

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
Subject Code-184
Classes-IX-X (2025-26)

1. Background

At the secondary stage of English language learning the textual materials and other resources should represent a wide range of learning experience. Literature has always played a significant role in learning language. However, it is felt that pupils should be apprised with contemporary issues, read authentic literature and experiences of people to reflect and build their personality traits.

While there is a trend for inclusion of a wider range of contemporary and authentic texts, accessible and culturally appropriate pieces of literature should play a pivotal role at the secondary stage of education. The English class is meant for reading literature from different perspectives and to engage in activities for developing communicative competence, creativity and enrichment of language skills. It should not be seen as a place merely to read poems and stories in, but an area of activities to develop the learner's imagination as a major aim of language study, and to equip the learner with communicative skills to perform various language functions through speech and writing.

2. Objectives:

Objectives of the course are to enable learners to:

- build greater confidence and proficiency in oral and written communication
- develop the ability and knowledge required in order to engage in independent reflection and inquiry
- make appropriate usage of English language both written and oral
- communicate in various social settings and express agreement and disagreement with logic.
- equip learners with essential language skills to question and to articulate their point of view and arrive at conclusion through discussion and debate.
- build competence in the different aspects of the Language
- develop sensitivity to, and appreciation of world literature representing varieties of English and cultures embedded in it.
- enable the learner to access knowledge and information through reference skills (consulting a dictionary / thesaurus, library, internet, etc.)
- develop curiosity and creativity through extensive reading of literature from different time periods.

- facilitate self-learning to enable them to become independent learners
- review, organise and edit their own work and work done by peers
- give a brief oral description of events / incidents of topical interest and for real life situations.
- retell the contents of authentic audio texts (weather reports, public announcements, simple advertisements, short interviews, etc.)
- participate in conversations, discussions, etc., on topics of mutual interest in non-classroom situations
- narrate a story which has been depicted pictorially or in any other non-verbal mode
- respond, in writing, to business letters, official communications email etc.
- read and identify the main points / significant details of texts like scripts of audio-video interviews, discussions, debates, etc.
- write without prior preparation on a given topic and be able to defend or explain the stand taken / views expressed in the form of article, speech, or a debate
- write a summary of short lectures on familiar topics by making / taking notes
- write an assessment of different points of views expressed in a discussion / debate
- read poems effectively (with proper rhythm and intonation) and understands literary devices.
- transcode information from a graph / chart to a description / report and write a dialogue, short story or report
- develop appreciation for Indian languages (multilingualism), and Indian Literature.

3. Language Items

In addition to consolidating the grammatical items practised earlier, the courses at the secondary level seek to reinforce the following explicitly:

- sequence of tenses
- reported speech in extended texts
- modal auxiliaries (those not covered at upper primary)
- non-finites (infinitives, gerunds, participles)
- conditional clauses
- complex and compound sentences
- phrasal verbs and prepositional phrases
- cohesive devices
- punctuation (semicolon, colon, dash, hyphen, parenthesis or use of brackets and exclamation mark)

4. Methods and Techniques

The methodology is based on a multi-skill, activity-based, learner-centered approach. Care is taken to fulfill the functional (communicative), literary (aesthetic) and cultural (sociological) needs of the learner. In this situation, the teacher is the facilitator of learning, She/he presents language items, create situations which motivates the child to use English for the purposes of communication and expression. Aural-oral teaching and testing is an integral feature of the teaching-learning process. The electronic and print media could be used extensively. A few suggested activities are:

- Role play
- Simulating real life situations
- Dramatising and miming
- Problem solving and decision making
- Interpreting information given in tabular form and schedule
- Using newspaper clippings as a resource for comprehending and analysing issues.
- Borrowing situations and registers from the world around the learners, from books and from other disciplines
- Using language games, riddles, puzzles and jokes
- Interpreting pictures / sketches / cartoons
- Debating and discussing
- Narrating and discussing stories, anecdotes, etc.
- Reciting poems
- Working in pairs and groups
- Using media inputs - computer, television, video cassettes, tapes, software packages

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE SYLLABUS CLASS – IX (2025-26)

Sections		Weightage
A	Reading Skills	20 Marks
B	Writing Skills and Grammar	20 Marks
C	Language through Literature	40 Marks

Section A
Reading Skills

I. Reading Comprehension through Unseen Passage **20 Marks**

1. Discursive passage of 400-450 words. **10 marks**
2. Case-based factual passage (with visual input- statistical data/chart etc.) of 200-250 words. **10 marks**

(Total length of two passages to be 600-700 words)

Multiple Choice Questions / Objective Type Questions/Very Short Answer Questions will be asked to assess comprehension, interpretation, analysis, inference, evaluation and vocabulary.

