PAUL ACADEMY

English Mines™ | Prepared by Paul Masih

Class 10 English Communicative (101)

Sample Question Paper 08

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 journey between the photographs

1. The tourism brochure showed a hill village at sunrise, with empty lanes and bright flowers. When our student group arrived at noon, delivery carts crowded the square and a repair team had opened part of the road. Several classmates complained that the place did not look like its photograph. Our guide asked us whether we had come to meet a village or an image.

2. She took us to a workshop where a weaver was preparing threads. Instead of performing continuously for visitors, he explained that he had orders to complete and could spare twenty minutes for questions. The time limit disappointed some students, but it also reminded us that the workshop was a workplace, not a stage waiting for us.

3. Later we followed a marked path above the village. A shortcut visible across the grass looked quicker. The guide explained that repeated shortcuts damaged the slope and that residents maintained the longer path. We stayed on it. For the first time that day, the detour seemed part of understanding the place rather than an obstacle to seeing it.

4. Back at school, we designed our own display. It included flowers, delivery carts, a repaired doorway and the weaver's account, used with permission. The village remained beautiful, but beauty no longer required us to erase work or inconvenience. Our most useful photograph showed a road being mended. It reminded us that a destination continues to live when the tourist turns away.

i. What assumption does the guide challenge with her first question? [1]

ii. Why is the weaver's time limit significant?
A. It shows the workshop exists only for tourists.
B. It identifies the workshop as a real workplace.
C. It proves he dislikes every visitor.
D. It cancels all questions. [1]

iii. Explain how the shortcut changes the students' understanding of responsible travel, in 30–40 words. [2]

iv. "Detour" in paragraph 3 means _____.
A. a longer or indirect route
B. a printed ticket
C. a broken camera
D. a professional order [1]

v. What condition governed use of the weaver’s account? [1]

vi. True or false: The school display removed every sign of work from the village. [1]

vii. Why does the repaired road become the most useful photograph? Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

viii. Find the word in paragraph 4 meaning “remove completely from a representation”. [1]

ix. Which description best captures the narrator’s development?
A. From curiosity to complete indifference
B. From image-seeking to attention to everyday life
C. From walking to refusing all visits
D. From respect to ownership [1]

x. Why does the first paragraph mention the time of day? [1]

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

River museum travel plan

A school group will leave the city jetty at 9:00 a.m. The ferry crossing takes forty minutes each way. From the island jetty, the walk to the river museum takes fifteen minutes. The museum visit must last at least ninety minutes. Return ferries depart the island at the times listed below.

The group must reach the island jetty ten minutes before departure. Tickets must be booked in advance. The school requires the group to be back at the city jetty by 1:00 p.m. These are planning details for a fictional visit, not a current travel service.

Return departure	Arrival at city jetty
11:00 a.m.	11:40 a.m.
11:30 a.m.	12:10 p.m.
12:00 noon	12:40 p.m.

Allow fifteen minutes to walk back from the museum to the island jetty.

i. At what time does the group reach the museum? [1]

ii. What is the earliest time the minimum museum visit can end?
A. 10:55 a.m.
B. 11:10 a.m.
C. 11:25 a.m.
D. 11:40 a.m. [1]

iii. Why is the 11:30 a.m. return ferry infeasible? Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

iv. Which listed return ferry is feasible while meeting the school's deadline? [1]

v. By what time must the group report for the noon departure? [1]

vi. Complete: Ferry tickets require _____. [1]

vii. How much time can be added to the ninety-minute museum visit while still reporting for the noon ferry? Explain in 30–40 words. [2]

viii. True or false: Arrival at the city jetty at 12:40 p.m. meets the school's deadline. [1]

Section B Writing Skills 22 marks

3 Application 3 marks

Write in a maximum of 50 words.

You are Kavya Rao, X A, PAUL ACADEMY. Request leave on 21 December 2026 for an outstation family function. Promise to submit pending work and obtain class notes.

4 Factual description 4 marks

Write in a maximum of 100 words.

Describe weaver Mr Hari Das: about sixty; slim; silver hair; white kurta; seated at wooden loom; measures thread; moves shuttle; folded scarves on side table; explains the process in short sentences.

