PAUL ACADEMY

English Mines™ | Prepared by Paul Masih

Class 10 English Communicative (101)

Sample Question Paper 15

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

A message above the door

1. The invitation said, “Students may bring parents and teachers with passes.” At the hall entrance, a parent without a pass argued that the last two words applied only to teachers. A volunteer understood them to apply to both groups. The student who had written the message felt unfairly blamed: everyone on the organising team had known what it meant.

2. The head volunteer asked a different question. What had a person outside the team been told? The intended rule was that every visitor needed a pass, but intention did not travel automatically with the sentence. Arguing that the writer had meant well could not supply information to people who had already acted on the wording.

3. For that evening, the organisers opened a separate desk to check names against the guest list. They did not ask the entrance volunteer to make exceptions privately. The new desk caused a short delay, but it gave confused visitors one visible process and kept the doorway free. The writer helped at the desk and heard how several guests had read the message.

4. Before the next event, the invitation became two sentences: “Every visitor needs a pass. Students may invite parents and teachers from the guest list.” A parent who had not attended the planning meetings read the draft and explained the entry rule back to the team. The exercise was not a test of whether she could guess the writer’s mind. It tested whether the message carried enough meaning on its own. Clear communication began when the organisers stopped treating an insider’s understanding as everybody’s responsibility.

i. What produces the disagreement at the entrance?
A. Different readings of which visitors need passes
B. Different prices for passes
C. A change of venue
D. A missing teacher [1]

ii. Who already understood the intended meaning when the sentence was written? [1]

iii. Why is the writer’s good intention insufficient to solve the problem? Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

iv. What source is used at the separate desk to check visitors? [1]

v. Why does a single visible process help? [1]

vi. “Insider” in the final paragraph refers to:
A. someone already involved in the planning
B. a person hiding in the hall
C. every visitor with a ticket
D. the owner of the building [1]

vii. How does asking the parent to explain the rule back improve the draft check? Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

viii. Complete: The separate desk keeps the _____ free. [1]

ix. True or false: The revised message allows any parent to enter without a pass. [1]

x. What change in responsibility does the ending propose? [1]

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

Youth camp packing card

Under this fictional camp’s rule, each student’s bag may weigh at most 8 kg, including the empty bag. The table lists one student’s basic packing. The student may add a 0.6 kg raincoat or a 1.3 kg speaker, or both, only if the total remains within the limit. Nothing in the basic packing may be removed.

Shared materials must be handed to the camp desk on arrival. Their weight still counts during travel. The card is a planning exercise, not an airline rule. A student whose packed bag exceeds the limit must revise the optional additions before departure.

Basic item	Mass
Empty bag	1.2 kg
Clothes	3.4 kg
Stationery	0.8 kg
Shared materials	1.6 kg

Fictional camp rule. At most includes exactly 8 kg.

i. What is the mass of the basic packing including its bag? [1]

ii. Which optional choice meets the limit?
A. Speaker only
B. Raincoat only
C. Both additions
D. Neither is permitted [1]

iii. Why cannot shared materials be ignored when calculating the travel mass? Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

iv. How much capacity remains after adding the raincoat? [1]

v. By how much would adding only the speaker exceed the limit? [1]

vi. Where must shared materials go on arrival? [1]

vii. A student subtracts the empty bag and declares both additions acceptable. Explain the error in 30–40 words. [2]

viii. True or false: Exactly 8 kg would break the camp rule. [1]

Section B Writing Skills 22 marks

3 Application 3 marks

Write in a maximum of 50 words.

You are Kritika Sen, X A, PAUL ACADEMY. Request return of a calculator taken during a quiz that prohibited it. Acknowledge the rule and promise to check permitted materials next time.

4 Factual description 4 marks

Write in a maximum of 100 words.

Describe a balance scale: horizontal silver beam; central upright support; two circular hanging pans; red pointer; level base; small labelled weights in a wooden box; used for comparing masses.