Section B
Writing Skills and Grammar

II. Grammar **10 Marks**

- Determiners
 - Tenses
 - Modals
 - Subject – verb concord
 - Reported speech
 - Commands and requests
 - Statements
 - Questions
3. The courses at the secondary level seek to cement high professional grasp of grammatical items and levels of accuracy. Accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar will be assessed through Gap Filling/ Editing/Transformation exercises. Ten out of twelve questions will be attempted.

III. Writing Skills **10 marks**

4. Writing a Descriptive Paragraph (word limit 100-120 words), describing a person / event/ situation, based on visual or verbal cue/s. One out of two questions to be answered. **5 marks**
5. Writing a Story (on a given cue/title)/Diary Entry, in 100-120 words. One out of two questions is to be answered. **5 marks**

Section C
Language through Literature

40 Marks

IV. Reference to the Context

5+5 = 10 Marks

6. One extract out of two, from Drama / Prose.
7. One extract out of two, from poetry.

Multiple Choice Questions / Objective Type Questions will be asked to assess interpretation, analysis, inference, evaluation, appreciation and vocabulary.

V. Short & Long Answer Questions

- a. Four out of Five Short Answer Type Questions to be answered in 40-50 words from the book BEEHIVE to assess interpretation, analysis, inference and evaluation. **4x3=12 marks**
- b. Two out of Three Short Answer Type Questions to be answered in 40-50 words from the book MOMENTS to assess interpretation, analysis, inference and evaluation. **3x2=6 marks**
- c. One out of two Long Answer Type Questions from BEEHIVE to be answered in about 100-120 words to assess creativity, imagination and extrapolation beyond the text and across the text. This can also be a passage-based question taken from a situation/plot from the text. **6 marks**
- d. One out of two Long Answer Type Questions from MOMENTS, on theme or plot involving interpretation, extrapolation beyond the text and inference or character sketch to be answered in about 100-120 words. **6 marks**

Prescribed Books: Published by NCERT, New Delhi

1.BEEHIVE

Prose

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. The Fun They Had | 6. My Childhood |
| 2. The Sound of Music | 7. Reach for The Top |
| 3. The Little Girl | 8. Kathmandu |
| 4. A Truly Beautiful Mind | 9. If I were You |
| 5. The Snake and the Mirror | |

Poems

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. The Road Not taken | 5. A Legend of the Northland |
| 2. Wind | 6. No Men are Foreign |
| 3. Rain on The Roof | 7. On Killing a Tree |
| 4. The Lake Isle of Innisfree | 8. A Slumber Did My Spirit Seal |

2. MOMENTS

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The Lost Child | 5. The Happy Prince |
| 2. The adventures of Toto | 6. The Last Leaf |
| 3. Iswaran the Storyteller | 7. A House is not a Home |
| 4. In the kingdom of fools | 8. The Beggar |

3. WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS – I (WORKBOOK FOR CLASS IX) – Units 1 to 6 and Units 8,10 & 11

NOTE: Teachers are suggested to:

- (i) encourage classroom interaction among peers, students and teachers through activities such as role play, group work etc.
- (ii) reduce teacher-talk time and keep it to the minimum,
- (iii) take up questions for discussion to encourage pupils to participate and to express their ideas and defend their views.

Besides measuring learning outcome, texts serve the dual purpose of diagnosing mistakes and areas of non-learning. To make evaluation a true index of learners' knowledge, each language skill is to be assessed through a judicious mixture of different types of questions.

INTERNAL ASSESSMENT

Listening and Speaking

Assessment of Listening and Speaking Skills will be for 05 marks.

It is recommended that listening and speaking skills should be regularly practiced.

Art-integrated projects based on activities like Role Play, Skit, Dramatization etc. must be used. Please refer to the Circular no. Acad-33/2020 dated 14th May 2020 at the http://cbseacademic.nic.in/web_material/Circulars/2020/33_Circular_2020.pdf for details.

Guidelines for the Assessment of Listening and Speaking Skills are given at Annexure I.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
CLASS – IX (2025-26)

Marks-80

Sections	Competencies	Total marks
Reading Comprehension	Conceptual understanding, decoding, analyzing, inferring, interpreting and vocabulary	20
Writing Skills and Grammar	Creative expression of an opinion, reasoning, justifying, illustrating, appropriate style and tone, using appropriate format and fluency. Applying conventions, using integrated structures with accuracy and fluency	20
Language through Literature	Recalling, reasoning, appreciating, applying literary conventions, illustrating and justifying. Extract relevant information, identifying the central theme and sub-theme, understanding the writers' message and writing fluently.	40
Total		80
For the details of Internal Assessment of 20 marks, please refer to the circular no. Acad-11/2019, dated March 06, 2019.		

