

ICSE EXAMINATION PAPER - 2025
ENGLISH LANGUAGE - 1
Class-10th
(Solved)

Maximum Marks: 80

Time Allotted: Two Hours

Reading Time: Additional Fifteen Minutes

Instructions to Candidates:

1. Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.
2. You will **not** be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.
3. This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.
4. The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.
5. Attempt **all five** questions.
6. The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].
7. You are advised to spend not more than **30 minutes** in answering **Question 1** and **20 minutes** in answering **Question 2**.

Question 1

[20]

(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question.)

Write a composition (300-350 words) on **any one** of the following:

- (i) Write an original short story in which a poor tailor wins an award which changes his/her life.
- (ii) Your friends once played a harmless prank on you. Give an account of what happened, your response to the prank and what you learnt from the experience.
- (iii) Describe what you see and hear as you move about the corridors and compound during your school break time. How does the scene change after the bell rings?
- (iv) 'More collaboration, less competition is the need of the hour', Express your views either **for** or **against** this statement.
- (v) Study the picture given. Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture, or you may take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



Question 2

[10]

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)

Select **any one** of the following:

- (i) Your grandmother has taught you a special skill. Write a letter thanking her. Explain how you will use that skill and why it is important to you.
- (ii) There is no bus stop in your locality. Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner of your town/city complaining about the problem. Offer possible solutions.

Question 3

- (i) Your school is hosting an Inter School Story Writing Competition. Write a notice informing the students about the event. [5]
- (ii) Write an email to a famous person inviting him/her to be the Judge on the occasion. [5]

Question 4

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

A little later, when he went to the pump to wash, he saw the school children pouring by with their *satchels* across their shoulders. They all wore the same clothes – grey shorts or skirts and light blue shirts or blouses – faded and mended, and they all had their hair oiled and combed down very flat. Some went by in laughing, racing groups, others had to be led by their mothers or grandparents to the school building. This reminded him of his sisters in the village.

The boys in the kitchen now looked at him with less hostility. Jagu seemed pleased with Hari too, and sometimes handed him a glass of tea in the middle of the day. When he had a few moments to spare, Jagu sat down at one of the long wooden tables, drummed loudly on it and sang a song in a dialect Hari did not know. When he caught Hari listening and smiling, he smiled back. Then Hari knew that he too had a village somewhere that he called home. It was just that he was a silent, hardworking, worried man and had no time and no gift for speech. 10

It was the watch mender, Mr. Panwallah, who was truly a benefactor, the kindest and most helpful of all. One afternoon, during those hot, still hours when there were no customers for a change, Hari was standing in front of the eating house, idly watching the traffic because he was too tired to do anything else, and Mr. Panwallah called to him to come and sit beside him on the bench behind the counter in his shop.

"Want to help?" he asked. "Want to learn how to make a clock tick? I'm just going to open this big grandfather clock sent to me for repair – you'll be able to see the workings plain. Don't often get a piece like this anymore – wall clocks, yes, and electronic gadgets – but you don't often come upon a grandfather clock like this. It's a real piece of luck, being able to show you one of this size. Look," he said, swinging open the door at the back and revealing the machinery to a fascinated Hari who felt as if the door had opened into a new and strange house. Mr. Panwallah showed Hari what was wrong with it, what had made it stop. "Interesting, isn't it? How would you like to learn? Tell you what – I'll take you on as an apprentice. You don't have much to do between two and four, do you? Of course you will have to ask Jagu first. I can pay you a little, not much, and you can help me for two hours a day. Perhaps I can make a watch mender of you." 20

-Village by the Sea, Anita Desai

- (i) For each word given below choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided: [2]
- satchels (line 2)

(a) snatching	(b) scarves.	(c) school bags	(d) sweaters
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 - spare (line 7)

(a) share	(b) offer	(c) thin	(d) extra
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- (ii) Which word in the passage is the opposite of 'closed'? [1]
- | | | | |
|------------|----------------|------------|---------------|
| (a) behind | (b) fascinated | (c) opened | (d) revealing |
|------------|----------------|------------|---------------|
- (iii) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:
- How were the school children dressed? [2]
 - In what way was Jagu kind to Hari? [2]
 - What did the song tell Hari about Jagu? [2]
 - Which sentence in the passage tells us that Jagu was not a talkative man? [2]
 - Why were there no customers at that time of the day? [1]
- (iv) In not more than 50 words describe how Mr. Panwallah introduced Hari to watch mending. [8]

Question 5

- (i) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]

Example:

One day we (0) _____ (lift) the box up.

