

Strictly Confidential: (For Internal and Restricted use only)
Senior Secondary School Examination 2024
Marking Scheme – ENGLISH CORE (301)
(QUESTION PAPER CODE – 1/5/1)

General Instructions: -

1. You are aware that evaluation is the most important process in the actual and correct assessment of the candidates. A small mistake in evaluation may lead to serious problems which may affect the future of the candidates, education system and teaching profession. To avoid mistakes, it is requested that before starting evaluation, you must read and understand the spot evaluation guidelines carefully.
2. **“Evaluation policy is a confidential policy as it is related to the confidentiality of the examinations conducted, evaluation done and several other aspects. Its leakage to public in any manner could lead to derailment of the examination system and affect the life and future of millions of candidates. Sharing this policy/document to anyone, publishing in any magazine and printing in News Paper/Website etc may invite action under various rules of the Board and IPC.”**
3. Evaluation is to be done as per instructions provided in the Marking Scheme. It should not be done according to one’s own interpretation or any other consideration. Marking Scheme should be strictly adhered to and religiously followed. **However, while evaluating, answers which are based on the latest information or knowledge and / or are innovative, may be assessed for their correctness otherwise, and due marks may be awarded to them. In Competency based questions, please try to understand the given answer and even if reply is not from marking scheme but correct competency is shown by the candidate, due marks should be awarded.**
4. The Marking Scheme carries only suggested value points for the answers. These are in the nature of Guidelines only and do not constitute the complete answer. The students can have their own expression and if the expression is correct, then due marks should be awarded accordingly.
5. The Head-Examiner must go through the first five answer books evaluated by each evaluator on the first day, to ensure that evaluation has been carried out as per the instructions given in the Marking Scheme. If there is any variation, the same should be zeroed after deliberation and discussion. The remaining answer books meant for evaluation shall be given only after ensuring that there is no significant variation in the marking of individual evaluators.
6. Evaluators will mark (✓) wherever answer is correct. For wrong answer ‘X’ be marked. Evaluators will not put (✓) while evaluating a wrong answer which gives an impression that answer is correct and no marks are awarded. **This is the most common mistake which evaluators are committing.**
7. If a question has parts, please award marks on the right-hand side for each part. Marks awarded for different parts of the question should then be totalled up and written in the left-hand margin and encircled. This must be followed strictly.
8. If a question does not have any parts, marks must be awarded in the left-hand margin and encircled. This must be followed strictly.
9. If a student has attempted an extra question, answer of the question deserving more marks should be retained and the other answer scored out with a note **“Extra Question”**.

10. **If more than one option is mentioned in the answer of multiple choice questions, then no marks to be awarded.**
11. No marks to be deducted for the cumulative effect of an error. It should be penalized only once.
12. A full scale of marks (0-80 marks) as given in Question Paper has to be used. Please do not hesitate to award full marks if the answer deserves it.
13. Every examiner has to necessarily do evaluation work for full working hours i.e. 8 hours every day and evaluate 20 answer books per day in main subjects and 25 answer books per day in other subjects (Details are given in Spot Guidelines).
14. Ensure that you do not make the following common types of errors committed by the Examiner in the past:-
 - Leaving answer or part thereof unassessed in an answer book.
 - Giving more marks for an answer than assigned to it.
 - Wrong totalling of marks awarded on an answer.
 - Wrong transfer of marks from the inside pages of the answer book to the title page.
 - Wrong question wise totalling on the title page.
 - Wrong totalling of marks of the two columns on the title page.
 - Wrong grand total.
 - Marks in words and figures not tallying / not same.
 - Wrong transfer of marks from the answer book to online award list.
 - Answers marked as correct, but marks not awarded. (Ensure that the right tick mark (✓) is correctly and clearly indicated. It should not merely be a line. Same is with the (X) for incorrect answer.)
 - Half or a part of answer marked correct and the rest as wrong, but no marks awarded.
15. While evaluating the answer books if the answer is found to be totally incorrect, it should be marked as cross (X) and awarded zero (0) Marks. 'Zero' should be mentioned both in figures and words.
16. Any unassessed portion, non-carrying over of marks to the title page, or totalling error detected by the candidate shall damage the prestige of all the personnel engaged in the evaluation work as also of the Board. Hence, in order to uphold the prestige of all concerned, it is again reiterated that the instructions should be followed meticulously and judiciously.
17. The Examiners should acquaint themselves with the guidelines given in the **"Guidelines for Spot Evaluation"** before starting the actual evaluation.
18. Every Examiner shall also ensure that all the answers are evaluated, marks carried over to the title page, correctly totalled and written in figures and words.
19. The candidates are entitled to obtain photocopy of the Answer Book on request on payment of the prescribed processing fee. All Examiners / Additional Head Examiners / Head Examiners are once again reminded that they must ensure that evaluation is carried out strictly as per Value Points for each answer as given in the Marking Scheme.