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
CLASS-X (2025-26)**

SECTION - WISE WEIGHTAGE

Sections		Weightage
A	Reading Skills	20 Marks
B	Writing Skills with Grammar	20 Marks
C	Language through Literature	40 Marks

**Section A
Reading Skills**

I. Reading Comprehension through Unseen Passage **20 Marks**

1. Discursive passage of 400-450 words. **10 marks**
2. Case-based factual passage (with visual input- statistical data, chart etc.) of 200-250 words. **10 marks**

(Total length of two passages to be 600-700 words)

Multiple Choice Questions / Objective Type Questions, and Short Answer Questions (to be answered in 30-40 words) will be asked to assess comprehension, interpretation, analysis, inference, evaluation and vocabulary.

**Section B
Writing Skills and Grammar**

II Grammar **10 Marks**

- Determiners
- Tenses
- Modals
- Subject – verb concord
- Reported speech
 - Commands and requests
 - Statements
 - Questions

3. The courses at the secondary level seek to cement high professional grasp of grammatical items and levels of accuracy. Accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar in context will be assessed through Gap Filling/ Editing/Transformation exercises. Ten out of 12 questions will have to be attempted.

III. Writing Skills

10 marks

4. Writing a Formal Letter based on a given situation, in 100-120 words. One out of two questions is to be answered. **5 marks**
5. Writing an Analytical Paragraph in 100-120 words on a given Map/ Chart/ Graph/Cue/s. One out of two questions is to be answered. **5 marks**

Section C

40 Marks

Language through Literature

IV. Reference to the Context

5+5=10 Marks

6. One extract out of two from Drama / Prose.
7. One extract out of two from poetry.

Multiple Choice Questions / Objective Type Questions Very Short Answer Questions (one word/ One sentence), Short Answer Questions (to be answered in 30-40 words) will be asked to assess inference, analysis, interpretation, evaluation and vocabulary.

V. Short & Very Long Answer Questions

30 Marks

8. Four out of Five Short Answer Type Questions to be answered in 40-50 words from the book FIRST FLIGHT to assess interpretation, analysis, inference and evaluation. **4x3=12 marks**
9. Two out of Three Short Answer Type Questions to be answered in 40-50 words each from FOOTPRINTS WITHOUT FEET to assess interpretation, analysis, inference and evaluation. **2x3=6 marks**
10. One out of two Long Answer Type Questions from FIRST FLIGHT to be answered in about 100-120 words each to assess creativity, imagination and extrapolation beyond the text and across the text. This can be a passage-based question taken from a situation/plot from the text. **6 marks**
11. One out of two Long Answer Type Questions from FOOTPRINTS WITHOUT FEET, on theme or plot involving interpretation, extrapolation beyond the text and inference or character sketch to be answered in about 100-120 words. **6 marks**

Prescribed Books: Published by NCERT, New Delhi

1. FIRST FLIGHT

A. Prose

1. A Letter to God
2. Nelson Mandela - Long Walk to Freedom
3. Stories About Flying
4. From the Diary of Anne Frank
5. Glimpses of India
6. Mijbil the Otter
7. Madam Rides the Bus
8. The Sermon at Benares
9. The Proposal (Play)

B. Poems

1. Dust of Snow
2. Fire and Ice
3. A Tiger in the Zoo
4. How to Tell Wild Animals
5. The Ball Poem
6. Amanda!
7. The Trees
8. Fog
9. The Tale of Custard the Dragon
10. For Anne Gregory

2. FOOTPRINTS WITHOUT FEET

1. A Triumph of Surgery
2. The Thief's Story
3. The Midnight Visitor
4. A Question of Trust
5. Footprints Without Feet
6. The Making of a Scientist
7. The Necklace
8. Bholi
9. The Book that Saved the Earth

3. WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS – II (WORKBOOK FOR CLASS X) – Units 1 to 4 and Units 7 to 11

Note: Teachers are suggested to:

- (i) encourage interaction among peers, students and teachers through activities such as role play, discussions, group work etc.
- (ii) reduce teacher-talking time and keep it to the minimum,
- (iii) take up questions for discussion to encourage pupils to participate and to marshal their ideas and express and defend their views, and
- (iv) follow the Speaking and Listening activities given in the NCERT books.

Besides measuring learning outcome, texts serve the dual purpose of diagnosing mistakes and areas of non-learning. To make evaluation a true index of learners' knowledge, each language skills to be assessed through a judicious mixture of different types of questions.

