

Latest Syllabus

ENGLISH PAPER - 1 CLASS 10

AIMS:

1. To develop and integrate the use of the four language skills i.e. listening, speaking, reading and writing for the purpose of effective communication.
2. To develop a functional understanding of the grammar, structure and idiom of the language.
3. To develop the capacity to read efficiently and access information effectively.
4. To develop an appreciation of good literature.
5. To experience, through literature, the thoughts and feelings of the peoples of the world.

There will be *two* papers:

Paper 1: English Language:

Each of these papers will be of *two hours* duration.

Paper 1 : English Language (80 Marks)

Internal Assessment (20 Marks)

PAPER 1 - ENGLISH LANGUAGE

(Two hours) - 80 marks

All questions will be compulsory.

Question 1: Candidates will be required to write a composition of about 300– 350 words from a choice of subjects which will test their ability to: organise, describe, narrate, report, explain, persuade or argue, present ideas coherently with accuracy and precision, compare and contrast ideas and arrive at conclusions, present relevant arguments and use correct style and format.

The subjects will be varied and may be suggested by language or by other stimuli such as pictures. The subjects will be so chosen so as to allow the candidates to draw on first-hand experience or to stimulate their imagination.

The organisation of subject matter, syntax, punctuation, correctness of grammatical constructions and spelling will be expected to be appropriate to the mode of treatment required by the subject.

Question 2: Candidates will have to write a letter from a choice of two subjects requiring either a formal or an informal mode of treatment. Suggestions regarding the content of the letter may be given. The layout of the letter with address, introduction, conclusion, etc., will form

part of the assessment. Special attention must be paid to the format of the letter with emphasis on vocabulary appropriate to the context.

Question 3: Candidates will be given a specific situation and will be required to:

- (a) Write the text for a notice based on given directions.
- (b) Write an e-mail on the same content as the notice.

Question 4: An unseen prose passage of about 450 words will be given. Uncommon items of vocabulary, or structure will be avoided. One question will be set to test vocabulary. Candidates will be required to show an understanding of the words/phrases in the context in which they have been used.

A number of questions requiring short answers will also be asked on the passage. These questions will test the candidates' ability to comprehend the explicit content and organisation of the passage and to infer information, intention and attitude from it.

The last question will consist of a summary that will test the candidates' ability to distinguish main ideas from supporting details and to extract salient points to re-write them in the form of a summary. Candidates will be given clear indications of what they are to summarise and of the length of the summary.

Question 5: There will be a number of short answer questions to test the candidates' knowledge of **functional** grammar, structure and usage.

All the items in this question will be compulsory. They will consist of correct use of prepositions, conjunctions, verbs and structure of sentences.

INTERNAL ASSESSMENT

PAPER 1 - ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1. Schools will prepare, conduct and record assessments of the **Listening and Speaking Skills** of candidates as follows:

Class X : Two assessments in the course of the year.

2. **Pattern of Assessment.**

(a) Listening Skills

A passage of about 300 words is read aloud by the examiner twice, the first time at normal reading speed (about 110 words a minute) and

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the next time at a slower speed. Candidates may make brief notes during the readings. They then answer an objective type test based on the passage, on the paper provided.

The recommended number of candidates at a sitting is 30.

(b) Speaking Skills

Each candidate is required to make an oral presentation for about two minutes, which will be followed by a discussion on the subject with the examiners, for about three minutes.

Subjects for presentation may include narrating an experience, providing a description, giving directions how to make or operate something, expressing an opinion, giving a report, relating an anecdote or commenting on a current event.

A candidate may refer to brief notes in the course of the presentation but reading or excessive dependence on notes will be penalized.

It is recommended that candidates be given an hour for preparation of their subject for presentation and that they be given a choice of subject, on a common paper.

EVALUATION

The assessment will be conducted jointly by the subject teacher and the external examiner who will each assess the candidate. (The External Examiner may be a teacher nominated by the Head of the School who could be from the faculty **but not teaching the subject in the section/class**. For example, a teacher of English of Class VIII may be deputed to be an External Examiner for Class X).

Award of Marks (20 Marks)

Listening Skills: 10 marks

Speaking Skills: 10 marks

The total marks obtained out of 20 are to be sent to the Council by the Head of the School.

The Head of the School will be responsible for the online entry of marks on the Council's CAREERS portal by the due date. Schools are required to maintain a record of all assessments conducted in **Listening and Speaking Skills** for candidates of Classes IX and X. These include copies of the assessment tests, topics for presentation and marks awarded. The record will be maintained for a period of 2 months after the ICSE (10) examinations of the candidates concerned.

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INTERNAL ASSESSMENT IN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH - GUIDELINES FOR MARKING WITH GRADES (CLASS X)

Grade	Understanding/ Comprehension Main Idea, Central Theme (Narrative)	Recall	Vocabulary	Context/ Correlation to Other Areas	Marks
I	The candidate accurately understands the central idea of the passage as well as the relevant points in the selected passage/ talk.	The candidate recalls all the important points made (written/verbal).	The candidate uses appropriate and correct vocabulary while recalling the points made.	The candidate clearly understands the context and can widely correlate the passage to the other areas.	3
II	The candidate gives ideas fairly close to the central/ main idea of the passage as well as understands some of the relevant points heard in the selected passage/ talk.	The candidate recalls some of the important points made (written/verbal).	The candidate uses correct but simple vocabulary while recalling the points made.	The candidate can moderately understand the context of the passage and can moderately correlate the passage to the other areas.	2
III	The candidate cannot fully comprehend the passage and gives only a few ideas related to the central theme of the passage.	The candidate recalls very few of the important points made (written/verbal).	The candidate makes various errors in vocabulary while recalling the points made.	The candidate can only faintly understand the context of the passage and relate it to the other areas.	1
IV	The candidate is neither able to understand the central/main idea of the passage; nor able to understand relevant points heard in the passage/talk.	The candidate is unable to recall the important points made (written/verbal)	The candidate uses incorrect vocabulary while recalling the points made.	The candidate is unable to understand the context of the passage and is unable to correlate the passage to the other areas.	0

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INTERNAL ASSESSMENT IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE - GUIDELINES FOR MARKING WITH GRADES - ORAL ASSIGNMENT (CLASS X)

Grade	Fluency of Language	Subject Matter	Organization	Vocabulary/ Delivery	Understanding	Gesture	Marks
I	Speaks with fluency and has full operational command over the language.	Matter is relevant, rich in content and original.	Content is well sequenced and well organized.	Uses appropriate vocabulary and pronounces words correctly.	While speaking, the candidate emphasizes the important points.	Uses natural and spontaneous gestures that are not out of place.	3
II	The candidate speaks with fairly good fluency and has reasonable operational command of the language.	The subject matter is mostly relevant, consisting of a few original ideas.	The content is satisfactorily sequenced and well organized.	The candidate pronounces most words correctly and uses simple vocabulary.	While speaking, the candidate emphasizes most important points.	Uses some natural gestures.	2
III	The candidate speaks with poor fluency and does not communicate except for the most basic information.	The subject matter is irrelevant and lacks originality.	The subject content is very poor and lacks organizational structure.	The candidate pronounces many words incorrectly and uses inappropriate vocabulary.	While speaking, the candidate emphasizes some important points.	Uses very few natural gestures.	1
IV	The candidate cannot communicate even the most basic information.	The subject matter is negligible.	The subject content comprises of mere words with no structured sentences.	The candidate is unable to correctly pronounce most words and has a limited vocabulary.	While speaking, the candidate is unable to emphasize important points.	Uses no natural gestures.	0