(iv)	Complete the following sentence appropriately : Educational toys enhance the personality of children by _____.	
Ans.	enhancing / improving cognitive skills / social skills / problem solving ability / special awareness / mastering a skill	1
(v)	Read the five headlines (a) – (e), given below : (a) Sustainable Educational Toys are Developmentally Appropriate. (b) Sustainable Educational Toys Promote Free play. (c) Sustainable Educational Toys – Free and Widespread. (d) Sustainable Educational Toys – Experiential Learning. (e) Sustainable Educational Toys – Hinder Interaction with people. Identify the option that displays the headline that DOES/DO NOT correspond with what the passage highlights. (A) only (e) (B) (a) and (b) (C) (c) and (e) (D) only (d)	
Ans.	(C) (c) and (e)	1
(vi)	What evidences do you gather from the passage to state that educational system is revolutionized by educational toys ? Answer in about 40 words.	
Ans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - it has made learning more interesting - incorporated experiential learning - child’s interest is kindled - stops rote learning - ignites student’s curiosity - increase learner’s focus <p>(any two)</p>	2
(vii)	Explain in about 40 words, how education at grass root level is benefitted by these projects.	
Ans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - resolve a lot of issues in tier 2 or 3 cities - resolve issues like lack of infrastructure - create miniature labs for schools - offer visual, auditory, and kinesthetic aids - offer an engaging avenue to teach mathematical, verbal, problem solving skills <p>(any two)</p>	2
(viii)	As opposed to learning by heart, experiential toys	

	(A) ignite interest (B) challenge the teachers (C) replace textbooks (D) confuse learners	
Ans.	(A) ignite interest	1
(ix)	Playing is usually considered a distraction. Is it justified on the part of the narrator to assert that playing is an important aspect of education? Write your answer in about 40 words.	
Ans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - playing is vital for cognitive development - toys engage students in experiential learning - students develop better social skills and learn to negotiate - settle differences - learn team spirit <p>(any two)</p>	2
	Passage 2	
Q.2.	Answer the following questions based on the given passage:	10 marks
(i)	Select the option that comes under conventional media : (A) Instagram (B) Newspaper (C) Facebook (D) E-mail	
Ans.	(B) Newspaper	1
(ii)	Select the correct option : One factor that prompts people to believe fake news is that (A) it supports their point of view (B) they are biased (C) it is from a reliable site (D) it has more 'likes' and 'shares'	
Ans.	(C) it is from a reliable site	1
(iii)	What according to the passage are the intentions of people who share information ?	
Ans.	might benefit others / help in their safety	1
(iv)	Which reason do you infer from the passage is responsible for journalists spreading misinformation?	
Ans.	not verifying data / had to verify data before publishing / their responsibility to verify data	1
(v)	Complete the sentence appropriately : The threat faced by the new entrants in social media is _____.	
Ans.	the susceptibility to fake news	1

Q.5 (a)	<p>You are Dinesh / Deepa of M.G. Nagar, Pratap Nagar. You are a pharma graduate. You saw the given advertisement in a newspaper and wish to apply for the position advertised. Write a letter to Ideal Pharma, along with your bio-data, expressing your interest in the advertised post.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>IDEAL PHARMA Requires Sales Representatives</p> <p>Qualification : Graduation in Pharmacy Experience : Min. 3 years in the relevant field Skill : Product Knowledge, Communication Skills, Computer Competency</p> <p>Apply to The Manager, Ideal Pharma, 55, Ajit Arcade, Tenalipuram within a week.</p> </div>	
Ans.	<p>Suggested value points:</p> <p>Covering Letter :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reference to the advertisement - suitability for post - offer candidature <p>Bio-Data / Resume / CV:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - personal profile - qualifications - experience - skills - references <p>NOTE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No marks to be deducted if the Resume/CV/Bio-data is included in the covering letter. <p>(inputs given in the question to be included)</p>	5
	OR	
	LETTER TO EDITOR	

