

Answers to REL/Set-1

1. (a) He emphasises that India's integration is about 'Cohesion but not Fusion, Unity but not Uniformity, Reconciliation but not Merger,' highlighting respect for diversity without erasing differences.
- (b) (i) It suggests making everything uniform by removing differences.
- (c) (iii) Shared values and collective memory.
- (d) India's freedom struggle played a vital role in promoting national integration by uniting people across ethnic, religious, and regional lines. It was an inclusive, humanistic movement that fostered fraternity and collective identity, transcending local divisions to build a shared national vision.
- (e) The three historical processes mentioned by Justice Nandrajog are: Continuity, Assimilation, and Synthesis.
- (f) (i) homogenisation : uniformity
- (g) autonomy
- (h) (iii) (1), (2) and (4)
2. (a) (ii) Overuse in agriculture
- (b) If urgent action is not taken, India could face severe water stress by 2030, leading to reduced crop yields, food insecurity, increased disease outbreaks, and major public health challenges nationwide.
- (c) districts
- (d) Climate change reduces groundwater recharge, lowering water tables and forcing farmers to drill deeper wells, which raises costs, energy use, and long-term vulnerability.
- (e) (ii) (1) and (3)
- (f) Paddy cultivation, being water-intensive, causes groundwater depletion as farmers in states like Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh rely heavily on groundwater for irrigation.
- (g) sustainable
- (h) ...they reduce water usage and help in sustainable farming practices.
- (i) The government launched *Atal Bhujal Yojana* and *Jal Shakti Abhiyan* promoting water-efficient practices and community participation. However, experts stress that without regulation and crop diversification incentives, rural debt, migration, and energy stress will continue, undermining sustainable groundwater management goals.
3. (a) (iii) has been owning
- (b)
- | Error | Correction |
|--------------------|---------------|
| had been diagnosed | was diagnosed |
- (c) Rita asked Deepak if Jim had requested to drop off the question papers in the staff room.
- (d) are found
- (e) Sonam promised to bring more cohesion in the content and added that she would have the slides ready by 5 p.m. that day.
- (f)
- | Option no. | Error | Correction |
|------------|------------------|-----------------|
| (ii) | was incorporated | is incorporated |
- (g) (iii) are starting
- (h)
- | Error | Correction |
|-------|------------|
| From | Of |

- (i) that it was located just past the meeting hall and that he should ask for Ms. Gordimer there.
- (j) (i) may or may not
- (k) (iv) didn't
- (l) in which bedroom had they slept. She further asked how the room looked like.
4. (A) Flat No. 4112, Block-12
Mira Apartments
NOIDA
Uttar Pradesh 23100X
12 December 20XX
The Sales Manager
Astronomy Today
22, Connaught Place
Delhi – 110001

Subject: Non-receipt of 'Astronomy Today'

Dear Sir

I had subscribed your monthly magazine '*Astronomy Today*' vide receipt no. 3789/24 dated July 2, 20XX. Unfortunately, I have not received a single copy till date despite many reminders via phone calls.

Even the customer care executives manning the company's helpline have not been able to resolve the matter.

I would appreciate if you could sort out this problem and ensure that I get all the previous issues since July delivered at the earliest.

Yours sincerely
Vandana

Or

- (B) 2, Niti Bagh
New Delhi 1100XX
12 December 20XX
The Editor
The Times of India
Connaught Place
Delhi 110001

Subject: Young children in criminal activities

Dear Sir

There is a spate of crimes involving young children in criminal gangs. From committing petty thefts to kidnappings, children are lured by easy money, glamour as shown in cinema, frustration with poverty, bad company and sometimes, they are even pushed by their own parents to bring in money notwithstanding the means.

Altogether, it is a vicious cycle of greed, frustration and anger fueled by their emotions that lands these naïve children in the world of crimes.

Isn't it time, society woke up and took notice of this malaise? We need counsellors to help teenagers manage their anger better; yoga and meditation can also be beneficial to help them reign in their wayward emotions.

It is time to make everyone realise the gravity of the situation and take collective action.

