PAUL ACADEMY

English Mines™ | Prepared by Paul Masih

Class 10 English Communicative (101)

Sample Question Paper 01

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 repair table

1. When a neighbourhood centre opened a Saturday repair table, its volunteers expected a queue of broken appliances. Instead, the first visitor carried a cloth schoolbag with a torn strap. The volunteer who knew most about circuits could not mend it. A retired tailor sitting nearby could. Within an hour, the table had become a meeting place for skills that rarely shared the same room.

2. The organisers adopted a rule: an owner must remain beside the repairer. This slowed the queue, but it changed the meaning of the service. Visitors learned why a seam had failed or a connection had loosened. They were encouraged to attempt a small step themselves. A repaired object was useful; a person who understood its weakness might prevent the next failure.

3. Not everything could be saved. A cracked electric kettle was labelled unsafe and kept unplugged. Volunteers explained the risk instead of treating every repair as a victory. They also recorded unsuccessful attempts. These notes helped the next team avoid repeating mistakes. The register became a memory for the group rather than a scorecard for individuals.

4. After three months, fewer objects arrived at the table, although attendance increased. Some residents now fixed simple faults at home; others came to observe or teach. The organisers resisted calling the smaller repair queue a decline. Their aim had never been to keep people dependent. The most durable result was not an object on a shelf but the confidence to ask how something worked.

i. Which development best supports the idea that the table connected different skills?
A. Only appliances were accepted.
B. A tailor repaired what a circuit specialist could not.
C. Every visitor received a new bag.
D. The centre stopped using volunteers. [1]

ii. Why did owners have to stay? State the educational purpose in one sentence. [1]

iii. Explain two benefits of recording failed attempts. Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

iv. In paragraph 3, what does “scorecard” imply?
A. A list of prices
B. A way of ranking individual success
C. An electrical instruction
D. A safety certificate [1]

v. State whether this is true or false: The volunteers tried to repair the kettle while it was connected to electricity. [1]

vi. Find the word in paragraph 4 meaning “lasting well over time”. [1]

vii. Why might a shorter queue be evidence of success? Answer in 30–40 words. [2]

viii. Complete the comparison: register : shared memory :: repair table : _____. Use a phrase from paragraph 1. [1]

ix. Which statement captures the writer’s judgement?
A. Every broken object should be saved.
B. Speed is the only measure of service.
C. Useful services can help people become independent.
D. Expertise belongs to one occupation. [1]

x. Name one action showing that safety mattered more than the appearance of success. [1]

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

School travel trial

A school tested a supervised walking group for four weeks. Forty students who normally travelled by car volunteered. The table shows their main mode of travel in the week before the trial and in its final week. Each student is counted once in each column.

The route had two adult volunteers and a fixed meeting point. Families living beyond the route could join at that point. The school recorded mode choice, not journey distance, traffic pollution or attendance on every day. Participants said the fixed departure time made mornings easier, but the sample was small and voluntary. The council will consult families who did not join before extending the scheme.

Main mode	Before	Final week
Car	40	16
Walking group	0	18
Bicycle	0	6

Trial data created for this paper. Total participants: 40.

i. What proportion of participants used cars in the final week?
A. 16%
B. 24%
C. 40%
D. 60% [1]

ii. How many participants shifted away from cars? [1]

iii. Why can the trial not establish a reduction in pollution? Give two reasons in 30–40 words. [2]

iv. Which feature could help families living farther away join?
A. A meeting point on the route
B. A fee for parking
C. A ban on bicycles
D. An attendance prize [1]

v. Complete: The table compares the same _____ students at two points in time. [1]

vi. State one reason for consulting non-participating families. [1]

vii. What sensible decision should the council make before expansion? Explain in 30–40 words. [2]

viii. Which conclusion is supported?
A. All families preferred walking.
B. Eighteen participants mainly used the walking group at the end.
C. Every participant walked daily.
D. Bicycle use caused less pollution. [1]

Section B Writing Skills 22 marks

3 Application 3 marks

Write in a maximum of 50 words.

You are Aditi Sen, Class X B, PAUL ACADEMY. Apply to the Principal for leave on 12 November 2026 to attend a district athletics trial. Mention how you will complete missed work.

