# Paper 04 Explanatory Answer Key

FINAL PRODUCTION
Board: CBSE  Class: 10  Code: 184  Session: 2026–27
English Language and Literature
Time allowed: 3 hours  Maximum marks: 80
**Paper ID:** PA-EXAM-CBSE184-C10-2026-27-PAPER04
**Role:** AK | Version: 3.0.0
TEACHER COPY — keep separate from the student question paper.
The reading passages and assessment datasets are original. All assessment scenarios and datasets describe fictional cases. Models are indicative; credit defensible independent expression.

## Marking guidance

This key answers all 61 offered response units, including internal alternatives. A permitted attempt carries 80 marks; the offered alternatives total 120 and are not added as the maximum.
Value points are indicative: credit correct independent expression. For extra answers, retain the higher-scoring response and identify the other as Extra Question. An MCQ answer containing more than one option receives no marks. (MS p. 1)
Use evidence and grammar rules as appropriate. Do not invent half-mark divisions, universal word-limit penalties or other unprinted deductions.

## Verified rubric reference

| Assessment | Marking allocation |
|---|---|
| Q 4 Formal letter | Format 1; content 2; organisation 1; accuracy 1 =5 (MS pp. 3–4) |
| Q 5 Analytical paragraph | Content 2; organisation 2; accuracy 1 =5. No title or heading. (MS pp. 4–5) |
| Q 8 and Q 9 Short literature | Content 2; expression 1. Accuracy: deduct up to 1 from overall as printed; teacher confirms scope. (MS pp. 6–7) |
| Q 10 and Q 11 Long literature | Content 3; expression 2; accuracy 1 =6 (MS p. 8) |

## Application and moderation

Paper 04 is a PAUL ACADEMY practice paper. The supplied syllabus has a year-heading conflict. Textual checks use the saved revised First Flight chapters and supplied Tripura supplementary adaptation. Source-edition qualifications and marking-policy notes are recorded in the separate teacher moderation report and retained alongside this final production series. No newly invented textbook quotation is used.

## Question 1 Discursive reading

**1(I)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** (b) Preserve the message's purpose as well as its meaning.

**Reasoning:** Fidelity concerns communicative purpose; literal order, softened policy and invented facts can undermine it.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 translation passage, paragraphs 1–2.

**1(II)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** Knowledge of the languages and knowledge of the intended audience.

**Reasoning:** Paragraph 4 makes both relevant; linguistic elegance alone is insufficient.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 translation passage, paragraph 4.

**1(III)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** unmistakable

**Reasoning:** It describes how clearly the requested action should be communicated.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 translation passage, paragraph 2.

**1(IV)** [2 marks]

**Model answer:** A phrase that politely softens an instruction in one language may sound optional or oddly personal in another. Different wording can therefore preserve the intended respectful relationship while keeping the required action clear, rather than mechanically copying the expression.

**Reasoning:** Explain changed linguistic effect and preserved purpose.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Literal phrase may change force/tone; 1 mark: Rewording preserves respect and a clear action.

**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 translation passage, paragraph 2.

**1(V)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** (c) Add its official room number with the organisation’s agreement.

**Reasoning:** This clarifies the existing reference without inventing directions.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 translation passage, paragraph 3.

**1(VI)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** False
**Reasoning:** Details require separate checking even when the language flows smoothly.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 translation passage, paragraph 4.

**1(VII)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** (a) accepting responsibility for choices and seeking authorised clarification.
**Reasoning:** The translator must recognise role limits and expose unresolved meaning, rather than choose policy privately.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 translation passage, paragraph 5.

**1(VIII)** [2 marks]
**Model answer:** Translation determines how to express meaning for another audience; it does not give the translator authority to decide institutional policy. Conflicting rules must first be clarified by an authorised person, so fluent wording does not conceal an unresolved decision.
**Reasoning:** Separate linguistic expression from the authority to set policy.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Translation does not confer policy authority; 1 mark: Authorised clarification must precede a settled translation.
**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 translation passage, paragraph 5.

## Question 2 Case based reading

**2(I)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** A and E
**Reasoning:** Both have consent received and an opening file; the two conditions are jointly required.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 archive case, table and paragraph 1.