Yours sincerely

Himanshi Trehan

5. (A) **Lightening the Burden of Learning**

The education ministry has decided to regulate the weight of school bags to alleviate the load on students and enable them to focus more on learning. The recent directive includes setting weight limits for both government and private institutions: Classes 1-2: 1.5 kg, Classes 3-5: 2-3 kg, Classes 6-7: 4 kg, Classes 8-9: 4.5 kg and Class 10: 5 kg. Carrying excessive weight regularly can cause poor posture, stooping, pain in shoulders, neck and back, deformed bones, accidents due to loss of balance, etc. Schools can alternate days for each subject. By segregating subjects in this manner, notebooks and books can be reduced. Technology and e-books can also be used to teach. While it's common these days to see children carrying as much as a quarter of their body weight, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends a backpack weigh no more than 5% to 10% of a child's weight.

Or

(B) The upcoming D'mart appears to be highly suitable for the residential area, as it effectively caters to the daily and lifestyle needs of families. The availability of essential items such as groceries, toiletries, and utility goods ensures convenience and reduces the need for frequent travel. Fresh vegetables, fruits, and ready-to-cook foods further add to its practicality. In addition, fashion outlets offering the latest trends and big brands enhance its appeal across age groups. Facilities like a food court, children's play den, creche, and safe parking promise a comfortable and family-friendly shopping experience. Cultural events, competitions, and attractive discounts make the mall more engaging. Overall, the mall combines utility, entertainment, and affordability, making it a valuable addition to the locality.

6. (A) (a) (ii) the suppression of the Blacks by the Whites.
(b) Mandela regrets that he could not personally thank the patriots who sacrificed for freedom and that they could not witness the results of their courage and suffering.
(c) (i) His deep gratitude and humility as a leader.
(d) Nelson Mandela is overwhelmed and humbled by recalling the untold and numerous sacrifices by anonymous people for others.

Or

- (B) (a) (ii) He had not stolen anything major yet.
(b) The narrator tucked the money under the mattress to keep it hidden and safe after earning it from selling a book to a publisher.
(c) The narrator describes Anil as the most trusting person he had ever met. Anil gave him the house key, allowed him to come and go freely, and never suspected dishonesty, showing complete faith in him.
(d) (i) cheating on the shopping.

7. (A) (a) The poet describes the unfolding of the events as an onlooker paying attention to the details such as the bouncing of the ball, sympathising with the child and wondering about him because it is his first lesson in loss and responsibility.
(b) happily and freely with lively jumps
(c) Through the repetition of the word '*merrily*' the poet builds a contrast with the dejected feelings of the boy who can see his ball going beyond his reach.
(d) (iii) (1) and (2)

Or

- (B) (a) The mood and the tone in the given lines indicate Amanda's wish for a peaceful and blissful life. The listener is enjoying some moments of solitude as is made clear by the use of '*languid*' '*sole*' and '*drifting*.' As a mermaid, there is no rush to do anything; she is simply drifting.
- (b) ... she wants to be away from humans who nag and irritate her.
- (c) The emerald sea is languid and calm, so is Amanda, alone and drifting blissfully in the sea away from all the noise and the nagging.
- (d) (ii) (1) and (3)
8. (a) It never occurred to Lencho to turn to fellow humans because he simply and firmly believed that God sees everything, even what is deep in one's conscience and helps everyone in need. So, when he directly wrote to God, he expected Him to resolve his problem and send help. He even complained later to God about not receiving 100 pesos and it seemed justified, not foolish.
- (b) The tiger in '*A Tiger in the Zoo*' is in captivity, helpless and seething with suppressed anger. He can only feel nostalgic about his free days in the jungle whereas, the tiger in '*How to Tell Wild Animals*' is at liberty to scare his victims, roar, attack, and be in his natural element. He is free and the king of the forest and the one in a cage is at the mercy of humans.
- (c) The young seagull didn't dare to jump off the cliff or take the plunge and fly down to his family despite repeated efforts and appeals made by them. Metaphorically speaking, the seagull refused to take risk of the flight because he underestimated himself, his instinct, and the power of his wings. It's only when his mother dropped a piece of fish in midair that he instinctively leapt into the air and opened his wings.
- (d) Buddha's sermon does not undermine Kisa Gotami's love for her son but the attachment. He says that one must learn to detach oneself from both desire and suffering, life and death, love and loss in life. We should remain calm and composed in the face of personal tragedy because death is inevitable. When one accepts this truth, one is liberated.
- (e) Although the poet believes that either the world will end in fire or ice, circumstances have come to such a pass that the damage to the environment can end the world too. Reckless actions of human beings have pushed civilization to the brink of death and disrupted the balance on the earth. We are shamelessly responsible for all three - the wars, the hatred, and the damage to the environment.
9. (a) Ausable and Fowler had found Max holding an automatic gun in the hotel room that been hired by Ausable. Max was the '*Midnight Visitor*' who was out to snick the report on missiles. Fowler jumped at the sudden knocking at the door expecting more danger. He probably anticipated the arrival of Max's accomplices who were there to give him cover. Ausable just smiled and said that it must be the police. He had arranged for them to protect the document. Max, black with anger, bit his lip nervously and presumed it to be the police. It meant that he would not only lose the document but also land behind bars.
- (b) There can't be any doubt that Griffin was a brilliant scientist who with his in-depth knowledge of science discovered how to turn the human body invisible. But he misused the discovery. He utilised it to wreak vengeance on those he knew and also strangers. He indulged in petty thefts, and burglaries and beat innocent people. He made illegal and unlawful entries into stores and shops only to feed and dress without paying anything. All these illegal activities made him a lawless person and an anarchist. Though he can be termed a brilliant scientist, he was not a noble one.
- (c) Initially, Think-Tank considered Earth '*a ridiculous little planet*' and intended to put it under his generous rulership. He felt the earth was an unimportant place where ugly earthlings, with their tiny heads, resided. He believed the Martians to be a superior race and mockingly

