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CLASS 11 ENGLISH ELECTIVE - PRACTICE QUESTIONS

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CLASS 11

English Elective

Chapterwise Important Questions

24 sections | 96 original questions | 2026-27

Read each chapter, attempt the questions, and support explanations with working or textbook evidence.

Choose a chapter or topic

Woven Words – Short Stories	
Story 1	The Lament
Story 2	A Pair of Mustachios
Story 3	The Rocking-horse Winner
Story 4	The Adventure of the Three Garridebs
Story 5	Pappachi's Moth
Story 6	The Third and Final Continent
Woven Words – Poetry	
Poem 1	The Peacock
Poem 2	Let Me Not to the Marriage of True Minds
Poem 3	Coming
Poem 4	Telephone Conversation
Poem 5	The World Is Too Much with Us
Poem 6	Mother Tongue
Poem 7	Hawk Roosting
Poem 8	Ode to a Nightingale
Woven Words – Essays	
Essay 1	My Watch
Essay 2	My Three Passions
Essay 3	Patterns of Creativity
Essay 4	Tribal Verse
Essay 5	What Is a Good Book?
Essay 6	The Story
Essay 7	Bridges
Fiction – Alternative Prescribed Works	
Option	The Old Man and the Sea
Option	Arms and the Man
Language Skills	

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STORY 1

The Lament

Woven Words – Short Stories

1. Why does Iona find it difficult to communicate his grief?
2. Explain how the responses of different listeners shape the story.
3. How does the horse's presence affect the ending?
4. Discuss how the narrative exposes emotional isolation in a busy social world.

STORY 2

A Pair of Mustachios

Woven Words – Short Stories

1. How do styles of moustache become signs of status and identity?
2. Explain how the dispute escalates beyond its practical importance.
3. Discuss the part played by calculation and pride.
4. How does the story use satire to question social pretensions?

STORY 3

The Rocking-horse Winner

Woven Words – Short Stories

1. How does the household's attitude towards money affect Paul?
2. Explain the relation between the rocking horse and his search for luck.
3. How does the story create unease through repetition and suggestion?
4. Discuss whether financial success brings the emotional security Paul seeks.

STORY 4

The Adventure of the Three Garridebs

Woven Words – Short Stories

1. How does the promise of an inheritance help the criminal's plan?
2. Explain Holmes's use of inconsistencies as evidence.
3. What does Watson's danger reveal about Holmes's emotional response?
4. Discuss the relationship between deception, greed and investigation in the story.

STORY 5

Pappachi's Moth

Woven Words – Short Stories

1. How does professional disappointment influence Pappachi's self-image?
2. Explain how the moth becomes more than an insect in the narrative.
3. Discuss how domestic power is represented through particular actions.
4. How does the story connect private resentment with the treatment of others?

STORY 6

The Third and Final Continent

Woven Words – Short Stories

1. How does the narrator respond to unfamiliar daily routines after migration?
2. Explain the significance of Mrs Croft's presence.
3. How does the relationship with Mala develop through shared experience?
4. Discuss how small practical achievements contribute to a sense of belonging.

POEM 1

The Peacock

Woven Words – Poetry

1. How does the poem present a brief or elusive encounter?
2. Explain the relationship between seeing, hearing and imagination.
3. Choose a striking image and discuss its effect.
4. How does the poem encourage attention to what may easily be missed?

POEM 2

Let Me Not to the Marriage of True Minds

Woven Words – Poetry

1. How does the speaker define lasting love through contrast?
2. Explain the importance of the navigation imagery.
3. How is love placed in relation to time and physical change?
4. Discuss the effect of the concluding assertion on the poem's argument.

POEM 3

Coming

Woven Words – Poetry

1. How does the sound of the thrush alter the speaker's mood?
2. Explain the contrast between the setting and the sense of hope.
3. What does the childhood comparison add to the poem?
4. Discuss how emotional renewal emerges from an ordinary seasonal scene.

POEM 4

Telephone Conversation

Woven Words – Poetry

1. How does the landlady's questioning expose prejudice?
2. Explain the speaker's use of irony.
3. What is the effect of reducing a person's identity to skin colour?
4. Discuss how a polite conversation becomes a confrontation about dignity.

