

GREENLAWNS SCHOOL, WORLI
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION – 2026
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Std: X

Date: 02/01/2026

Marks: 80

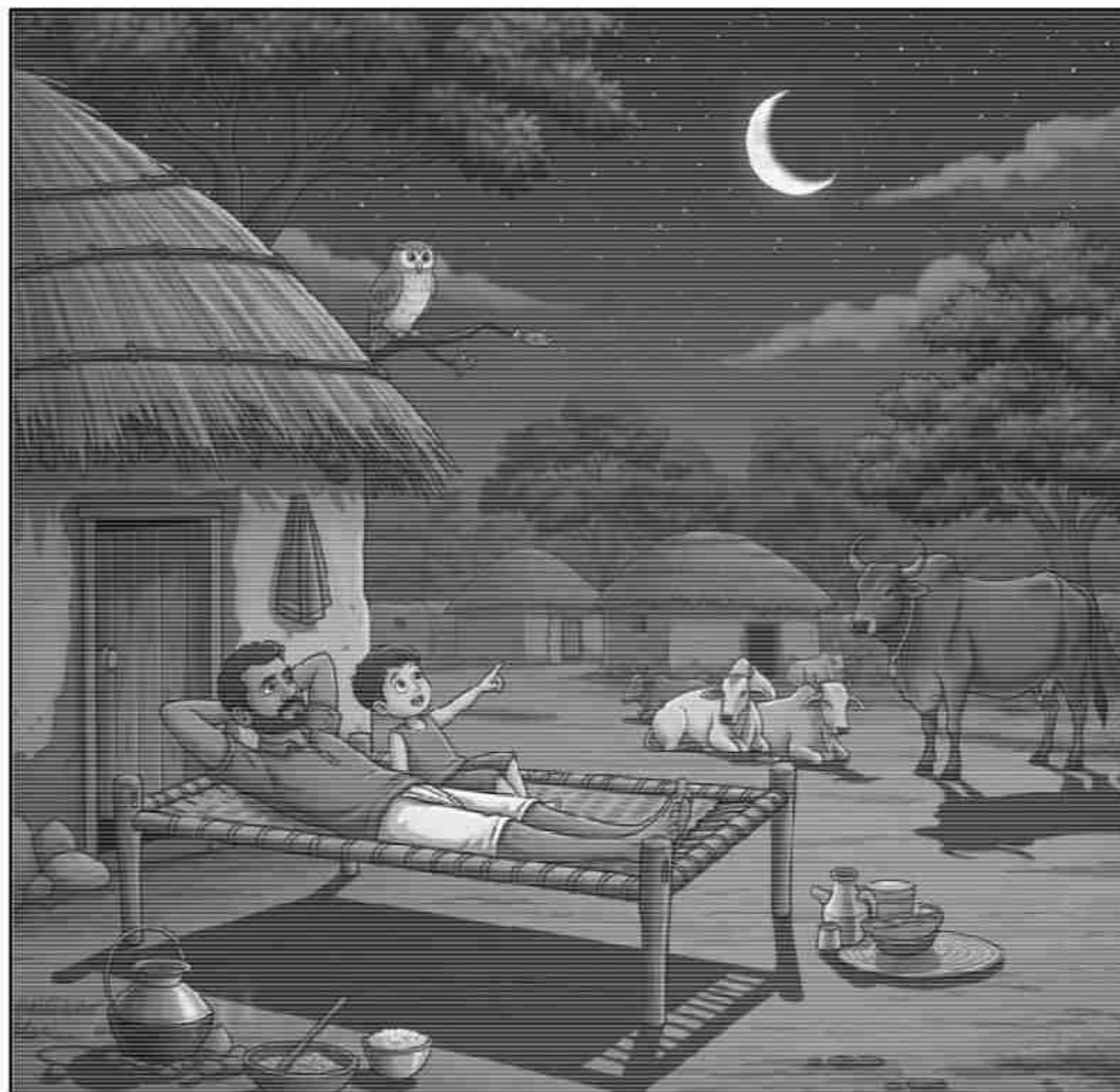
Time: 2 hrs

Attempt all five questions in the same sequence as given in the question paper.

Do not spend more than 30 minutes in answering Q.I and 20 minutes in answering Q.II

Q I] Write a composition (350-400 words) on any ONE of the following topics: (20)

- (a) Write an original short story that ends with the statement 'The angry lion broke free from its cage, roaring ferociously.'
- (b) Your class teacher gave you the responsibility of tutoring a few academically weak pupils from the lower classes. Write a narrative essay, describing how you fulfilled the task of mentoring those pupils. Your essay must also highlight how you felt during this activity.
- (c) 'Learning life skills is more important than academic knowledge.' Express your views either FOR or AGAINST this statement.
- (d) You visited a hill station for a short, family vacation. Write an essay, describing your surroundings during the stay. You must also showcase the manner in which your location was different from the city you live in.
- (e) Study the picture given below. Write a story or description or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be directly about the subject of the picture or may take suggestions from it, however, there must be some clear connection between the picture and the composition.