called the Earth a '*primitive ball of mud*'. But after cracking the so-called code of an old nursery rhyme book, his views changed drastically. He concluded that the Earthlings had reached a high level of civilisation and were planning to invade Mars. It made him call off his mission.

10. (A) '*A Letter to God*' and '*For Anne Gregory*' highlight how humans seek reassurance through external forces. Lencho's deep faith in God shows his dependence on divine power to rescue him from misfortune, reflecting a need for security beyond his own efforts. Similarly, Anne Gregory worries about being loved merely for her outward beauty, craving love based on her inner self instead. This reveals her hope for acceptance beyond society's shallow standards. Together, these characters illustrate a universal human desire for certainty and validation, whether through God's benevolence or true love. Through simple yet powerful language, both authors convey how people cling to external beliefs or ideals to feel valued and secure in an unpredictable and often judgmental world.

Or

- (B) '*His First Flight*' by Liam O'Flaherty and '*Amanda!*' by Robin Klein highlight the struggles young individuals face when pressured by family or society to grow up and act responsibly. The young seagull's fear of flying shows his hesitation to leave the safety of dependence, yet he is pushed to take his first flight by hunger and his mother's calculated encouragement. Similarly, Amanda feels suffocated by constant instructions and expectations from her mother, longing to escape into her imaginative world. Through vivid imagery — the vast sea for the seagull and Amanda's dreams of mermaids or freedom — the authors illustrate their characters' inner conflicts. Both texts reveal how growing up can feel overwhelming, as youths grapple with balancing personal desires against demands for independence and maturity.
11. (A) '*The Thief's Story*' is replete with indistinct, dismal and dark humour. For example, in order to flatter Anil, Hari Singh calls him a wrestler. The situation becomes a bit more humorous because Anil is a lean and thin fellow but modestly says, '*I do wrestle a bit.*' There is gloomy humour in Hari's statement that robbing a trusting man like Anil '*takes all the pleasure out of the work*'. Hari Singh is happy to make some money by befooling Anil every day, but he decides to make it big: '*Well, it's time I did some real work, I told myself; I'm out of practice.*' The reference to stealing as real work is funny. Another instance of humour is the deceiving smile of Hari Singh that he used as a weapon to strike down his victims. When he snicks 600 rupees from Anil, he is confident of living '*like an oil-rich Arab for a week or two.*' Ruskin Bond has dealt with his characters with kind and dark humour.

Or

- (B) Matilda borrowed the diamond necklace from her friend, Madame Forestier to wear at a ball and promptly lost it. Instead of coming clean, Matilda decided to replace it. Mr. Loisel raised a loan of eighteen thousand francs to purchase a similar-looking diamond necklace. It took ten years of sheer slavery to pay off their debt. They became shadows of themselves. So, on meeting Madame Forestier, Matilda could not contain her frustration and anger and threw the blame at her friend's door.

It wasn't justified because Matilda wanted to show-off at the ball, live beyond her means, didn't confess the loss of the necklace and conveniently blamed her friend. The necklace turned out to be fake. It is hard to imagine how this unexpected and ironic turn of events must have frustrated the Loisels further. Blame-shifting shows cowardice and an escapist attitude. Accepting one's mistakes requires courage and character.