4 Factual description 4 marks

Write in a maximum of 100 words.

Describe this object for a school inventory: portable reading lamp; navy metal base; flexible neck; white rectangular LED head; three brightness settings; rechargeable battery; USB charging port; power button on base. Use only the supplied facts.

5 Formal letter 7 marks

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

A. You are Aditi Sen of 14 Lake Road, Kolkata. Write to the Municipal Engineer requesting repair of a leaking public tap outside the community centre. Explain the waste and inconvenience and propose action. Use ideas from MCB Unit 4 Environment.

OR

B. You are Kabir Roy of 22 Park Lane, Kolkata. Write to the Director of the District Science Centre requesting an affordable hands-on workshop for Class X on testing everyday claims. Suggest activities and access arrangements. MCB Unit 3 Science.

6 Article 8 marks

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

A. As Aditi Sen, write an article for the school magazine titled “Repair before replacement”. Cues: discarded objects; practical skills; safety; shared workshops; responsible consumption. MCB Unit 4 Environment.

OR

B. As Kabir Roy, write an article titled “Learning to disagree respectfully”. Cues: diverse classrooms; listening; evidence; avoiding stereotypes; shared tasks. MCB Unit 6 National Integration.

Section C Grammar 10 marks

7 Gap filling 3 marks

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

The library assistant (i) _____ arranging books now. The assistant has placed (ii) _____ useful guide beside the catalogue. Students (iii) _____ return reference books before leaving; this is compulsory.

i. (i) A. are B. is C. were D. have [1]

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

iii. (iii) A. might B. may C. would D. must [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. Neither of the two cupboards are locked. [1]

ii. This is the shelf who holds the dictionaries. [1]

iii. Yesterday, our librarian arrange the new books. [1]

iv. There are much reference books near the desk. [1]

9 Transformation and reordering 3 marks

Do as directed. Each part carries 1 mark.

i. Report the request: The librarian said to Riya, “Please close the window.” Begin: The librarian requested Riya ... [1]

ii. Report the question: Aman said to Riya, “Have you returned my atlas?” Begin: Aman asked Riya ... [1]

iii. Reorder to complete the reply to “When can we leave?”: after / we can leave / the bell / rings [1]

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Section D Literature Textbook 26 marks

Do this part only answers

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

What struck one most was their willingness to work.

i. What does this willingness reveal beyond a desire for spending money? [1]

ii. Mention one job performed by the boys. [1]

iii. How does the narrator's attitude differ from Luigi's first response? [1]

iv. What central meaning of "gentlemen" does their conduct establish? [1]

B Ozymandias

Nothing beside remains. Round the decay

Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare

The lone and level sands stretch far away.

i. What does "colossal wreck" refer to? [1]

ii. What is ironic about the surrounding emptiness? [1]

iii. Identify the sound device in "lone and level". [1]

iv. What judgement about political power does the scene invite? [1]

C The Frog and the Nightingale

For her ears were now addicted

To applause quite unrestricted,

And to sing into the night

All alone gave no delight.

i. What has become the nightingale's measure of success? [1]

ii. How does this dependence make her vulnerable? [1]

iii. What does "addicted" suggest about her need for praise? [1]

iv. State the warning about artistic confidence in these lines. [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 narrator protect the boys' dignity after learning about Lucia? (Two Gentlemen of Verona) [2]

ii. Why does Mrs Packletide's planned gift to Loona reveal rivalry rather than generosity? (Mrs Packletide's Tiger) [2]

iii. How does separation change Ali's understanding of hunting? (The Letter) [2]

iv. How does the tiny dialogue become a serious artistic opportunity for Patol Babu? (Patol Babu, Film Star) [2]

v. Why is Victoria's response to the adults morally significant? (The Dear Departed) [2]

vi. How does Antony use Caesar's refusal of the crown to challenge Brutus's claim? (Julius Caesar) [2]

12 Long answer 8 marks

Answer EITHER A OR B in about 150 words.

A. Compare Patol Babu's commitment to his small role with Nicola and Jacopo's commitment to Lucia. How do the texts redefine the value of ordinary work?

OR

B. A school leader claims that confidence means never admitting a mistake. Challenge this claim using the speaker in Snake and the postmaster in The Letter.

End of Question Paper 01