu’s newspaper suggestion add to the filmed action? (Patol Babu, Film Star) [2]

iv. Why is the nightingale’s original pleasure in singing important to the tragedy? (The Frog and the Nightingale) [2]

v. How does the contrast between stone and verse support Shakespeare’s confidence? (Not Marble, nor the Gilded Monuments) [2]

vi. How do the adults’ views of an obituary reveal their concern with appearances? (The Dear Departed) [2]

12 Long answer 8 marks

Answer EITHER A OR B in about 150 words.

A. A school proposes a “gentleman” award for expensive clothes and polished speech. Use Two Gentlemen of Verona to justify better criteria.

OR

B. Compare how Ozymandias and The Dear Departed challenge the use of possessions to control a legacy. Evaluate their methods and values.

End of Question Paper 07