INTERNAL ASSESSMENT

Listening and Speaking Competencies

Assessment of Listening and Speaking Skills will be for 05 marks.

It is recommended that listening and speaking skills should be regularly practiced.

Art-integrated projects based on activities like Role Play, Skit, Dramatization etc. must be used. Please refer to the Circular no. Acad-33/2020 dated 14th May 2020 at the http://cbseacademic.nic.in/web_material/Circulars/2020/33_Circular_2020.pdf for details

Guidelines for the Assessment of Listening and Speaking Skills are given at Annexure I.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
CLASS – X (2025-26)

Marks 80

Sections	Competencies	Total marks
Reading Comprehension	Conceptual understanding, decoding, analyzing, inferring, interpreting and vocabulary	20
Writing Skills and Grammar	Creative expression of an opinion, reasoning, justifying, illustrating, appropriate style and tone, using appropriate format and fluency. Applying conventions, using integrated structures with accuracy and fluency	20
Language through Literature	Recalling, reasoning, appreciating, applying literary conventions illustrating and justifying etc. Extract relevant information, identifying the central theme and sub-theme, understanding the writers' message and writing fluently.	40
Total		80

For the details of Internal Assessment of 20 marks, please refer to the circular no. Acad-11/2019, dated March 06, 2019.

Guidelines for Assessment of Listening and Speaking Skills (ALS)

ALS is a component of the Subject Enrichment Activity under Internal Assessment. ALS must be seen as an integrated component of all four language skills rather than a compartment of two. Suggested activities, therefore, take into consideration an integration of the four language skills but during assessment, emphasis will be given to speaking and listening, since reading and writing are already being assessed in the written exam.

Assessment of Listening and Speaking Skills: (5 Marks)

i. Activities:

- Subject teachers must refer to books prescribed in the syllabus.
- In addition to the above, teachers may plan their own activities and create their own material for assessing the listening and speaking skills.

ii. Parameters for Assessment: The listening and speaking skills are to be assessed on the following parameters:

- a. Interactive competence (Initiation & turn taking, relevance to the topic)
- b. Fluency (cohesion, coherence and speed of delivery)
- c. Pronunciation
- d. Language (grammar and vocabulary)

SUGGESTIVE RUBRIC

Interaction	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
	• Contributions are mainly unrelated to those of other speakers • Shows hardly any initiative in the development of conversation • Very limited interaction	• Contributions are often unrelated to those of the other speaker • Generally passive in the development of conversation	• Develops interaction adequately, makes however minimal effort to initiate conversation • Needs constant prompting to take turns	• Interaction is adequately initiated and developed • Takes turn but needs some prompting	• Initiates & logically develops simple conversation on familiar topics • Takes turns appropriately

Fluency & Coherence	• Noticeably/ long pauses; rate of speech is slow • Frequent repetition and/or self-correction this is alright in informal conversation • Links only basic sentences; breakdown of coherence evident.	• Usually fluent; produces simple speech fluently, but loses coherence in complex communication • Often hesitates and/or resorts to slow speech • Topics partly developed; not always concluded logically	• Is willing to speak at length, however repetition is noticeable • Hesitates and/or self corrects; occasionally loses coherence • Topics developed, but usually not logically concluded	• Speaks without noticeable effort, with a little repetition • Demonstrates hesitation to find words or use correct grammatical structures and/or self-correction • Topics not fully developed to merit.	• Speaks fluently almost with no repetition & minimal hesitation Develops topic fully & coherently
Pronunciation	• Frequent inaccurate pronunciation • Communication is severely affected	• Frequently unintelligible articulation • Frequent phonological errors • Major communication problems	• Largely correct pronunciation & clear articulation except occasional errors	• Mostly correct pronunciation & clear articulation • Is clearly understood most of the time; very few phonological errors	• Pronounces correctly & articulates clearly • Is always comprehensible • uses appropriate intonation
Vocabulary & Grammar	• Demonstrates almost no flexibility, and mostly struggles for appropriate words • Many Grammatical errors impacting communication	• Is able to communicate on some of the topics, with limited vocabulary. • Frequent errors, but self-corrects	• Is able to communicate on most of the topics, with limited vocabulary. A few grammatical errors	• Is able to communicate on most of the topics with appropriate vocabulary • Minor errors that do not hamper communication	• Is able to communicate on most of the topics using a wide range of appropriate vocabulary, using new words and expressions • No grammatical errors

iii. **Schedule:**

- The practice of listening and speaking skills should be done throughout the academic year.
- The final assessment of the skills is to be done as per the convenience and schedule of the school.