**2(II)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** (b) Its file failed to open.

**Reasoning:** Consent is marked yes, file opens no; quality and lateness are not recorded.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 archive case, B row.

**2(III)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** Eligible for consideration.

**Reasoning:** C already has an opening file; changing consent to yes satisfies both checks.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 archive case, C row and paragraph 3.

**2(IV)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** (c) Both preliminary checks have passed.

**Reasoning:** Eligibility is a preliminary condition for panel consideration, not a merit award.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 archive case, paragraphs 1–2.

**2(V)** [2 marks]

**Model answer:** The consent total and file-opening total measure different checks, and an entry can belong to both groups. Adding them counts A and E twice. It therefore gives six passed checks, not six separate entries or six eligible recordings.

**Reasoning:** Explain overlapping categories, not an arithmetic error in 3+3.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Same entries can occur in both groups; 1 mark: Sum counts checks and double-counts A/E, not distinct eligible entries.

**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 archive case, table and paragraph 3.

**2(VI)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** Noon on Wednesday

**Reasoning:** This deadline is explicitly stated for corrections.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 archive case, paragraph 2.

**2(VII)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** A new submission is not proof that the opening problem has been fixed.
**Reasoning:** Paragraph 3 requires evidence of success rather than an assumption based on receipt.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 archive case, paragraph 3.

**2(VIII)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** D
**Reasoning:** D has no consent and no opening file.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 archive case, D row.

**2(IX)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** (d) B's recording never existed.
**Reasoning:** Failure to open a submitted file does not establish that no recording ever existed.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 archive case, paragraph 2.

## Question 3 Grammar

**3(I)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** (c) have lost
**Reasoning:** Have lost is the present perfect form. Lose is simple present, was losing past progressive, and had lost past perfect; the task specifies present perfect.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Grammar rule: present perfect for a current result.

**3(II)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** will be displaying
**Reasoning:** Future continuous presents an activity in progress at a stated future time.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Grammar rule: future progressive.

**3(III)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** (a) another
**Reasoning:** Another combines with singular one to mean an additional/replacement item; other needs a different construction.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Grammar rule: another with a singular count item.

**3(IV)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** has → have
**Reasoning:** A number of means several here and takes plural agreement. The number of would take singular agreement.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Grammar rule: a number of versus the number of.

**3(V)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** she is ready.
**Reasoning:** The reporting verb says is present, so no automatic past backshift is required; I becomes she.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Grammar rule: present reporting verb and pronoun reference.

**3(VI)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** (d) need not
**Reasoning:** Need not removes a requirement; it does not forbid bringing materials.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Grammar rule: lack of necessity versus prohibition.

**3(VII)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** are
**Reasoning:** Two distinct subjects joined by and take plural agreement.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Grammar rule: compound subject with and.

**3(VIII)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** where was the consent form → where the consent form was
**Reasoning:** An indirect question uses statement word order, not subject–auxiliary inversion. Accept an equivalent identification and correction of the misplaced was.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Grammar rule: word order in an indirect wh-question.

**3(IX)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** (c) the
**Reasoning:** The definite article normally accompanies a superlative identifying the oldest within a specified set.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Grammar rule: definite article with a superlative.

**3(X)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** (b) could
**Reasoning:** Could expresses the specified past ability, whereas can is present and must/should do not report ability.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Grammar rule: could for past ability.

**3(XI)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** believe
**Reasoning:** Believe is a stative verb here and normally takes simple present rather than a progressive form.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Grammar rule: stative meaning in the present.

**3(XII)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** those sketches were hers.
**Reasoning:** These becomes those in the requested later reference; are becomes were and mine becomes hers.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** Grammar rule: reported demonstratives and independent possessives.

## Question 4 Formal letters

**4(A)** [5 marks]

**Model answer:** 12 Lake Street
Arunpur
4 November 2026

The Coordinator
Community Reading Room
Arunpur

Subject: Application to assist with book cataloguing

Sir/Madam,
I wish to apply for the student volunteer opportunity announced for the winter break. I enjoy organising information and have helped maintain a simple book register in our classroom. I can enter titles carefully, check shelf labels and compare entries for missing details. I am available on weekday mornings during the first week of the break and would follow the schedule agreed with your team. Before beginning, I would welcome an explanation of your cataloguing procedure so that my work remains consistent with existing records. Please let me know whether a short orientation or an application form is required. I would be glad to assist under the coordinator's supervision.