Answer: (0) lifted

We (1) _____ (find) a dead mouse (2) _____ (lie) among our treasures. It (3) _____ (be) an exciting discovery. A boy took it up by its tail and (4) _____ (wave) it in front of our faces.

"What shall we do with it?" he (5) _____ (cry). "It stinks!" someone (6) _____ (shout).

"Throw it out of the window quick!"

He (7) _____ (hesitate). They all (8) _____ (look) at me.

- (ii) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words. [4]
- My best friend, John is named _____ his grandfather.
 - A grey mist hung _____ the fields.
 - The little girl spoke _____ against the bully.
 - They accused him _____ theft.
 - The police got the fire _____ control.
 - There is a bridge _____ the river.
 - The driver jumped _____ the car.
 - I have not seen my uncle _____ last summer.

(iii) Choose the correct option to make one complete sentence **without using and, but** or **so**.

[4]

1. These are fresh mangoes. I bought them yesterday.
 - (a) These are fresh mangoes which I bought yesterday.
 - (b) These mangoes were fresher when I bought them yesterday.
 - (c) These are fresh mangoes which were bought yesterday.
 - (d) These are fresh mangoes brought by me yesterday.
2. The debating teams were very happy. They were declared joint champions.
 - (a) The debating teams were very happy as they have been declared joint champions.
 - (b) The debating teams are very happy as they are declared joint champions.
 - (c) The debating teams were very happy as they had been declared joint champions.
 - (d) The debating teams will be very happy as they will be declared joint champions.
3. The rain came down. All the people ran away.
 - (a) When the rain came down, all the people ran away.
 - (b) When it rained, the people ran away.
 - (c) The rain had come down all the people ran away.
 - (d) The rain having come, all the people ran away.
4. The disciple was wise. The teacher did not trust him.
 - (a) Although the disciple was wise yet the teacher trusted him.
 - (b) Although the disciple was not wise the teacher trusted him.
 - (c) Although the disciple is wise, the teacher trusted him.
 - (d) Although the disciple was wise, the teacher did not trust him..

(iv) Choose the correct option and rewrite the sentence according to the instruction given after each.

[8]

1. The teacher said, "Come early tomorrow, the examination begins at eight o'clock."
(Begin: *The teacher told us to... ..*)
 - (a) The teacher told us to come early the next day as the examination would begin at eight o'clock. (a)
 - (b) The teacher told us to come early tomorrow as the examination begins at eight o'clock.
 - (c) The teacher told us the examination will begin at eight o'clock so come early tomorrow.
 - (d) The teacher told us to come by eight o'clock as the examination will begin early the next day.
2. Rahul not only plays the guitar but also the drums.
(Use: *'as well as'*)
 - (a) Rahul plays the guitar as well as the drums.
 - (b) Rahul plays the guitar as well the drums.
 - (c) Rahul plays the guitar as well as he does the drums.
 - (d) Rahul play's the guitar and the drums as well.
3. She said she would not be available.
(Add a question tag)
 - (a) Didn't she say that she would not be available?
 - (b) She said she would not be available, did she?
 - (c) She said she would not be available, didn't she?
 - (d) She said she would not be available, wouldn't she?
4. This is the most beautiful painting in the exhibition.
(Begin: *No other... ..*)
 - (a) No other painting is as beautiful as this exhibition.
 - (b) No other painting in this exhibition is beautiful.
 - (c) No other painting is beautiful as this painting in the exhibition.
 - (d) No other painting in the exhibition is as beautiful as this one.
5. I prefer aerobics to yoga.
(Use: *'rather'*)
 - (a) I would rather do aerobics to yoga.
 - (b) I would rather do aerobics than yoga.
 - (c) I would rather prefer aerobics than yoga.
 - (d) I would rather do yoga than aerobics.