	(inputs given in the question to be included) (any other relevant point) (any three)	
	SECTION C Literature, Text Books and Supplementary Reading Text	40 Marks
	NOTE: The objective of this section is to test a candidate's ability to understand and interpret the prescribed text through short & long answer type questions. Long answer type questions have been set to test the students' understanding of the text and their ability to interpret, evaluate & respond to the issues raised therein. Hence, no particular answer can be accepted as the only correct answer. All presentations may be accepted as correct with consultation of the HE, if they have been duly supported by the facts drawn from the text. The student should be able to justify his / her viewpoint. In the Inter textual questions reference to both the texts must be included.	
Q.7	Read the following extracts and answer the questions on ANY ONE of the given two.	
(a)	Sometimes I feel myself I can hardly bear The thought of so much childish longing in vain, The sadness that lurks near the open window there, That waits all day in almost open prayer. For the squeal of brakes, the sound of a stopping car, Of all the thousand selfish cars that pass, Just one to inquire what a farmer's prices are And one did stop, but only to plow up grass In using the yard to back and turn around; And another to ask the way to where it was bound ; (A Roadside Stand)	6 x 1 = 6 marks
(i)	Select the option that has the same literary device as in 'The sadness that lurks near the open window there'. (A) Lucy moved across the room like a warship sailing into battle. (B) Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life. (C) The water-wraith was shrieking. (D) The pen is mightier than the sword.	
Ans.	(C) The water-wraith was shrieking.	1
(ii)	They prayed for the stopping of a car. When one car finally stopped, it brought _____ to the people of the roadside stand. (A) help (B) happiness (C) disappointment (D) cash flow	

Ans.	(C) disappointment	1
(iii)	Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line, '.....childish longing in vain'.	
Ans.	foolish / naïve the desire of roadside stand people to do business with city people is a futile effort	1
(iv)	Complete the sentence appropriately. The emotion of the poet reflected in the above extract is _____.	
Ans.	pain / sadness/ grief/ empathy/ helplessness / anguish / despair	1
(v)	The expression 'selfish car' suggests that _____.	
Ans.	city people are selfish / people in the car have no concern for roadside stand people.	1
(vi)	Based on the rhyme scheme evident in the last two lines of the extract, which word would rhyme with the last line ? _____	
Ans.	brass reply sound	1
Ans.	sound	1
OR		
Q.7 (b)	<p>... but soon put that thought away, and looked out at Young Trees sprinting, the merry children spilling out of their homes, but after the airport's security check, standing a few yards away, I looked again at her, wan, pale as a late winter's moon and felt that old familiar ache, my childhood's fear,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(My Mother at Sixty-six)</p>	6 x 1 = 6 marks
(i)	Select the correct option. The impact of 'merry children' on poet's mind _____. (A) caused anxiety (B) created a sense of longing (C) brought comfort (D) reminded her of her own childhood	
Ans.	(C) brought comfort	1
(ii)	The tone of the poet expressed in the above lines is (A) sadness and helplessness (B) excitement and eagerness (C) appreciation and gratitude	

	(D) anger and anxiety	
Ans.	(A) sadness and helplessness	1
(iii)	The words ‘wan, pale’ indicate the mother’s _____.	
Ans.	ageing/ colourless face / weakness / exhaustion	1
(iv)	Complete the following sentence appropriately. The poet looked at her mother again to _____.	
Ans.	bid her goodbye / have a last look / reaffirm her own thoughts	1
(v)	Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line ‘felt that old familiar ache’.	
Ans.	referring to her childhood fear / fear of separation	1
(vi)	‘put that thought away’. What is the intention of poet that can be inferred from the above line ?	
Ans.	to divert her mind / mood from the grief of her mother’s ageing and imminent death	1
Q.8	Read the two extracts given below and answer the questions on ANY ONE.	
(a)	The reason the programme has been so successful is because it is impossible to go anywhere near the South Pole and not be affected by it. It’s easy to be blase about polar ice caps melting while sitting in the comfort zone of our respective latitude and longitude, but when you can visibly see glaciers retreating and ice shelves collapsing, you begin to realise that the threat of global warming is real. Antarctica, because of her simple eco-system and lack of biodiversity, is the perfect place to study how little changes in the environment can have big repercussions. (Journey to the End of the Earth)	4 x 1 = 4 marks
(i)	As per the given extract, the reason for the success of the programme is (A) the participation of young students. (B) the journey to Antarctica. (C) the exposure to reality. (D) it was impossible to go near south pole.	
Ans.	(C) the exposure to reality. / (D) it was impossible to go near south pole.	1
(ii)	Complete the following sentence. The warning that can be inferred from the above extract is _____.	
Ans.	that global warming is real / that little changes in environment can have big repercussions	1
(iii)	State whether the statement given is TRUE or FALSE with reference to the extract. Global warming is a threat to human survival.	
Ans.	True	1