Q II] Select any ONE of the following:

(10)

- (a) You and your siblings have planned an anniversary dinner party for your parents at their favourite restaurant. However, on reaching the venue you were informed that the restaurant has not made any preparations for the dinner. Write a letter to the Manager of the restaurant, highlighting the issue. Your letter must also mention the impact of this issue and the efforts the staff need to make to resolve this issue.

OR

- (b) Your grandmother has been worried about your academics in light of the upcoming examinations. She has also shared a few tips about how you can better your performance. Write a letter to her, sharing an update about your preparation for the same. You must also reassure your grandmother so that she is not anxious about you.

Q III] Notice and Email:

- (a) The Interact Club of your school is organising a 'Nature Camp' for the pupils of classes VII to IX. Write a notice inviting entries for the same. (5)
- (b) Write an email to the Principal of a neighbouring school, requesting him/her to send five pupils of classes VII to IX to attend the 'Nature Camp' organised by the Interact Club. (5)

Q IV] Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: (20)

Maya was a simple young woman who lived in the Tibetan settlement near Hubli in north Karnataka. She used to teach the Tibetan language to the children in the camp, so they would not forget their roots. She was smart and hard-working. My father was a doctor who was working in Hubli and he occasionally visited that settlement. Maya would often seek treatment from my father.

She became quite friendly with my family. Whenever she came to the hospital, she would pay us a visit too. My mother would invite her for a meal and we would spend some time chatting. In the beginning, we would be in awe of her and stare at her almost-white skin, dove eyes, her little flat nose and her two long, thin plaits. Slowly we accepted her as a friend and she graduated to become my knitting teacher.

Her visits comprised sessions of knitting, chatting and talking about her captivating life in the camp and back in her country for which she still yearned. Maya would describe her homeland to us with great affection, nostalgia and tears in her eyes. "Tibetans are simple people. We are all Buddhists but our Buddhism is of a different kind. There has been a lot of influence from India, particularly Bengal, on our country and religious practices. Our script resembles Bengali," Maya would often tell us whenever she met us.

Her words filled me with a sense of wonder about this exotic land called Tibet and I would pester her to tell me more about that country. She would say, "Ours is a unique country where religious heads have ruled for five hundred years. We believe in rebirth and that each Dalai Lama is an incarnation of the previous one. Historically, we have always respected India. There is a nice story about how Buddhism came to Tibet through India...'

Maya went on by saying, "Long ago there was a king in Tibet who was kidnapped by his enemies. They demanded a ransom of gold equal to the weight of the king. When the imprisoned king heard this, he somehow sent word to his son: "Don't waste any gold to get me back. Instead, spend that money to bring good learned Buddhist monks from India. With their help, open many schools and monasteries so that our people can live in peace and gain knowledge."

After the birth of her baby, Maya stopped coming to visit us and our meetings became less frequent. However, she succeeded in awakening within me a curiosity about Tibet and a great respect for Buddhism. I got a chance to visit Tibet and memories of Maya filled my mind. Among the places I wanted to see was a Buddha temple in Yarlung Valley that she had described to me. When I finally reached the valley, it was past midday.

There was a cold wind blowing though the sun was shining brightly. The Brahmaputra was flowing like a stream here, nothing like the raging torrent in Assam. Snow-capped mountains circled the valley and there was absolute silence all around. The monastery at Yarlung is supposed to be a famous pilgrimage spot, but I could see only a handful of people in the entire place. After seeing everything inside the monastery, I sat down on the steps and observed the serene beauty of the place with a heart filled with peace and gratitude.

- (i) For each word given below, choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided: (2)

1) roots (line 3) –

- a) reason
- b) tuber
- c) kernel
- d) ancestry

2) incarnation (line 24) –

- a) analysis
- b) comfort
- c) embodiment
- d) merrily

- (ii) Which word in the passage means the opposite of the word 'despised'? (1)

- a) yearned
- b) nostalgia
- c) captivating
- d) pester

- (iii) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words.

- a) Comment on the manner in which the bond between Maya and the narrator's family developed. (2)
- b) What were Maya's views about her country and its citizens? (2)
- c) How did the kidnapped king in Maya's story help in the growth of Buddhism? (3)
- d) 'She succeeded in awakening within me a curiosity about Tibet.' What significance do you think this statement had in the narrator's life? (2)

- (iv) In not more than 50 words, highlight how the narrator has showcased the charm of the place she visits. (8)

Q. V]

- (i) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. (4)

Example:

(0) Ludwig van Beethoven, the celebrated German composer, _____ (pass) away at the age of fifty-six.

Answer: passed

Born in Germany in 1770, he _____ (1) (become) a travelling performer who supported his family while he was still a boy. In his early twenties, he moved to Vienna, where he _____ (2) (spend) the rest of his life. Beethoven's contributions to classical music _____ (3) (be) immense, with his compositions _____ (4) (range) from symphonies to operas. In spite of a hearing loss at the age of thirty, Beethoven continued _____ (5) (compose) some of his best music that _____ (6) (stand) the test of time. He _____ (7) (be) remembered as one of the greatest musicians for decades _____ (8) (come).