6. The coach taught the children the rules of the game.
(Begin: *The rules... ..*)
- (a) The rules have being taught by the coach to the children.
 - (b) The rules of the game have been taught by the children to the coach.
 - (c) The rules of the game is taught by the coach to the children.
 - (d) The rules of the game were taught by the coach to the children.
7. No sooner did the film star arrive than the crowd cheered.
(Begin: *As soon as... ..*).
- (a) As soon as the film star arrived then the crowd cheered.
 - (b) As soon as the film star arrives the crowd starts cheering.
 - (c) As soon as the crowd cheers the film star arrives.
 - (d) As soon as the film star arrived the crowd cheered.
8. School bags are often too heavy for students to carry.
(Use: 'so')
- (a) School bags are so heavy students cannot carry them.
 - (b) School bags are often so heavy that students cannot carry them.
 - (c) School bags are often so heavy for students to carry.
 - (d) School bags are heavy so students cannot carry them.

Answers

1. (i) "Your grandfather was a tailor; your father is a tailor and you will be a tailor." His father told him in no uncertain terms, when he expressed his desire to go to the city for his studies. He had to bow before his poor circumstances as the family struggled to eke out a living by the traditional craft handed down through generations.

Manohar began helping his father and serving his customers happily, fulfilling their demands. He longed to make the clothes he used to see in magazines, but in his locality, there was no demand for fashionable clothes. Nevertheless, he cherished the secret hope that one day he would stitch something that would dazzle the world.

Manohar's fortune changed when a drama troupe came to put up shows in the vicinity of his town. The heroine threw a tantrum when she was shown the dress she was going to wear that evening. It was baggy, shapeless and totally unflattering to her figure. Manohar was summoned to her presence. He assured her he could do something with its tent-like appearance. He took it up as a challenge. A deft snip here and a tuck or two at the sides and a slit at the hem of the skirt. Magic happened. The heroine was happy, and Manohar was richer by a few hundred.

Manohar's luck did not stop there. The heroine declared that she would wear only the designs made by Manohar. Later, she got a chance in a movie and her charm and dress sense became the talk of the town. Soon a movie maker approached her 'stylist' for a period drama. He had to recreate the costumes of the royal era. He poured his heart and soul into his creation. And the rest was history.

One day, a letter of invitation reached him in an embellished envelope. His eyes popped out when he read that he would be felicitated as the designer of the year.

His heart swelled with pride when his name was announced. He thanked his father for making him a tailor.

(ii) It was a prank, but it gave me a lot of heartburn! It was fun for my friends, but I was devastated. Today, when I look back, it brings a smile on my face, although it was a veritable hell at that time.

It was the time of Board Exam. I was one of the brightest in my class, but that became my undoing. Some mischievous classmates plotted a game against me. They had an old score to settle.

Right when I opened my geometry set, a piece of paper fell out from it, right in front of the invigilator. It had minuscule writings of almost all the answers. I gaped when the invigilator thrust it on my face. I had no answer. When I got up in a hurry, another slip fell down from my hair. There was a gasp from students sitting near me. They were jeering at me.

I was taken to the principal's office. "Sumana, you of all the people?" She expostulated. She again asked, "So is this how you top all the time?" I shook my head in denial, but the words stuck in my throat. An order to debar me from the exam was issued.

At that time, my class teacher came in with a circle of students around her. She told the whole story. "Madam, a little while ago these girls came to me. They confided about the horrible plot against Sumana. She is innocent,

Madam. The slips were planted in her box and hair by these foolish pranksters. Later, they felt guilty and pleaded with me to inform you."

The Principal's anger was now directed against the guilt-stricken ones. They confessed to their guilt. I was greatly relieved, as they had the decency to own their mistakes. I requested the principal to not take action against them—after all, they were my classmates. Their future was also at stake.

I learnt how a small act of kindness works wonders to cement friendship for a life time.

(iii) The shrill bell echoed through the school. Lunch break. The primary classes made a beeline towards the seats under a neem tree in the compound. The shade was welcoming. Some parrots were sitting on its branches pecking at the ripe fruits. As they watched in fascination, a flock of green birds made a circle above their heads. They laughed in delight. The teacher reminded them to open their lunch boxes. Some had brought parathas, some fried rice and some sandwiches. It was compulsory to bring fruits or salads.

A little later, the middle-grade pupils rushed out of their classes. There was a commotion when they breezed the corridors. The day seemed special for them as they waited for something exciting. And there came a few carrying a table and a huge cake. They placed the table in a corner which afforded a full view of the playground. In a jiffy the corner was decorated with balloons and streamers. Sunita, in a pink frock, was ushered out by her friends. Her face broke out in surprise and delight as her friends smeared her face with the icing on the cake.

