PAUL ACADEMY

English Mines™ | Prepared by Paul Masih

Class 10 English Communicative (101)

Sample Question Paper 17

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 map that lost a path

1. When the school walking map was enlarged for a noticeboard, the narrow path behind the market disappeared. Its line was too pale to survive the printing process. Nobody noticed until a resident asked why the map sent walkers along the busy delivery road. The drawing had been copied faithfully from the computer file, but copying had not preserved everything a user needed.

2. The map team initially proposed making every line darker. A geography teacher asked them to walk both routes first. They found that the missing path was open during the day but locked at sunset. The delivery road remained open, although walkers shared its edge with unloading vehicles. Restoring one line would solve the printing fault without explaining when that route was available.

3. The revised map used a darker broken line for the daytime path, with its opening hours beside it. A separate symbol identified the delivery road. The key explained both symbols in words. The team resisted adding every observed detail: a map covered with stall names would make the route information harder to find. They selected information according to the map's stated purpose, which was to help first-time walkers choose a route.

4. Before the final print, two students who had not worked on the map followed its directions. One could read the route line but missed the hours, which were printed far away. Moving the hours next to the path reduced that separation. The test did not prove that every future walker would understand the map. It showed one particular difficulty that the designers could correct. An accurate file, a readable print and a usable guide were three related achievements, each requiring its own check.

i. What first caused the path to disappear? [1]

ii. Why would darker lines alone be insufficient?
A. The path is never open.
B. Route availability also depends on time.
C. All roads are private.
D. The team has no computer. [1]

iii. Distinguish the two routes as the walk reveals them. Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

iv. What explains the revised symbols? [1]

v. Why are some stall names omitted? [1]

vi. “Separation” in paragraph 4 refers to the distance between:
A. two schools
B. the route and its printed hours
C. two delivery vehicles
D. morning and sunset [1]

vii. What can and cannot be concluded from the two-student test? Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

viii. Complete: The map is intended especially for _____ walkers. [1]

ix. True or false: The delivery road is closed at sunset. [1]

x. Which final check concerns the physical output rather than only the source file?
A. Confirming that the saved file exists
B. Counting computer folders
C. Reading the actual printed route line
D. Renaming the map team [1]

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

Reading-room booking notice

Rooms can be booked only for complete listed blocks. A booking starts at the block’s first minute and ends at its final stated time; groups must leave then. A room cannot hold more people than its capacity. Blocks are not divided or extended. The table shows all unbooked blocks for Friday.

A group of eight needs at least seventy-five uninterrupted minutes after 2 p.m. A group of twelve needs one hour ending no later than 3 p.m. The rooms have identical facilities; only time and capacity matter here.

Room	Capacity	Available block
Cedar	10	2:00–3:00 p.m.
Maple	8	2:15–3:45 p.m.
Pine	14	1:30–2:30 p.m.
Ash	12	3:00–4:30 p.m.

Fictional schedule. “After 2 p.m.” excludes a block beginning before that time.

i. How long is Maple’s available block? [1]

ii. Which room meets the eight-person group’s requirement?
A. Cedar
B. Maple
C. Pine
D. None [1]

iii. Why does Cedar fail despite having enough seats? Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

iv. Which room meets the twelve-person group’s requirement? [1]

v. Why does Ash fail for that twelve-person group? [1]

vi. At what time must Maple’s group leave? [1]

vii. Can the eight-person group use only Pine’s last thirty minutes? Explain in 30–40 words. [2]

viii. True or false: Better equipment makes Pine preferable under this exercise. [1]

Section B Writing Skills 22 marks

3 Application 3 marks

Write in a maximum of 50 words.

You are Sana Ali, X C, PAUL ACADEMY. Request permission to replace a damaged borrowed atlas with the same edition. Explain the damage and ask how to complete the library record.

4 Factual description 4 marks

Write in a maximum of 100 words.

