PAUL ACADEMY

English Mines™ | Prepared by Paul Masih

Class 10 English Communicative (101)

Sample Question Paper 12

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 music behind the doorway

1. In a silent film made by the drama club, a girl paused outside a classroom, looked through its window and walked away. The young composer added hurried drumbeats. At the first screening, viewers said that she must be hiding something. The actor was puzzled: she had imagined that the girl was gathering courage to apologise.

2. The club screened the same images again with a gentle piano melody. This time, viewers described loneliness and regret. No gesture had changed. The music had supplied a frame through which an ambiguous action was interpreted. Neither response proved the character's motive; both showed what an audience could be encouraged to expect.

3. For the final version, the composer suggested removing music from the pause and letting the corridor's ordinary sounds remain. The actor liked the breathing space, but another member felt that the scene now lacked direction. The director asked them to explain their reasons before choosing. Silence was not automatically honest, any more than music was automatically manipulative. Every choice selected some part of the audience's attention.

4. The programme note described the two earlier versions and invited viewers to discuss the final one. It did not announce the correct emotion. The club had learned to distinguish an interpretation from evidence that settled a question. The composer still valued a strong score, but now asked whose experience it served and what possibilities it closed. A soundtrack could enrich a story; it could also make an uncertain moment sound more definite than the images allowed.

i. What first suggests that the film's action allows different interpretations?
A. The actor and viewers infer different motives.
B. The girl changes her gestures.
C. The camera stops working.
D. The classroom disappears. [1]

ii. Which musical change produces descriptions of loneliness and regret? [1]

iii. Why is the second screening useful as a comparison? Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

iv. What does “ambiguous” in paragraph 2 mean?
A. Allowing more than one meaning
B. Impossible to photograph
C. Deliberately humorous
D. Written in advance [1]

v. What sound does the composer propose retaining in the final version? [1]

vi. True or false: The director accepts silence as automatically more truthful. [1]

vii. How does the programme note give viewers an active role? Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

viii. Find the word in paragraph 4 meaning “make richer or more meaningful”. [1]

ix. Complete: The soundtrack supplied a _____ through which the action was interpreted. [1]

x. Which question would best guide the composer’s revised practice?
A. Can every pause have louder drums?
B. What possibilities does this musical choice close?
C. How can discussion be prevented?
D. Can the actor be ignored? [1]

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

Film club preference ballot

Sixty members each ranked two different films. A first choice receives two points and a second choice receives one point. The table shows all valid ballots. The selected film will be the one with the highest combined points, not necessarily the most first choices. No member ranked the same film twice.

If two films tie, the committee will hold a fresh ballot between them. It will publish totals but keep individual choices private. These preferences concern one screening; they are not ratings of acting quality or evidence about the preferences of students outside the club.

Film	First choices	Second choices
River Road	26	14
Open Window	22	24
Paper Boats	12	22

Fictional ballot. Each ranking column totals 60.

i. How many points does River Road receive? [1]

ii. Which film wins under the stated rule?
A. River Road
B. Open Window
C. Paper Boats
D. None, because all three tie [1]

iii. Why can the film with most first choices lose? Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

iv. How many second-choice selections were recorded altogether? [1]

v. What follows if the top two point totals are equal? [1]

vi. Which statement exceeds the evidence?
A. Sixty valid first choices were counted.
B. Individual choices will remain private.
C. Open Window has the best acting of all three films.
D. Rankings determine one screening. [1]

vii. Explain how the announcement can be transparent while protecting privacy. Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

viii. True or false: One member could give both rankings to River Road. [1]

Section B Writing Skills 22 marks

3 Application 3 marks

Write in a maximum of 50 words.

You are Farah Khan, X A, PAUL ACADEMY. Request correction of “Fara” to “Farah” in the attendance register. Refer to your birth certificate and offer a copy.

4 Factual description 4 marks

Write in a maximum of 100 words.

Describe projectionist Mr Anand: about forty; tall; cropped hair; grey overalls; headset; checks a control tablet; aligns projected image; stores labelled film cases on a shelf. Use these facts.