The senior students had some excitement in store. As they sat on the steps of the amphitheatre nearby, there was a commotion on the path near the canteen. A couple of monkeys had appeared suddenly and snatched butter rolls from the canteen boy. He was scared and shouted at the top of his voice. Nothing could be done with the rogue monkeys as they gobbled up the goodies while looking cheekily at the faces down below.

And the bell rang again. There was a rush near the water dispensers as the students were in a hurry to be in time for the rest of the classes. The corridors and the compound looked deserted as the maids came to clean up the place and put the furniture in order. Calm before the storm. Again, there will be laughing faces, bounds and leaps at the stroke of the final bell. Anticipate the *joie de vivre*.

(iv) For the Statement

Whether children should be brought up with a killer spirit or a sense of collaboration has always been a moot question. The reality is that in this world of cut-throat competition, one cannot survive without a competitive mentality. One who is sharp-minded and displays the winner attitude will always have an edge over others.

Take, for example, the pupils who score high in examinations and also do well in extracurricular activities. They are the cynosure of everyone's eyes. Teachers compliment them, fellow mates worship them as role

models, and the corporate managers are usually proud of them. They bring laurels to themselves and the institutes they represent. This will boost their confidence leading to more participation and more achievements, which in turn will prepare them for carving an enviable niche in professional fields.

Those children who are not motivated by the prospects of winning at any cost may lag behind in life. Over time, this can become a habit. They may become complacent, their dreams may wane, and they may suffer from a lack of initiative. They fade into the background, their careers may stagnate and they may remain mere spectators as their more energised counterparts forge ahead. The need of the hour is to promote healthy competition between peers. This will sharpen their desire to be ahead of the game, to push their limits and find their maximum potential.

On the whole, a healthy competitive spirit can be life-changing for many. Competition sharpens the hidden traits of character and nurtures aptitudes that can catapult one to higher echelons. Such individuals invent, create and reach great heights. If there is no competition among peers, the fire of winning dies out. A good competition brings out the best in a person which even surprises the winners with the realisation of their skills within. Therefore, let us not suppress the inherent desire to outshine others.

Against the Statement

Competition is pervasive in every sphere—in studies, sports fields, on stage and at interpersonal levels. The result is stress, anger, frustration, inferiority complex, depression and even fatality. Life becomes a rat race as individuals strive to establish one-upmanship. Is all this effort worth it? What is life without even a minute to stare at the beauty of Nature, to laugh with friends and to read a pleasant story?

Parents encourage their children to excel in examinations, where marks are highly valued. A wee bit less becomes the cause of major worries and conflict. As a result, children strive to excel in multiple fields to match the parental expectations. In the quagmire of proving themselves, they lose their childhood somewhere. Does this not spoil your vision of the young ones laughing in glee, playing in mirth and cementing the bonds of friendship and collaborative living?

In my opinion, youngsters should grow up in an environment of mutual trust and cooperation. This is the age when rudiments of character are laid and values instilled. No one can be an island in their personal or professional life. Empathy, mutual understanding and kindness to others are a few of the essential human traits that have to be inculcated very early in life. Otherwise, dissonance and interpersonal maladjustments may affect the future, as life can thrive only in a peaceful environment in which mutual tolerance and acceptance play a crucial role.

Let's not forget this is the time of group efforts and team spirit. Many an organisation thrives because of the collaborative work of employees. Energetic minds have to pitch in their knowledge, expertise and acumen to lead a project to its successful culmination. These days companies look for individuals who can interact well, submit their selfish interests to the larger good and move ahead as a team player. Take the example of team games

like cricket or football; each player has to contribute his worth to bring about that winning streak. So is the game of life. Collaboration is the crux of the globalised community. One selfish move; and the result will be annihilation.

(v) Lush green spinach, red round tomatoes, purple aubergines and vines bursting with yellow flowers and stately fruits. What an enchanting sight! The expressions on the faces of the mother and children say it all. Their glee knows no bounds as they pose for the shutterbugs.

But this was not the case a few years ago. The village looked parched and devoid of life as the family of three had trudged upland in a bid to escape the flash floods that had destroyed their hut and had taken away their belongings. They had no other way but to forage into the dry rocky lands where water was scarce and living was a challenge.