Yours faithfully
Kavya

**Reasoning:** An application connects relevant skills and availability with the role; it should not pretend an appointment is already confirmed.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Format; 2 marks: Relevant content; 1 mark: Organisation; 1 mark: Accuracy.

**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 volunteer application; MS PDF 3–4.

**4(B)** [5 marks]
**Model answer:** Pine School
Arunpur
4 November 2026

The Manager
Atlas Educational Supplies
Arunpur

Subject: Order for maps and school atlases

Sir/Madam,
Our Geography Society wishes to order forty blank outline maps and twenty school atlases for classroom activities. Please supply clear, readable copies and confirm that the atlases are your current school edition. Before dispatch, kindly send an itemised quotation showing the unit prices, any delivery charge and the total payable. We would appreciate confirmation of stock availability and the expected delivery date, as the materials are needed before the next activity week. Please include an itemised invoice with the parcel and pack the maps securely to prevent creasing. If any requested item is unavailable, inform us before making a substitution. Kindly acknowledge this order so that our teacher coordinator can confirm the arrangements.

Yours faithfully
Arjun
**Reasoning:** Specify quantities and commercial details without inventing prices or claiming payment. An equivalent conditional order is acceptable.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Format; 2 marks: Relevant content; 1 mark: Organisation; 1 mark: Accuracy.
**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 ordering situation; MS PDF 3–4.

## Question 5 Analytical paragraphs

**5(A)** [5 marks]

**Model answer:** The three zones offer different opportunities, so the school should match plant requirements with conditions rather than choose one area for everything. Zone A provides forty square metres and six hours of sunlight, meeting the herbs' minimum of four hours. Zone C offers only one hour, which suits the selected shade plants, although its twenty square metres limits their available space. Zone B is intermediate in both area and sunlight, but its three hours meet neither stated requirement. It could be considered for another use after further planning. The table alone does not describe soil, water supply or seasonal changes. Those conditions should be checked before treating this initial allocation as a complete planting plan.

**Reasoning:** A meets≥4 hours; C meets≤2; B 3 meets neither. Do not invent water points, soil quality or growth outcomes.

**Marking points:** 2 marks: Accurate supported analysis; 2 marks: Organisation; 1 mark: Accuracy.

**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 garden table; MS PDF 4–5.

**5(B)** [5 marks]

**Model answer:** Printer A has the lower purchase price, but the expected workload changes the comparison. Printing three thousand pages adds six thousand rupees to A's initial four thousand, producing a total of ten thousand. B costs six thousand initially and three thousand to operate for the same pages, so its total is nine thousand. Under the stated assumptions, B therefore saves one thousand rupees despite its higher starting price. This shows why a decision based only on the price label can be misleading. However, the conclusion applies to the specified workload and listed costs. A different page total or additional maintenance charges would require a fresh calculation rather than automatic reuse of this recommendation.

**Reasoning:** A 4000+3000×2=10000; B 6000+3000×1=9000. Crossover 2000 pages, but the question does not require that extra calculation.

**Marking points:** 2 marks: Accurate supported analysis; 2 marks: Organisation; 1 mark: Accuracy.

**Evidence or rule:** Original Paper 04 printer cues; MS PDF 4–5.

## Question 6 Prose and drama extracts

**6(A)(I)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** (a) Blood has trickled from its openings.

**Reasoning:** Silence is paired with visible blood, so it cannot be safely interpreted as peaceful rest.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff106.pdf, PDF 6 / printed 85, Mijbil the Otter.

**6(A)(II)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** He removed the lock quickly and urgently.

**Reasoning:** The expression conveys speed rather than a careful leisurely inspection.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff106.pdf, PDF 6 / printed 85, Mijbil the Otter.

**6(A)(III)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** He catches at the narrator's leg.

**Reasoning:** Whimpering and reaching towards the familiar person occur together; do not invent speech.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff106.pdf, PDF 6 / printed 85, Mijbil the Otter.