5 Formal letter 7 marks

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

A. You are Kritika Sen, 7 Pine Road, Ranchi. Ask the Editor of Youth Chronicle to correct a report crediting only one state for a science project built by students from four states. Seek full team recognition. MCB Unit 6 National Integration.

OR

B. You are Aman Roy, 21 Lake Lane, Ranchi. Ask the Observatory Coordinator to reconcile a school booking confirmation for 6 p.m. with a public notice saying 8 p.m. Seek one verified time and direct notification. MCB Unit 3 Science.

6 Article 8 marks

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

A. As Kritika Sen, write “Give a shared achievement its full address”. Cues: interstate teamwork; invisible contributions; fair reporting; shared pride; national integration. MCB Unit 6 National Integration.

OR

B. As Aman Roy, write “A number needs a unit”. Cues: practical instructions; centimetres and millimetres; labels; checking before action; scientific communication. 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.

The organisers (i) _____ the invitations tomorrow morning. (ii) _____ visitor needs a pass; nobody is exempt. Guests (iii) _____ enter through the side door because it is locked.

i. (i) A. sent yesterday B. will send C. sending D. had sends [1]

ii. (ii) A. Every B. Many C. Several D. Both [1]

iii. (iii) A. need not B. might C. cannot D. ought to [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	Either the volunteers or the manager have the list.		
ii	We printed an one-page instruction sheet.		
iii	The student whose wrote the notice checked it again.		
iv	When the guests arrived last night, the writer helps at the desk.		

9 Transformation and reordering 3 marks

Do as directed. Each part carries 1 mark.

i. Report the question: Aman asked Kritika, “Can all visitors see the sign?” Begin: Aman asked Kritika ... [1]

ii. Report the command: The coordinator said to us, “Do not photograph the guest list.” Begin: The coordinator instructed us ... [1]

iii. Reply to “Why did you rewrite it?” Reorder: so that / we rewrote / could understand / newcomers / the notice [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

A vase of wild flowers stood on her table, beside a dish of fruit and several books.

i. Whose table is described? [1]

ii. Which object suggests an interest beyond treatment and food? [1]

iii. How do flowers and fruit affect the atmosphere of the room? [1]

iv. Can the sentence identify who brought the flowers? [1]

B Patol Babu, Film Star

It was the middle of summer, and the warm jacket buttoned up to his neck felt heavy.

i. Why is he wearing a winter garment in summer? [1]

ii. What physical discomfort follows in the surrounding account? [1]

iii. What contrast does the garment expose between film and filming? [1]

iv. Why is “heavy” more than a neutral inventory detail here? [1]

C The Rime of the Ancient Mariner

The fair breeze blew, the white foam flew,

The furrow followed free;

We were the first that ever burst

Into that silent sea.

i. Identify the repeated initial sound in the first two lines. [1]

ii. What movement is suggested by “flew” and “free”? [1]

iii. What is the “furrow” in this sea description? [1]

iv. What attitude appears in “the first that ever burst”? [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 the letter's opening compare cold with a false friend? (The Letter) [2]

ii. What does the clock's striking contribute to Abel's discovery? (The Dear Departed) [2]

iii. What does the Mozart comparison reveal about the nightingale's view of her adviser? (The Frog and the Nightingale) [2]

iv. How does Dragonquest engage Michael's senses beyond sight? (Virtually True) [2]

v. What is the effect of addressing "you" beside the monuments of princes? (Not Marble, nor the Gilded Monuments) [2]

vi. Why does Antony pause after placing his heart in Caesar's coffin? (Julius Caesar) [2]

12 Long answer 8 marks

Answer EITHER A OR B in about 150 words.

A. Compare Antony's disclosure of Caesar's will with Abel's announcement of a new will. How do documents redirect their listeners' interests, and what ethical differences matter? (Julius Caesar; The Dear Departed)

OR

B. Write an unnamed villager's reflection on using children to keep the old tiger near the village. Acknowledge financial pressure but question who carries the burdens of a wealthy visitor's arranged adventure. (Mrs Packletide's Tiger)

End of Question Paper 15