A few days after they had taken shelter in an abandoned shed, the future stared at them. Hunger gnawed into their entrails, starvation made them hollow-eyed and hearts craved for help. None came. But one day, as Gopal the boy peered into the bushes nearby, he saw some yellow gourds nestling among their vines. He realised they were some kinds of pumpkins and eagerly took a few to his mother and sister. They were delighted as they sank their teeth into the luscious flesh. There was a ray of hope. If pumpkins could grow there, why not other vegetables?

To the utter delight of the trio, they saw a shallow pond completely covered by dry leaves, but still a water source! They hoped once the mouth of the supply opened, there would be more water which meant life.

The next day, the family went to the nearby town and spread the pumpkins on a piece of cloth. Slowly, the buyers came and they made some money. With this, they bought sprigs of mint, seeds of coriander and fenugreek. Within a few days, their efforts bore fruit and slowly the abandoned place came into life with all sorts of vegetables. Villagers appreciated their efforts. News of their transformation spread, attracting media attention. Their story became a testament to the power of human determination and the potential for renewal even in the harshest of circumstances. Today, as the family is posing proudly for the photographs, their faces tell the story of resilience and triumph.

2. (i)

Flat no 186, Magnolia High Rise
Nirman Nagar Street
Jaipur 302002

20th February 2025

Dear Grandma,

I'm comfortably and cosily settled in my new flat. It's a delightful set-up offering an enchanting view of a small garden. But the best thing is the cute, compact kitchen – almost the size of my palm. But grandma, it is super convenient with all the appliances in place.

Thanks to you, I have developed my culinary skills to perfection. I can toss an omelette in a jiffy and make pancakes to perfection. You also taught me to bake, steam and fry with no oil sticking to the fritters, and I enjoy preparing all the stuff. My heart fills with nostalgia as I think of the ways you persuaded me to learn this

'survival' skill. But now I have taken it to the next level. I enjoy cooking and am really mindful of what I eat and how I eat.

It's all because of you, dear Granny. I wish that every lazy girl like me had a loving soul like your to motivate her to find her hidden skills.

Hope to hear from you soon. I'll send some pictures of my flat and yes, especially of the kitchen.

Warm regards,

Yours lovingly,

Mini

(ii)

42 W Shan Prabhakar
Mythili colony
Perambur 600089

20th February 2025

The Commissioner
Sachivalay Road
Chennai 600078

Sub: Request for a bus stop

Dear Sir,

The commuters in Perambur district between the railway station and office complexes are facing considerable inconvenience due to the lack of properly designated bus stops. They have to walk a long way to access public transportation. The elderly and physically challenged individuals suffer the most.

A bus stop at the location would provide better accessibility and convenience to the commuters. There will be fewer three-wheelers and other vehicles jamming the way. Besides, this will enhance commercial possibilities too, empowering the economy of the surrounding rural areas.

We kindly request you to consider this proposal and initiate the necessary steps to establish a bus stop at a suitable location between the Perambur railway station and the commercial areas. Thank you for your time and attention.

Yours faithfully,
Shaan Prabhakar
985347601

3. (i)

Word Medley

Event: Inter School Story Writing Competition

Date: 24th February 2025

Time: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Venue: Hall of Fame, St Alena School

Participate: All students from class 8th to 12 who wish to participate are required to give their names to Ms Sheetal on or before 21st February.

Shraddha Mathur
Secretary
Literature Club

(ii)

Shashi.tharoor@gmail.com

Invitation to be the honourable Chief Guest and judge at the Interschool Story Writing Competition.

Dear Sir,

Our school is organising a story writing competition for students of grades VIII to XII. It gives me immense pleasure to invite you to inaugurate the event and judge the competition.

The event will be held on 24th February 2025 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., at Hall of Fame, St Alena School.

Sir, it would be a great honour if you could give an impetus to the programme and address a few words to the gathering. I cannot see a better person than you to inspire the budding writers and use your acumen to judge their submissions.

We sincerely hope you will consider our invitation.. It will be an honour to have you in our midst.

Thanking you in anticipation

Yours sincerely

Shraddha Mathur

Secretary

Literary Club

St Alena School

4. (i) 1. *Correct option:* (c) school bags

Explanation: The sentence describes school children carrying satchels across their shoulders, which refers to school bags used to carry books and other materials.