(iv)	Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line “It’s easy to be blase about polar ice caps melting while sitting in the comfort zone”.	
Ans.	in comfort zone we are indifferent to the seriousness of the situation	1
OR		
Q.8 (b)	From that day onwards it was celebration time for all the tigers inhabiting Pratibandapuram. The State banned tiger hunting by anyone except the Maharaja. A proclamation was issued to the effect that if anyone dared to fling so much as a stone at a tiger, all his wealth and property would be confiscated. The Maharaja vowed he would attend to all other matters only after killing the hundred tigers. Initially the king seemed well set to realise his ambition. (The Tiger King)	4 x 1 = 4 marks
(i)	Select the correct option : ‘... he would attend to all other matters only after killing hundred tigers’. This reflects Tiger King’s (A) courage (B) determination (C) selfishness (D) kindness	
Ans.	(C) selfishness	1
(ii)	Complete the sentence appropriately. From that day onwards it was celebration time for all the tigers. The above statement is ironical in the sense _____.	
Ans.	the tigers were spared by others to be killed by the king / the king had planned to kill all tigers himself	1
(iii)	‘... if anyone dared to fling so much as a stone at a tiger, all his wealth and property would be confiscated’. What trait of the king is reflected in the above line ?	
Ans.	authoritative / whimsical / cruel / selfish / autocratic	1
(iv)	State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE. The King’s ambition is to save people from the tigers.	
Ans.	FALSE	1
Q.9 Read the extracts given below and answer the questions on ANY ONE.		
(a)	“Why do you do this ?” I ask Saheb whom I encounter every morning scrounging for gold in the garbage dumps of my neighbourhood. Saheb left his home long ago. Set amidst the green fields of Dhaka, his home is not even a distant memory. There were many storms that swept away their fields and homes, his mother tells him. That’s why they left, looking for gold in the big city where he now lives. “I have nothing else to do,” he mutters, looking away. “Go to school,” I say glibly, realizing immediately how hollow the advice must sound. “There is no school in my neighbourhood. When they build one, I will go.”	6 x 1 = 6 marks

	(Lost Spring)	
(i)	<p>Choose the correct option.</p> <p>The expression ‘scrounging for gold’ refers to</p> <p>(A) searching for gold items.</p> <p>(B) looking for something that can fetch money.</p> <p>(C) rummaging the garbage.</p> <p>(D) digging to find food to eat.</p>	
Ans.	(B) looking for something that can fetch money.	1
(ii)	<p>The influence of nature in Saheb’s life was that it _____.</p> <p>(A) brought prosperity (B) yielded food for them</p> <p>(C) gave them home (D) brought disaster</p>	
Ans.	(D) brought disaster	1
(iii)	<p>Complete the sentence with an appropriate word.</p> <p>Saheb’s conversation with the narrator draws _____ of readers towards Saheb.</p>	
Ans.	sympathy / concern/ admiration	1
(iv)	<p>Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line “..... realizing how hollow the advice must sound”.</p>	
Ans.	realized how meaningless her advise was / she never meant to open a school	1
(v)	<p>The expression ‘when they build one, I will go’ indicates Saheb’s _____ to go to school.</p>	
Ans.	eagerness / willingness / desire	1
(vi)	<p>State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE.</p> <p>‘... his home is not even a distant dream’ states that Saheb sees his home often in his dream.</p>	
Ans.	FALSE	1
	OR	
Q.9 (b)	<p>Then the poet spoke. He couldn’t have addressed a more dazed and silent audience – no one knew what he was talking about and his accent defeated any attempt to understand what he was saying. The whole thing lasted about an hour ; then the poet left and we all dispersed in utter bafflement – What are we doing ? What is an English poet doing in a film studio which makes Tamil films for the simplest sort of people ? People whose lives least afforded them the possibility of cultivating a taste for English poetry. The poet looked pretty baffled too, for he must have felt the sheer incongruity of his talk about the thrills and travails of an English poet. His visit remained an unexplained mystery.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Poets and Pancakes)</p>	6 x 1 = 6 marks
(i)	<p>Choose the correct option :</p> <p>The reason for the bewilderment of the audience is</p> <p>(A) unknown identity of the visitor.</p>	