Describe a folding walking stick: black metal shaft; three connected sections; wrist loop; grey handle; rubber tip; height markings; folds into a cloth sleeve.

5 Formal letter 7 marks

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

A. You are Sana Ali, 14 Lotus Road, Bhopal. Ask the Bus Depot Manager to keep the announced student bus stop usable when parked delivery vans obstruct boarding. Seek inspection and coordination. MCB Unit 2 Education.

OR

B. You are Dev Paul, 8 Hill Street, Bhopal. Ask a science exhibition organiser to explain a model's scale and label omitted parts so visitors do not mistake it for a complete working system. MCB Unit 3 Science.

6 Article 8 marks

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

A. As Sana Ali, write "A school journey includes the waiting place". Cues: boarding point; younger students; information; coordination; shared responsibility. MCB Unit 2 Education.

OR

B. As Dev Paul, write "A model needs a boundary". Cues: simplification; scale; omitted details; useful explanation; scientific understanding. MCB Unit 3 Science.

Section C Grammar 10 marks

7 Gap filling 3 marks

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

By Friday, the map team (i) _____ three trial prints; the work was already complete. There is (ii) _____ ink left, enough for one more copy. To improve the result, we (iii) _____ check the print as well as the file.

i. (i) A. had made B. has make C. making D. will made [1]

ii. (ii) A. a few B. many C. a little D. several [1]

iii. (iii) A. should B. cannot C. must not 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.

No.	Sentence	Error	Correction
i	Neither of these two printed maps show the gate.		
ii	The guide contains a useful information about routes.		
iii	The route which opening hours are listed closes early.		
iv	We walked through the market tomorrow morning.		

9 Transformation and reordering 3 marks

Do as directed. Each part carries 1 mark.

i. Report: The guide asked Sana, “Did you cross the market?” Begin: The guide asked Sana ... [1]

ii. Combine with although: The line was accurate. It was difficult to see. [1]

iii. Reply to “Which map shall we choose?” Reorder: that / choose / shows the opening hours / the map [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 Patol Babu, Film Star

The make-up man smiled. 'Collision?' he said. 'Even if you were to wrestle with Dara Singh, the moustache would stay in place.'

i. What concern has Patol Babu just expressed? [1]

ii. Is wrestling part of the planned shot? [1]

iii. What device makes the reassurance humorous? [1]

iv. What does this exchange reveal about film appearance? [1]

B A Shady Plot

"But my ghosts aren't a bit like you----"

"If they were, people wouldn't believe in them."

i. Who speaks the first line? [1]

ii. Who replies? [1]

iii. What expectation is reversed by the reply? [1]

iv. What does the reply suggest about audience belief? [1]

C Ozymandias

Stand in the desert. Near them, on the sand,

Half sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown,

i. What does “them” refer to? [1]

ii. What is partly buried? [1]

iii. What does the separation of legs and face show physically? [1]

iv. Which expression is still distinguishable on the face? [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. Why should a reader avoid concluding that Lucia knows nothing of her brothers' sacrifices? (Two Gentlemen of Verona) [2]

ii. What is the effect of Mrs Packletide's elaborate lunch menu? (Mrs Packletide's Tiger) [2]

iii. How does the Wedding Guest's reference to the bridegroom show a mismatch of purposes? (The Rime of the Ancient Mariner) [2]

iv. Why is Victoria's closeness to Abel at tea significant? (The Dear Departed) [2]

v. Why does Antony ask the crowd to make a ring around Caesar's body? (Julius Caesar) [2]

vi. How does "Etna smoking" contribute to the atmosphere? (Snake) [2]

12 Long answer 8 marks

Answer EITHER A OR B in about 150 words.

A. Write a museum-label editor's reflection: can a broken object still carry evidence without telling a complete history? Use the separated statue parts and the traveller's report in Ozymandias.

OR

B. As a costume assistant, explain why small practical questions deserve respectful answers. Use Patol Babu's worry about the false moustache and his concern about knowing his lines.

End of Question Paper 17