

MARKING SCHEME (2023-24)
ENGLISH CORE (Code No. 301)
CLASS-XII

SECTION A : READING SKILLS (22 marks)		
1.	Literary passage	12m
i	B. It serves as the ship's computer [It is mentioned in the text that the white lab mouse in the control room of the Heart of Gold spaceship is the ship's computer.]	1 No partial credit
ii	C. Loss and change [Destruction of his home planet = loss and the introduction of new technologies = change]	1 No partial credit
iii	Descriptive "In the center of the room was a large console covered in buttons and switches, and in the middle of the console was a small, white mouse." [This description provides a clear image of the setting and the unconventional form of the ship's computer.] Humorous "Oh, not again," groaned Ford. [This line is humorous because it suggests that the ship's computer, Eddie, frequently offers to sing songs and annoy the crew. Ford's reaction of groaning implies that this is a common occurrence and that he's tired of it. The humour comes from the fact that a computer is attempting to sing a song, which is an unexpected and absurd situation.] Note- Accept any other appropriate example identified from the text.	2 -2 for correct identification -1 for correct identification of either
iv	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ highly intelligent / technologically advanced [they built the Earth as a giant computer] ▪ indifferent to the suffering of other beings [they ran out of money and had to destroy the Earth to make way for a hyperspace bypass.] 	1 No partial credit
v	C. Impressive, yes?	1 No partial credit
vi	The name "The Paranoid Android" is ironic because- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ it is unexpected for a robot to exhibit human-like emotions such as paranoia. ▪ robots are often thought of as logical and unemotional, whereas the name "paranoid" implies irrational fear and anxiety. ▪ it plays with readers' expectations and stereotypes of robots. 	2 -2 for correct interpretation and explanation -Partial credit 1 for partially addressing the Q - No ½ credit
vii	The comparison is with cobblers, who take scraps of leather and stitch them together to create a shoe, in the same way in which the body of Marvin was put together or 'cobbled', using spare parts. [The word "cobbled" here, implies a sense of roughness and unevenness, as if the body has been put together in a haphazard manner. It also suggests that the body is assembled together, rather than being a cohesive whole.]	1 No partial credit
viii	The statement by Marvin, despite being an android, humanizes the character by evoking a sense of loneliness and isolation that is relatable to the reader. It also emphasizes the theme of the alienation and lack of communication between beings in the vastness of space.	2 -2 for correct interpretation and explanation

	This creates a sense of sympathy towards Marvin and also raises questions about the meaning and value of existence, regardless of whether one is organic or synthetic.	-Partial credit 1 for partially addressing the Q - No ½ credit
ix	B. (b) (c) and (d) [(a) accurate -represents the main focus of the excerpt: Marvin, a depressed and paranoid android who precedes humanity; (b) incorrect- downplaying serious implications and though the passage does contain humorous elements, it also deals with weighty topics such as the destruction of Earth and the search for a new home; (c) incorrect- no mention of aliens ; (d) incorrect- there is no mention of time travel in the excerpt. The technologies mentioned, such as the Heart of Gold spaceship and the Infinite Improbability Drive, are related to time travel; (e) correct- there is mention of a new technology, the Infinite Improbability Drive, that allowed for Arthur’s quick travel across galaxies in a spaceship]	1 No partial credit
2.	Case-based factual passage	10 m
i	Some possible ways: (Any 2/ relevant) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Help travel companies to tailor their services to meet the preferences and expectations of young adult travellers, leading to increased customer satisfaction and loyalty. ▪ Provide insights for the development of new travel packages and itineraries that cater to the specific needs and interests of young adult travellers. ▪ Enable the tourism industry to better understand the changing preferences and behaviours of young adult travellers, which can inform future marketing and promotional strategies. ▪ Can help policymakers and tourism boards to identify key trends and areas of growth in the tourism sector, and plan accordingly. ▪ Allow researchers to gain a better understanding of the motivations and travel behaviours of young adults, which can inform academic studies and literature in the field. ▪ Can provide a benchmark for comparison with similar studies conducted in different regions or countries, helping to identify cross-cultural differences in travel preferences. ▪ Help young adults themselves to gain a better understanding of their own travel preferences and motivations, and make more informed travel decisions in the future. ▪ Can highlight the importance of certain factors in the decision-making process for young adult travellers, such as budget, safety, and cultural exploration, which can inform discussions and debates around the future of the tourism industry. 	2 - Full credit 2, to two relevant ways -partial credit 1, to one relevant way -No ½ credit
ii	D. Desire for making new friends	1 No partial credit
iii	The top choices in the survey, for traveling solo and in a group suggest that young adult travellers value independence and freedom when traveling alone and when traveling in a group, they value socializing and making new friends.	1 No partial credit
iv	(b) Nawaz	1 No partial credit