POEM 5

The World Is Too Much with Us

Woven Words – Poetry

1. What does the speaker criticise about material preoccupations?
2. Explain how the sea and winds contrast with human attitudes.
3. What is the function of the mythological references?
4. Discuss whether the poem presents estrangement from nature as unavoidable.

POEM 6

Mother Tongue

Woven Words – Poetry

1. How does the poem connect language with personal and cultural identity?
2. Explain the relationship between the speaker and creative inspiration.
3. Discuss how personification supports the poem's argument.
4. Why might the choice of language matter to a poet beyond convenience?

POEM 7

Hawk Roosting

Woven Words – Poetry

1. How does the hawk's first-person voice establish authority?
2. Explain how physical detail supports its claims of power.
3. Discuss the relationship between the natural setting and possible political meanings.
4. How does the poem encourage readers to distinguish a speaker's claims from an author's endorsement?

POEM 8

Ode to a Nightingale

Woven Words – Poetry

1. How does the speaker respond to the bird's song?
2. Explain the tension between imaginative escape and awareness of mortality.
3. Discuss the effects of sensuous imagery.
4. How does the ending complicate the boundary between vision and ordinary experience?

ESSAY 1

My Watch

Woven Words – Essays

1. How does each attempt at repair change the narrator's problem?
2. Explain the contribution of exaggeration to humour.
3. Discuss the relation between expert confidence and actual competence.

4. How does the narrative turn a small practical frustration into social satire?

ESSAY 2

My Three Passions

Woven Words – Essays

1. Identify the three passions and explain their different demands.
2. How does the essay combine intellectual aspiration with emotional concern?
3. Discuss the role of suffering in the writer's view of human life.
4. How does the structure help the writer give unity to a varied personal experience?

ESSAY 3

Patterns of Creativity

Woven Words – Essays

1. How does the essay compare creativity across different fields?
2. Explain why a creative achievement cannot be understood only as sudden inspiration.
3. Discuss the relation between discipline and originality.
4. Use an example from the essay to examine how personal circumstances can shape creative work.

ESSAY 4

Tribal Verse

Woven Words – Essays

1. Why is oral transmission important to the poetry discussed?

2. Explain how collective life and performance can shape a poem's meaning.

3. Discuss the difficulties of representing an oral tradition in print.

4. How does the essay challenge narrow ideas of literary value?

ESSAY 5

What Is a Good Book?

Woven Words – Essays

1. How does the essay distinguish superficial reading from serious engagement?

2. Explain the relation between a writer's sincerity and a book's value.

3. Discuss how a reader's purpose influences the reading experience.

4. What responsibilities does the essay assign to an attentive reader?

ESSAY 6

The Story

Woven Words – Essays

1. How does the essay distinguish a sequence of events from other elements of fiction?

2. Explain the role of a reader's curiosity about what happens next.

3. Discuss the relationship between chronological order and narrative interest.

4. Can an engaging story also have artistic limitations? Develop an argument using the essay.

ESSAY 7

Bridges

Woven Words – Essays

1. How does the narrator connect personal memory with artistic development?
2. Explain the role of family and training in shaping a dancer.
3. Discuss how changes of setting contribute to learning.
4. How can a bridge serve as a metaphor for connections between artistic traditions and individual experience?

FICTION OPTION

The Old Man and the Sea

Fiction – Alternative Prescribed Works

1. How does Santiago's relationship with the marlin complicate the idea of an opponent?
2. Explain the role of Manolin in the novel.
3. Discuss the distinction between material loss and personal defeat.
4. How do endurance and respect shape the novel's treatment of struggle?

FICTION OPTION

Arms and the Man

Fiction – Alternative Prescribed Works

1. How does Bluntschli challenge Raina's romantic view of warfare?
2. Explain Sergius's role in exposing the gap between ideals and behaviour.
3. Discuss how class expectations influence relationships in the play.

4. How do comic misunderstandings support the play's criticism of conventional heroism?

LANGUAGE SKILL

Critical Reading and Writing

Language Skills

1. Write a critical appreciation of a prescribed poem, linking form, imagery, tone and meaning.

2. Compare two narrative viewpoints from the prescribed short stories.

3. Write an argumentative essay on whether literary sympathy requires agreement with a character.

4. Develop a short literary review that distinguishes plot summary from evaluation.

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