2. *Correct option:* (d) extra

Explanation: The sentence mentions that Jagu used his "few moments to spare," meaning the extra time he had available. "Spare" in this context means additional or free time.

(ii) *Correct option:* (c) opened

Explanation: The passage states, "Look," he said, swinging open the door at the back and revealing the machinery to a fascinated Hari who feel as if the door had "opened" into a new strange house.

Here, "opened" is the opposite of "closed," as it refers to making something accessible by moving a cover or barrier.

(iii) (a) The students were dressed in faded and mended uniforms. Boys wore grey shorts and blue shirts and girls wore skirts and blouses of the same colour.

(b) Jagu was a cheerful character who enjoyed singing in his local language. He was kind-hearted enough to offer tea to Hari.

(c) The song revealed Jagu's sensitive heart and his willingness to be friendly with Hari. The smile he gave Hari when the latter seemed to listen smilingly to the song was one of acceptance. Hari felt a sense of belonging to the village because Jagu seemed friendly.

(d) The sentence is "It was just that he was a silent, hardworking, worried man and had no time and no gift for speech." 'No gift of speech' reveals that he was not a talkative man.

(e) The afternoon was hot, still and stifling, and people preferred to stay indoors rather than going to the eatery and have hot teas. Hence, there was practically no footfall at the place.

(iv) Summary

Rough Draft

[50 words]

Panwallah	invited	Hari	to	see
the	workings	Of	a	huge
grandfather	clock.	Opening	the	door
at	its	back,	he	revealed
the	machinery.	The	interior	looked

like	a	strange	house.	He
revealed	the	problem	that	made
the	clock	stop	and	offered
to	make	Hari	his	apprentice
or	a	potential	watch	mender.
				[50]

Panwallah	invited	Hari	to	see
the	workings	of	a	huge
grandfather	clock.	Opening	the	door
at	its	back,	he	revealed
the	machinery.	The	interior	looked
like	a	strange	house.	He
revealed	the	snag	that	made
the	clock	stop	and	offered
to	make	Hari	his	apprentice
or	a	potential	watch	mender.

5. (i) 1 found

2 lying

3 was

4 waved

5 cried

6 shouted

7 hesitated

8 looked

(ii) (a) after

(b) over

(c) up

(d) of

(e) under

(f) over

(g) out of

(h) since

(iii) 1. *Correct option:* (a) These are fresh mangoes which I bought yesterday.

Explanation: The sentence correctly combines both clauses using 'which' while maintaining correct tense and meaning.

2. *Correct option:* (c) The debating teams were very happy as they had been declared joint champions.

Explanation: The past perfect tense "had been declared" is used correctly to indicate that the declaration happened before their happiness.

3. *Correct option:* (a) When the rain came down, all the people ran away.

Explanation: This correctly shows the cause-and-effect relationship between the rain and the people running away.

4. *Correct option:* (d) Although the disciple was wise, the teacher did not trust him.

Explanation: "Although" correctly introduces the contrast between the disciple's wisdom and the teacher's distrust.

(iv) 1. *Correct option:* (a) The teacher told us to come early the next day as the examination would begin at eight o'clock.

Explanation: The sentence is correctly reported in indirect speech with proper tense changes.

2. *Correct option:* (a) Rahul plays the guitar as well as the drums.

Explanation: This maintains the original meaning while correctly using "as well as."

3. *Correct option:* (c) She said she would not be available, didn't she?

Explanation: The correct question tag for a negative statement is in the positive form. Here 'did' is implied in the revised sentence.

4. **Correct option:** (d) No other painting in the exhibition is as beautiful as this one.

Explanation: This correctly follows the comparative structure while maintaining clarity.

5. **Correct option:** (b) I would rather do aerobics than yoga.

Explanation: "Rather" is correctly used to express preference.

6. **Correct option:** (d) The rules of the game were taught by the coach to the children.

Explanation: The sentence is correctly converted into passive voice.

7. **Correct option:** (d) As soon as the film star arrived, the crowd cheered.

Explanation: This correctly maintains the cause-effect sequence, and the tense structure.

8. **Correct option:** (b) School bags are often so heavy that students cannot carry them.

Explanation: "So... that" is the correct structure to indicate consequence. This is the only option where the reproduced sentence is closest to the original in terms of structure.

OSWAAL

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