	[solo traveller-budget friendly; (a) group traveller- organised transport; (c) group traveller- high focus on safety and security]	
v	A. trying new cuisine [It allows an individual to explore new flavours and ingredients that they may not have been exposed to before, thus helping them discover more about themselves by way of likes/ dislikes]	1 No partial credit
vi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To cater to budget-conscious solo travellers, the industry may need to provide more affordable accommodation options such as hostels and budget hotels. ▪ For group travellers, the industry may need to focus on offering more luxury accommodations and experiences that cater to their desire for comfort and convenience. 	2 -Full credit 2, when correct response for both is stated -Partial credit 1, when correct response for either is stated -No credit of ½
vii	(Any one) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a shared desire for adventure ▪ a willingness to step outside of their comfort zones. ▪ the fact that that young adults in India are becoming more interested in cultural exchange and global understanding (Any other relevant)	1 No partial credit
viii	FALSE [The passage is not about solo travel trend but more of solo vs group travel debate among young adults in India]	1 No partial credit
SECTION B : CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (18 marks)		
Note : All names and addresses of places and organisations used, are fictitious.		
3. NOTICE : Format – 1 Content -2 Accuracy of spelling and grammar -1		
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Name of Organisation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NOTICE</p> <p>Date</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Heading</p> <p style="text-align: center;">[details]</p> <p>Signature</p> <p>Name (issuing authority)</p> <p>Designation</p> </div>		
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Correct format (as listed) → Drawing attention—students of XI-XII → Mentioning the event → Giving details -D,T,V → Inviting applications → Line with reference to the undersigned 	
B	→ Correct format (as listed)	

Q.No	Value Points	Marks
4	Format-1, Content-2, Expression and Accuracy - 1	5
5	Format-1, Content-2, Expression and Accuracy - 1	5
6.i	Gaining victory with no survivors	1
ii	C. A moment of unity and peaceful reflection	1
iii	...a potential for change and renewal / a moment of pause and reflection / an act of cleansing of their actions /embracing a peaceful existence/ the possibility of transformation	1
iv	condemns	1
v	B. Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.	1
vi	Global leaders and communities can work toward more sustainable and peaceful solutions – Can be used to advocate for non-violent resolutions / peace negotiations in contemporary conflicts / Can be used to promote dialogue and understanding over aggression and warfare.	1
7.i	create a sense of approaching doom use it as a tool to heighten the reader's curiosity and interest in the story	1
ii	D. Unease [The use of this physical gesture indicates a sense of discomfort or unease, and implies that the astrologers were reluctant to reveal the prophecy. Humiliation or grief would be more strongly expressed in the text if they were the emotions being conveyed. Disbelief is also not the correct answer, as there is no indication that the astrologers doubted their prediction.]	1
iii	bravery/ heroism / leadership [The astrologers are predicting that the child born under this star will be a great warrior and a champion, implying that the child will display exceptional courage and bravery in battle or in other challenges. This also suggests that the child will be a leader and will inspire others with their bravery and heroism. The use of these superlative phrases further emphasizes the astrologers' admiration for this trait and the importance they place on it in predicting the child's future.]	1
iv	This is so because the word "fantastic" is usually associated with something positive or exciting, while the word "demise" suggests something negative or tragic. [In this context, the use of "fantastic" to describe the Tiger King's death creates a contrast between the positive connotation of the word and the negative reality of the situation]	1
8.i	To give voice to their hopes, dreams, and struggles in a way that is	1