**6(A)(IV)** [2 marks]

**Model answer:** He had treated the box as preparation for the journey, but the blood and Mij's distress expose an immediate danger. His rapid opening replaces routine planning with urgent response, showing how direct evidence forces him to reconsider the arrangement.

**Reasoning:** The question explicitly connects the extract with the preceding box preparation in the chapter.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Intended acclimatisation conflicts with injury/distress; 1 mark: Urgent opening shows revised response.

**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff106.pdf, PDF 6 / printed 85, Mijbil the Otter.

**6(B)(I)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** The safe behind the painting.

**Reasoning:** The final sentence identifies both the object and its concealment.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** Footprints_without_feet_Supplimentary CL 10 CBSE.pdf, Tripura 2020, PDF 33 / printed 21.

**6(B)(II)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** (d) prepare a burglary.

**Reasoning:** He benefits from the exposure while criticising the owners' carelessness; his purpose is criminal.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** Footprints_without_feet_Supplimentary CL 10 CBSE.pdf, Tripura 2020, PDF 33 / printed 21.

**6(B)(III)** [2 marks]

**Model answer:** The room plan helps Horace understand the house's layout, while the photograph and written detail identify the room and the hidden safe. Together they reduce uncertainty about the place he intends to burgle, turning publicity into practical assistance.

**Reasoning:** Connect distinct forms of supplied information, not just a general claim that the house is rich.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Layout/room identification from plan/picture; 1 mark: Written location of safe supports the criminal plan.

**Evidence or rule:** Footprints_without_feet_Supplimentary CL 10 CBSE.pdf, Tripura 2020, PDF 33 / printed 21.

**6(B)(IV)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** Horace's

**Reasoning:** The reporting phrase identifies the judgement as Horace's thought, not an endorsement by the narrator.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** Footprints_without_feet_Supplimentary CL 10 CBSE.pdf, Tripura 2020, PDF 33 / printed 21.

## Question 7 Poetry extracts

**7(A)(I)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** A crow

**Reasoning:** The crow shakes snow down onto the speaker.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff101.pdf, PDF 14 / printed 14, Dust of Snow.

**7(A)(II)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** (b) A crow shakes snow from a tree onto the speaker.

**Reasoning:** This preserves agent, material, origin and recipient in the lines.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff101.pdf, PDF 14 / printed 14, Dust of Snow.

**7(A)(III)** [1 mark]

**Model answer:** A hemlock tree

**Reasoning:** Identify the named tree; no botanical classification beyond the text is required.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.

**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff101.pdf, PDF 14 / printed 14, Dust of Snow.

**7(A)(IV)** [2 marks]

**Model answer:** The action involves a bird, a tree and a light scattering of snow rather than a grand landscape or spectacular event. This small encounter brings nature into personal experience, allowing an ordinary detail to carry significance without requiring dramatic scenery.

**Reasoning:** Accept a supported interpretation; do not turn the tree's gloss into a medical claim.

**Marking points:** 1 mark: Identifies small ordinary elements/action; 1 mark: Explains intimate/personal or ungrand presentation.

**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff101.pdf, PDF 14 / printed 14, Dust of Snow.

**7(B)(I)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** The fog
**Reasoning:** The grammatical subject continues from the opening line.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff106.pdf, PDF 14 / printed 93, Fog.

**7(B)(II)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** (c) soft and unobtrusive.
**Reasoning:** The small cat comparison suggests quiet arrival, not mechanical noise or permanent immobility.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff106.pdf, PDF 14 / printed 93, Fog.

**7(B)(III)** [1 mark]
**Model answer:** The harbour and the city.
**Reasoning:** Both are named in the fourth line.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Correct response; accept a justified equivalent where the task permits.
**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff106.pdf, PDF 14 / printed 93, Fog.

**7(B)(IV)** [2 marks]
**Model answer:** The phrase gives the fog an animal-like posture and an apparent act of watching. Instead of remaining only a weather condition, it becomes an imagined presence surveying the harbour and city, making the scene feel attentive without claiming literal consciousness.
**Reasoning:** Explain transferred posture and its effect; weather does not literally possess a mind.
**Marking points:** 1 mark: Attributes posture/watching to fog; 1 mark: Explains imagined presence without literal consciousness.
**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff106.pdf, PDF 14 / printed 93, Fog.