5 Formal letter 7 marks

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

A. You are Farah Khan, 12 Mill Road, Nagpur. Complain to the Civic Cinema Manager that captions at a school screening ran ahead of dialogue. Request correction and a checked replacement screening. MCB Unit 2 Education.

OR

B. You are Arnav Shah, 5 Fort Lane, Nagpur. Ask the Visitor Management Officer to stop advertising stickers covering interpretation boards at a historic fort. Suggest vendor consultation and separate advertising space. MCB Unit 5 Travel and Tourism.

6 Article 8 marks

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

A. As Farah Khan, write “Listen to the soundtrack too”. Cues: music; expectation; ambiguous images; comparison; independent judgement. MCB Unit 3 Science.

OR

B. As Arnav Shah, write “Heritage information deserves a clear space”. Cues: signs; advertising; independent visitors; vendors; shared care. MCB Unit 5 Travel and Tourism.

Section C Grammar 10 marks

7 Gap filling 3 marks

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

At yesterday's screening, the captions (i) _____ before the actor spoke. We had (ii) _____ time to report the fault before the next scene. The manager said that students (iii) _____ request another screening if they wished; it was optional.

i. (i) A. appear B. appears C. appeared D. appearing [1]

ii. (ii) A. many B. enough C. a few D. an [1]

iii. (iii) A. must B. had to C. ought D. could [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 the director nor the actors was ready.		
ii	There is fewer dialogue in the second scene.		
iii	The editor explained why the captions was early.		
iv	While the film was running, a phone rings yesterday.		

9 Transformation and reordering 3 marks

Do as directed. Each part carries 1 mark.

i. Report later: Arnav asked Farah, "Why are you leaving now?" Begin: Arnav asked Farah ... [1]

ii. Combine using a relative clause: We met an editor. Her captions had won a prize. [1]

iii. Reply to "When will the film start?" Reorder: starts / the film / as soon as / the doors close [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 Mrs Packletide's Tiger

With an accurately sighted rifle and a thumb-nail pack of patience cards the sportswoman awaited the coming of the quarry.

i. What does "quarry" refer to here? [1]

ii. What purpose do the patience cards serve during the wait? [1]

iii. What contrast is created by placing cards beside a rifle? [1]

iv. What does the arrangement suggest about the exertion expected from her? [1]

B Patol Babu, Film Star

Even our hero Chanchal Kumar has no lines to speak today. You are the only one who has--see?

i. Who makes this statement to Patol Babu? [1]

ii. What special distinction is claimed for Patol Babu that day? [1]

iii. Why does the speaker mention the hero? [1]

iv. How does the informal "see?" affect the tone? [1]

C The Rime of the Ancient Mariner

And now the storm-blast came, and he

Was tyrannous and strong:

He struck with his o'ertaking wings,

And chased us south along.

i. Which pronoun helps turn the storm into a living pursuer? [1]

ii. What does "tyrannous" suggest about its force? [1]

iii. In which direction does it drive the ship? [1]

iv. What effect does "o'ertaking wings" create? [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 does Mebbin urge a quick shot before the tiger touches the goat? (Mrs Packletide's Tiger) [2]

ii. Why does John hope Laura Hinkle is moving the Ouija pointer herself? (A Shady Plot) [2]

iii. Why does Ali's request to register Miriam's name expose a gap in understanding? (The Letter) [2]

iv. How does Abel's appetite contrast with the others' behaviour at tea? (The Dear Departed) [2]

v. What does the rhyme pattern contribute to the close of Sonnet 55? (Not Marble, nor the Gilded Monuments) [2]

vi. How does free verse suit the speaker's thinking in Snake? [2]

12 Long answer 8 marks

Answer EITHER A OR B in about 150 words.

A. Write a director's note on the repeated knocking while the Slaters move furniture. Explain timing, movement and the staged pretence of waiting. (The Dear Departed)

OR

B. Caesar refuses to send the Senate a false claim of illness. Does that truthful impulse guarantee sound judgement? Evaluate his response, distinguishing honesty from wise decision-making. (Julius Caesar)

End of Question Paper 12