	<p>immediate and relatable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To add a sense of authenticity and realism to the story ▪ To make the experience more engaging and memorable for the reader 	
ii	<p>B. An opinion. [The line "It is not lack of money but a tradition to stay barefoot" is an opinion, since it is a subjective interpretation of the cultural practice of walking barefoot. The author is expressing her belief ("explanation"), in this extract]</p>	1
iii	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The boys are barefoot, which suggests that they may come from poor or marginalized backgrounds and do not have access to proper footwear. ▪ The phrase "an army of barefoot boys" implies that the boys are a unified group, and that they have a sense of solidarity or shared identity. ▪ The comparison to "morning birds" suggests that the boys are lively and energetic, and that they move around quickly and unpredictably. ▪ The fact that the boys "disappear at noon" suggests that their time is limited or constrained in some way, and that they may need to return to their homes or other responsibilities. ▪ The use of the word "disappear" may also imply that the boys are overlooked or ignored by the wider society, and that they are not given the recognition or support that they need. ▪ The phrase "like the morning birds" could also imply that the boys are vulnerable, and that their carefree lifestyle may be disrupted by external factors such as poverty, exploitation, or violence. 	1
iv	<p>The line from the text: "Over the months, I have come to recognize each of them." [This suggests that the writer has been observing and interacting with the boys for a prolonged period of time, and that she has developed a deeper understanding of their lives and circumstances. The phrase "over the months" indicates that the writer's relationship with the boys is ongoing and has developed gradually, rather than being a one-time encounter.]</p>	1
v	<p>C. "I like your shoes. What matters is that they protect your feet." [The reason for this is that the writer's comment had been met with silence and the shuffling of feet by the boy, which suggests that he may feel embarrassed or uncomfortable about his footwear. Therefore, a comment that emphasizes the functional purpose of shoes and acknowledges their value in protecting one's feet would likely be more reassuring and positive. Option A ("Why are your shoes mismatched? That's not a good look.") could be seen as critical and potentially judgmental, and may not be well-received by the boy. Option B ("Don't worry about your shoes, you can wear a matching pair later.") may not be practical or realistic, depending on the boy's circumstances. Option D ("Have you chosen to mismatch your shoes?") may come across as sarcastic or dismissive, and may not effectively address the boy's feelings or needs.]</p>	1
vi	<p>straightforward / uncomplicated / direct/ clear The boy's simple answer implies that there may not be any hidden or complex reasons for his lack</p>	1

	of footwear, and that the explanation for why he wasn't wearing chappals was as straightforward as his mother not bringing them down from the shelf. The use of the word "simply" in this context emphasizes the directness and clarity of the boy's response, and suggests that he may not have felt the need to elaborate or justify his situation further.]	
vii	To show the hypocrisy and the manipulation of tradition and custom to cover up for the poverty.	1

9i	Represents -- the tension between local traditions and foreign occupation The church clock -- symbol of local, everyday life and continuity --- in stark opposition to the Prussian trumpets, which symbolise disruption, military power, and the enforcement of foreign rule Highlights the theme of loss and the struggle to preserve one's cultural heritage against overwhelming odds.	2
ii	Serves as a significant backdrop for the events that unfold in the story. ▪ creates a sense of isolation and desolation, emphasizing the loneliness and despair that the peddler experiences. ▪ the harsh winter conditions and the barren landscape add to the overall tone of melancholy and hopelessness. ▪ the forest also represents the metaphorical wilderness of the human soul, highlighting the struggles and temptations that people face in their journey through life. Therefore, the setting plays a vital role in establishing the mood and atmosphere of the story.	2
iii	▪ If the last four lines were omitted, the poem would have a more sombre tone. ▪ Without the image of the tigers continuing to prance, the poem would end on a note of despair, with Aunt Jennifer's hands still ringed with the ordeals she was mastered by. ▪ The message of the poem would refer to the oppression and suffering of women, without any hope for liberation. [By ending the poem on these lines, the author achieves a sense of hope and transcendence. The image of the tigers continuing to prance, proud and unafraid, suggests that there is a way to transcend the oppression and suffering of women, even if it is only through art. The poet suggests that art can provide a kind of liberation, even in the face of social and cultural constraints.]	2
iv	Subjective answer with reference to the lesson	2
v	Speaking creates barriers	2
vi	The wooden tiger the king bought.	2
10	Subjective answer-with reference to the lessons	5
11	Subjective answer with reference to the lesson	5
12	Obsession and Power	5

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The king’s fixation on hunting tigers symbolizes a desire for control and dominance. ● Nature is viewed as a trophy rather than a vital ecosystem, reflecting a mindset of exploitation. <p>Exploitation and Consequences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The relentless pursuit of tigers leads to their near extinction, illustrating the impact of human greed. ● The narrative highlights how wildlife exploitation disrupts ecological balance and threatens species. <p>Metaphor for Broader Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The king’s downfall, brought about by a tiger, serves as poetic justice. 	
	THE END	