## Question 8 First Flight short answers

**8(I)** [3 marks]

**Model answer:** Mandela learns courage from comrades who face danger and suffering without giving way. Their example makes fear something to confront, not a condition whose absence proves bravery. Courage therefore lies in overcoming fear through action and endurance, rather than in being untouched by it.

**Reasoning:** Use the stated distinction and comrades' conduct; do not demand invented battle incidents.

**Marking points:** 2 marks: Accurate relevant textual content; 1 mark: Clear expression.

**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff102.pdf, PDF 6 / printed 21.

**8(II)** [3 marks]

**Model answer:** Rain initially represents a promised harvest and income, so Lencho imagines its drops as money. Hail then destroys the crop, reversing that expectation. The weather changes from apparent wealth arriving from the sky to the cause of a loss that threatens his family's livelihood.

**Reasoning:** Differentiate the initial rain metaphor from the later hail's physical destruction.

**Marking points:** 2 marks: Accurate relevant textual content; 1 mark: Clear expression.

**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff101.pdf, PDF 3–4 / printed 3–4.

**8(III)** [3 marks]

**Model answer:** The account offers forest scenery, coffee estates and wildlife that can reward quiet observation, but also describes rafting, canoeing, climbing and trails. This variety suggests that the place is not confined to one tourist identity. Even an initially relaxed visitor may discover an interest in active exploration.

**Reasoning:** Credit a contrast of experiences, not a guarantee about every visitor.

**Marking points:** 2 marks: Accurate relevant textual content; 1 mark: Clear expression.

**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff105.pdf, PDF 6–8 / printed 68–70.

**8(IV)** [3 marks]

**Model answer:** Flying has overcome one fear, but the sea presents a new unfamiliar surface. His feet sink and he briefly tries to rise, before discovering that his body floats. The episode shows learning as successive encounters with uncertainty, rather than one achievement removing every later fear.

**Reasoning:** Keep the sea-landing episode distinct from the hunger-driven first dive.

**Marking points:** 2 marks: Accurate relevant textual content; 1 mark: Clear expression.

**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff103.pdf, PDF 4–5 / printed 35–36.

**8(V)** [3 marks]

**Model answer:** The speaker first favours fire through experience of desire, then imagines another ending to acknowledge hatred's destructive force. The hypothetical second destruction prevents the first preference from excluding ice. It suggests that opposing emotional qualities can each be sufficient for ruin, rather than ranking one as harmless.

**Reasoning:** Do not treat the imagined second ending as a prediction of two actual planetary deaths.

**Marking points:** 2 marks: Accurate relevant textual content; 1 mark: Clear expression.

**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff101.pdf, PDF 15 / printed 15.

## Question 9 Footprints Without Feet short answers

**9(I)** [3 marks]

**Model answer:** The spots had been assumed ornamental, but Ebright investigates whether they perform a function. Building a device and testing their role leads to evidence of a hormone needed for development. The question turns an accepted appearance into a problem that requires experimentation rather than casual description.

**Reasoning:** Describe the chapter's account, not an independently certified current biological theory.

**Marking points:** 2 marks: Accurate relevant textual content; 1 mark: Clear expression.

**Evidence or rule:** Footprints_without_feet_Supplimentary CL 10 CBSE.pdf, Tripura 2020, PDF 48 / printed 36.

**9(II)** [3 marks]

**Model answer:** Omega passes the unpleasant task to Iota, who then transfers it to Oop while presenting the act as an honour. Their language protects hierarchy and their own comfort. The scene makes obedience comic by showing how responsibility can be shifted downwards without openly challenging the original order.

**Reasoning:** Use the book-eating order chain, not Noodle's later corrections.

**Marking points:** 2 marks: Accurate relevant textual content; 1 mark: Clear expression.

**Evidence or rule:** Footprints_without_feet_Supplimentary CL 10 CBSE.pdf, Tripura 2020, PDF 79–80 / printed 67–68.

**9(III)** [3 marks]

**Model answer:** Earlier, Hari smiles to influence Anil and secure an advantage, using charm as part of his strategy. At the end, the smile comes without effort after Anil renews their relationship. The repeated gesture changes from calculated persuasion to a sign of genuine feeling and relief.