	(B) that the speaker had not been introduced to them. (C) the visit of an English poet to a Tamil film studio. (D) that they did not understand English.	
Ans.	(C) the visit of an English poet to a Tamil film studio.	1
(ii)	By ‘thrills and travails’ the author refers to (A) joy and happiness (B) interest and aspiration (C) excitement and pain (D) shocks and surprises	
Ans.	(C) excitement and pain	1
(iii)	Explain one inference that can be drawn from the line, “He could not have addressed a more dazed and silent audience”.	
Ans.	audience was more dazed because of his accent – what he was saying was incomprehensible	1
(iv)	The failure of the speaker to connect with the audience with reference to the extract is his _____.	
Ans.	accent / language	1
(v)	What information in the extract reveals the fact that the people have no exposure other than to their own circle ?	
Ans.	they were not able to afford to develop a taste for English poetry	1
(vi)	State whether the following statement is TRUE or FALSE. The audience were enthralled by the poet’s impressive speech	
Ans.	FALSE	1
Q. 10	Answer ANY FIVE of the following six questions in 40 - 50 words each :	5 x 2 = 10 marks
	Distribution of marks:- CONTENT – 1 SPELLING AND GRAMMAR- ½ COHERENCE OF IDEAS- ½	
(i)	Explain the inference that can be drawn from the line : “Will they make them sing in German, even the pigeons ?” (The Last Lesson)	
Ans.	Suggested value points- - extreme fear of enslaved people of Alsace / Franz’s perception of war - authoritative tone of German Government - sarcasm - man can’t enslave nature (any other relevant point) (any one)	2

(ii)	<p>“Father laughed, but there was terror in my heart.” What does the above statement speak of the father ? (Deep Water)</p>	
Ans.	<p>Suggested value points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - sporty father / giving him space to learn - not instilling fear in his son / friendly - insensitive to his son’s fear at that point of time <p>(any other relevant point) (any one)</p>	2
(iii)	<p>The tigers in the panel that she made Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid. What is the tone of the poet reflected in the above lines ? (Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers)</p>	
Ans.	<p>Suggested value points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - critical of the society - angry that the death of Aunt Jennifer will not change the attitude of men in the society - appreciation of permanence of Art in the world <p>(any other relevant point) (any one)</p>	2
(iv)	<p>What is Pablo Neruda’s complaint against fishermen ? (Keeping Quiet)</p>	
Ans.	<p>Suggested value points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - fishermen kill whales in the sea - responsible for ecological imbalance - environmental degradation - not thinking of the consequences of his action <p>(any other relevant point) (any one)</p>	2
(v)	<p>How and why does Keats relate ‘mighty dead’ to the ‘Thing of Beauty’ ? (A Thing of Beauty)</p>	
Ans.	<p>Suggested value points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - mighty dead is heroic death - source of inspiration for common man / legendary people <p>(any other relevant point) (any one)</p>	2
(vi)	<p>‘Jansie, knowing they were both earmarked for the biscuit factory, became</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - man should pause and think - stop degradation of environment - should learn from mother earth to imbibe the strength of revival and rejuvenation - so important to preserve nature <p>Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - plant more trees - stop deforestation <p>(any other relevant point) (any three)</p>	
	OR	
(b)	<p>She gave a little cry of joy. She found a small rattrap, ...</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(The Rattrap)</p> <p>Saheb-e-Alam received a pair of discarded shoes with a hole in one of them. In spite of this he was very happy.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Lost Spring)</p> <p>Compare the joy that both Edla and Saheb experience after receiving their respective gifts.</p>	
Ans.	<p>Suggested value points-</p> <p>EDLA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Edla was happy because the Rattrap signifies the reformation of the Peddler - return of 30 kronors - reflects that he has overcome his temptation for money - gift reflects his gratitude - his sign as captain promises that he has shed Peddler's manners of life and to live the life of captain <p>SAHEB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - his dream comes true - wishe for shoes fulfilled - a great luxury for a person who has never got a pair of slippers <p>(any other relevant point) (any three)</p>	5

	<p>- people like Dr. Sadao will make this world a better place to live in</p> <p>(any other relevant point)</p> <p>(any three)</p>	
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