(ii) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words. (4)

- 1) Diana lay awake _____ night thinking about the problem.
- 2) The drone flew _____ the ancient ruins, capturing breathtaking views.
- 3) The employees were instructed to abide _____ the terms of the contract.
- 4) The carpenter drove a nail _____ the piece of wood.
- 5) Bella and her family agreed _____ the plan after hours of discussion.
- 6) Please accept my invitation _____ dinner tomorrow.
- 7) When Rahil visited Rome, a friend of his took him _____ the city.
- 8) Jim is adept _____ skating and football.

(iii) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence **without using and, but or so**. Choose the correct option. (4)

- 1) Sam has joined this club. It offers indoor rock climbing sessions.
 - a) Since this club will offer indoor rock climbing sessions, Sam joined it.
 - b) This club offers indoor rock climbing sessions, so Sam joined it.
 - c) Sam has joined the club because it offers indoor rock climbing sessions.
 - d) When Sam joined the club, it offered indoor rock climbing sessions.
- 2) The fans in the room were on. It felt hot and humid.
 - a) In spite of the fans in the room being on, it was feeling hot and humid.
 - b) It felt hot and humid in the room despite the fans being on.
 - c) It felt hot and humid while the fans in the room were switched on.
 - d) Due to it feeling hot and humid, the fans in the room were being on.
- 3) There was a thunderstorm last evening. The weather is scorching today.
 - a) There being a thunderstorm last evening, the weather is scorching today.
 - b) There was a thunderstorm last evening, but the weather is scorching today.
 - c) The weather is scorching today despite there was a thunderstorm last evening.
 - d) Although there was a thunderstorm last evening, the weather is scorching today.
- 4) This carton is very small. Kelly's novels will not fit into it.
 - a) This carton is very small, Kelly's novels will fit into it.
 - b) This carton is too small for Kelly's novels to fit into it.
 - c) This carton is large enough for Kelly's novels to fit into it.
 - d) This carton is so small that Kelly's books cannot fit into it.

(iv) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. Choose the correct option. (8)

- 1) As soon as Tina started singing the lullaby, her nephew fell asleep. (Begin: Hardly...)
 - a) Hardly Tina started to sing the lullaby, her nephew fell asleep.
 - b) Hardly had Tina started singing the lullaby when her nephew fell asleep.
 - c) Hardly did Tina started singing the lullaby than her nephew fell asleep.
 - d) Hardly Tina started singing the lullaby, when her nephew fell asleep.

- 2) Suhani has gone to Switzerland to visit her aunt. (Add a question tag.)
a) Suhani has gone to Switzerland to visit her aunt, hasn't she?
b) Suhani has gone to Switzerland to visit her aunt, isn't she?
c) Suhani has gone to Switzerland to visit her aunt, hadn't she?
d) Suhani has gone to Switzerland to visit her aunt, didn't she?
- 3) Harris lost his car keys, mobile phone and suitcase at the airport. (Begin: Besides...)
a) Besides losing his car keys and mobile phone, Harris lost his suitcase at the airport.
b) Besides Harris lost his car keys and mobile phone, he found his suitcase at the airport.
c) Besides Harris lost his car keys and mobile phone, he lost his suitcase.
d) Besides losing his car keys and mobile phone, Harris also lost his suitcase at the airport.
- 4) Farah prefers visiting the mountains to staying at the beach. (Use 'rather')
a) Farah would rather prefer visiting the mountains than stay at the beach.
b) Farah rather visits the mountains than stay at the beach.
c) Farah would rather visit the mountains to stay at the beach.
d) Farah would rather visit the mountains than stay at the beach.
- 5) The news of the promotion surprised everyone in Lisa's family. (Begin: The news...)
a) The news of the promotion took everyone in Lisa's family with surprise.
b) The news of the promotion took everyone in Lisa's family for a surprise.
c) The news of the promotion took everyone in Lisa's family by surprise.
d) The news of the promotion took with surprise everyone in Lisa's family.
- 6) My mother said to me, "Aunt Sophia has been working in the garden for three hours today." (Change to the reported speech.)
a) My mother asked me that Aunt Sophia was working in the garden for three hours that day.
b) My mother told me that she had been working in the garden for three hours that day.
c) My mother told me that Aunt Sophia is working in the garden for three hours today.
d) My mother told me that Aunt Sophia had been working in the garden for three hours that day.
- 7) The student's forms will be accepted if it is submitted on time. (Use 'unless')
a) The students' forms will be accepted unless it is submitted on time.
b) Unless the student's form is submitted on time, it will not be accepted.
c) Unless the students' form is accepted, it should be submitted on time.
d) The student's forms will be accepted unless it is not submitted on time.
- 8) The Bihu is one of the most popular folk dances of India, (Begin: Very few...)
a) Very few folk dances of India can be popular like the Bihu.
b) Very few folk dances of India are more popular than the Bihu.
c) Very few folk dances of India are as popular as the Bihu.
d) Few dance forms of India are as popular as the Bihu.

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