**Reasoning:** The gesture supports a change in feeling, not proof that no future wrongdoing is possible.

**Marking points:** 2 marks: Accurate relevant textual content; 1 mark: Clear expression.

**Evidence or rule:** Footprints_without_feet_Supplimentary CL 10 CBSE.pdf, Tripura 2020, PDF 21,24 / printed 9,12.

## Question 10 First Flight long answers

**10(A)** [6 marks]

**Model answer:** The sermon connects a difficult universal claim with objects whose vulnerability people can recognise. Ripe fruit can fall, and a potter's earthen vessels eventually break. These comparisons make mortality appear part of the condition of living, rather than a special punishment imposed on one grieving person. They also place people of different ages and kinds within the same limit. The images do not provide a medical explanation for an individual death or deny the pain of losing someone. Their work is argumentative: they help listeners move from a private demand for exemption towards recognising a shared condition. Concrete examples make that movement easier to understand than an abstract assertion alone.

**Reasoning:** Analyse the two analogies and their scope; avoid interpreting them as medical explanations.

**Marking points:** 3 marks: Text-supported argument; 2 marks: Organisation/expression; 1 mark: Accuracy.

**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff108.pdf, PDF 3 / printed 113.

**10(B)** [6 marks]

**Model answer:** The branches do not move out with effortless triumph. Describing them as long-cramped and comparing them to newly discharged patients suggests bodies that have endured restriction and are still uncertain as they approach freedom. The surrounding roots, leaves and twigs also strain, work and exert themselves, so departure becomes a difficult collective process. The medical comparison makes an unusual movement of trees feel bodily and recognisable, while preserving the image of recovery after confinement. It therefore complicates a simple celebration of release. Freedom is a destination towards which the trees struggle, and the poem gives attention to their weakness, labour and gradual movement as well as their eventual emergence.

**Reasoning:** Credit a reasoned bodily/recovery reading, without diagnosing literal disease in the trees.

**Marking points:** 3 marks: Text-supported argument; 2 marks: Organisation/expression; 1 mark: Accuracy.

**Evidence or rule:** FIRST_FLIGHT/jeff105.pdf, PDF 15 / printed 77.

## Question 11 Footprints Without Feet long answers

**11(A)** [6 marks]

**Model answer:** After the necklace is lost, the Loisels delay disclosure by reporting a broken clasp, then buy a replacement without explaining the loss to its owner. Their concealment makes an expensive assumption govern their response: they act as though the borrowed piece must have the value they imagined. The later revelation that it was imitation shows what information their secrecy prevented them from obtaining. Earlier honesty might have revealed that value and changed their choices, but a counterfactual outcome should be presented as a possibility rather than an event that occurred. The story connects financial suffering with communication and fear of appearances, while leaving readers to judge how the crisis could have been handled differently.

**Reasoning:** State the clasp story, replacement and later revelation accurately; label imagined alternatives as possibilities.

**Marking points:** 3 marks: Text-supported argument; 2 marks: Organisation/expression; 1 mark: Accuracy.

**Evidence or rule:** Footprints_without_feet_Supplimentary CL 10 CBSE.pdf, Tripura 2020, PDF 55–57 / printed 43–45.

**11(B)** [6 marks]

**Model answer:** Ramlal tries to preserve his standing before the wedding party, even placing his turban at Bishamber's feet and pleading against humiliation. His concern makes paying the demand seem preferable to public rejection. Bholi refuses that arrangement, judging the bridegroom's greed rather than treating the ceremony's continuation as honour enough. Their exchange exposes a conflict between reputation measured by spectators and dignity grounded in the right to reject degrading treatment. The story does not present her refusal as an absence of concern for her parents; she later offers to serve them. Her position separates care for family from obedience to a demand that denies her worth as a person.

**Reasoning:** Use both speakers' words/actions and the later assurance to her parents; do not erase Ramlal's fear or call the payment freely chosen without pressure.

**Marking points:** 3 marks: Text-supported argument; 2 marks: Organisation/expression; 1 mark: Accuracy.

**Evidence or rule:** Footprints_without_feet_Supplimentary CL 10 CBSE.pdf, Tripura 2020, PDF 71–73 / printed 59–61.