5 Formal letter 7 marks

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

A. You are Kavya Rao, 10 Cedar Road, Chandigarh. Write to the Tourism Officer about shortcuts damaging a village trail. Request explanatory signs and resident consultation. MCB Unit 5 Travel and Tourism.

OR

B. You are Sameer Gill, 27 Grove Lane, Chandigarh. Request a professionally led student health-information session from the Community Centre Secretary. Seek accessible language, anonymous questions, supervision and verified handouts. MCB Unit 1 Health and Medicine.

6 Article 8 marks

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

A. As Kavya Rao, write “A destination is someone’s home”. Cues: ordinary work; permission; marked paths; fair purchases; respectful curiosity. MCB Unit 5 Travel and Tourism.

OR

B. As Sameer Gill, write “Ask before accepting a health claim”. Cues: advertising; reliable sources; professional advice; questions; checking before sharing. MCB Unit 1 Health and Medicine.

Section C Grammar 10 marks

7 Gap filling 3 marks

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

Yesterday the guide (i) _____ us through the village. Only (ii) _____ visitors entered the small workshop at a time. When she was younger, she (iii) _____ walk the whole trail without a rest; this describes her past ability.

i. (i) A. leads B. led C. leading D. lead [1]

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

iii. (iii) A. must B. may C. could D. shall [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. The quality of the scarves are impressive. [1]

ii. The woman which owns the workshop greeted us. [1]

iii. Nobody knew where the visitors was waiting. [1]

iv. Before we left yesterday, the guide explain the route. [1]

9 Transformation and reordering 3 marks

Do as directed. Each part carries 1 mark.

i. Report: The weaver said, “I am finishing this scarf.” Begin: The weaver said ... [1]

ii. Report: Kavya said to Sameer, “Have you booked the tickets?” Begin: Kavya asked Sameer ... [1]

iii. Join using “because”: We stayed on the marked path. The slope was fragile. [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 The Letter

He no longer thought of them in terms of envelopes and postcards. He saw the essential human worth of a letter.

i. Who has undergone this change? [1]

ii. What personal experience enables it? [1]

iii. What does “human worth” mean here? [1]

iv. How does this insight correct his earlier treatment of Ali? [1]

B Not Marble, nor the Gilded Monuments

'Gainst death and all oblivious enmity

Shall you pace forth; your praise shall still find room,

Even in the eyes of all posterity

That wear this world out to the ending doom.

i. What is meant by “posterity”? [1]

ii. What does “pace forth” suggest about the beloved’s memory? [1]

iii. How is the time span enlarged by “ending doom”? [1]

iv. What sustains praise beyond the beloved’s lifetime? [1]

C The Frog and the Nightingale

Well I charge a modest fee.

Oh!... But it won't hurt, you'll see

i. Who speaks, and what is being offered? [1]

ii. What is the effect of calling the fee “modest”? [1]

iii. Why is the assurance misleading in the larger poem? [1]

iv. What motive becomes clearer as the poem develops? [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 the narrator's discovery about Lucia change his view of the brothers' jobs? (Two Gentlemen of Verona) [2]

ii. Why is Miss Mebbin's "incidental expenses" connection central to the ending? (Mrs Packletide's Tiger) [2]

iii. How does John's fear of Lavinia's reaction prove inaccurate? (A Shady Plot) [2]

iv. How does the ending of Virtually True maintain ambiguity despite Sebastian's message? [2]

v. What does the silence of the sea do to the atmosphere? (The Rime of the Ancient Mariner) [2]

vi. How does Caesar's response to the kneeling conspirators intensify dramatic irony? (Julius Caesar) [2]

12 Long answer 8 marks

Answer EITHER A OR B in about 150 words.

A. Evaluate how privacy and respect operate in Two Gentlemen of Verona and The Letter. What would a considerate observer learn from the narrator's restraint and the postmaster's failure?

OR

B. Does impressive public presentation guarantee worthy conduct? Compare the mourners in The Dear Departed with Caesar's public confidence in Julius Caesar, allowing for differences between them.

End of Question Paper 08