

GREENLAWNS SCHOOL, WORLI  
FINAL EXAMINATION – 2026  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

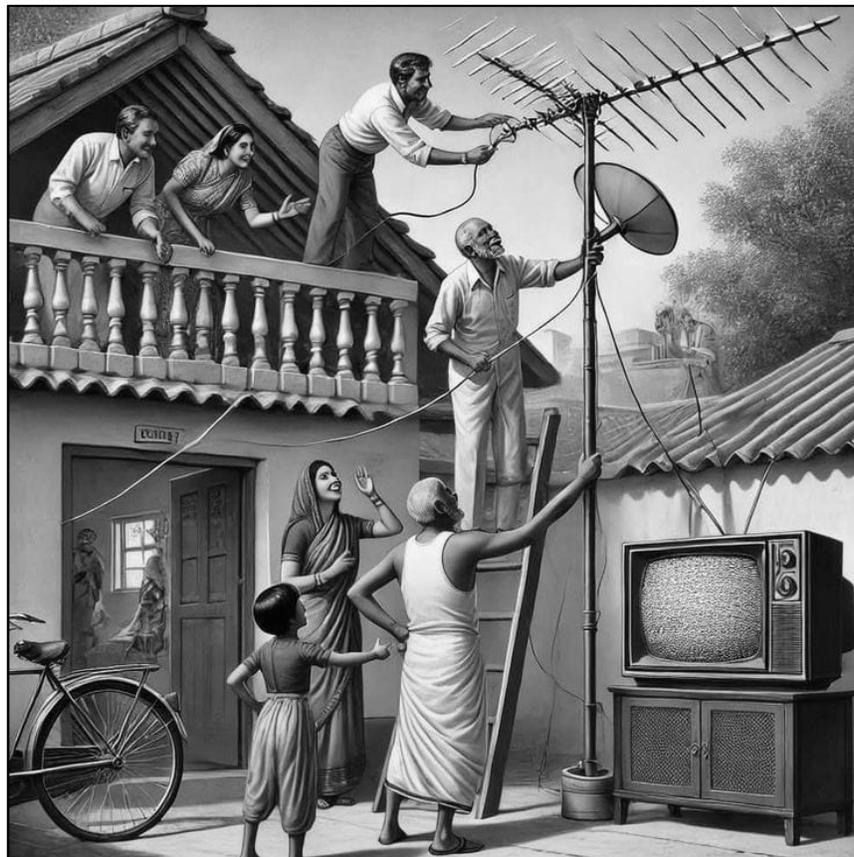
Std: IX  
Date: 20/02/2026

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 about a family of five members who survive a snowstorm.
- (b) 'Challenges can present themselves in the most adverse ways, but there is always a learning experience'. Write a narrative essay about a challenge that seemed impossible to accomplish, but one that taught you a valuable lesson.
- (c) 'The world needs peace and cooperation rather than a fierce trade war.' Express your views either FOR or AGAINST this statement.
- (d) A sunset can bring out tremendous changes in the atmosphere, especially if it is watched by the waterfront. Write an essay, describing the beautiful hues that are created at dusk.
- (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) There have been frequent political rallies in your vicinity over the past few weeks. Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner, highlighting this matter. Your letter must reflect the hindrances this situation has caused you and the manner in which this matter must be rectified.

OR

(b) Your mother has informed you that your cousin has purchased a new house. Write a letter congratulating your cousin for the same. Your letter must mention the ways in which your cousin can design his/her new home.

**Q III] Notice and Email:**

(a) The Reading Club of your school has planned a 'Book Donation Drive' for underprivileged children in Mumbai. Write a notice to the pupils of classes V-IX, requesting them to submit books for the same. (5)

(b) Write an email to a Principal of a neighbouring school, requesting him/her to encourage the pupils of classes V-IX to donate for the same. (5)

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

Wangari Mathaai, a trail-blazing environmentalist and political activist, was born on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1940 in Kenya. Growing up in rural Kenya, she developed, a profound connection to nature, witnessing its vital role in sustaining life. Her parents were farmers and this upbringing instilled in her a deep respect for the environment. Wangari loved being outside. As a child, she broke up the soil with her machete in her family's food garden. She pressed tiny seeds into the warm earth and she grew her own garden, diligently tending her crops.

One day her mother beckoned her young daughter over to a tall tree with a wide, smooth trunk and a crown of green, oval leaves. Wangari spread her small hands over the tree's trunk. "This is the Mugumo," her mother said. "It is a home to many creatures. It feeds many creatures too. Our tribe believes that our ancestors rest in the tree's shade," her mother said. Wangari wrapped her arms around the trunk as if hugging her great-grandmother's spirit. She promised never to cut down the tree.

Years passed by and Wangari grew up to become a motivated young woman who had graduated from college in Kansas, U.S.A. Letters from home told Wangari about the changes that had taken place in Kenya. Wangari decided to return home to Kenya to help her people. When Wangari returned to Kenya, she watched sadly as her government sold more and more land to big foreign companies that cut down forests for timber and coffee plantations. Native trees such as cedar and acacia had vanished. Without the trees, the birds had no place to rest. Tired mothers walked miles for firewood.

Wangari could not bear to think of the land being destroyed. She worried about what would happen to all the mothers and children who were dependent on the land. Wangari had an idea as small as a seed, but as tall as a tree that reaches for the sky. She dug deep into the soil, a seedling by her side and told the women in her village to plant trees. Many women planted seedlings. Some men laughed and sneered. Wangari refused to listen to those who criticised her.

Wangari travelled to villages, towns and cities with saplings and seeds, shovels and pruners. At each place she went, women planted rows of trees that looked like green belts across the land. As a result, they started calling themselves the 'Green Belt Movement'. One tree turned to ten, ten to one hundred to one million, all the way up to thirty million trees. Kenya turned green again. Birds nested in the new trees; rivers filled with clean water. Wild figs grew in the branches of the Mumugo trees.

As the Green Belt movement spread across Kenya, powerful voices rose up against Wangari's movement. Businessmen from foreign lands, greedy for more land for their coffee plantations and trees for timber tried to put an end to Wangari's efforts. One day while she was out planting a tree, some wealthy businessmen paid corrupt police officers to arrest Wangari. After she was set free, Wangari began to travel, telling her story to teachers, Presidents, farmers, ambassadors and school children all over the world. She dug in the dirt, planted seedlings and spoke about women's rights.

As time passed, Kenya was transformed. More people listened to Wangari's message, calling her the 'Mother of Trees'. They wanted her to lead them into Kenya's new democracy. Wangari was elected as Kenya's parliament member and became the Minister for Environment. In 2004, Wangari won the Nobel Peace Prize. It was the first time it had been awarded to an African woman or an environmentalist.

- (i) For each word given below, choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided: (2)
- 1) trail-blazing (Line 1) –
- momentary
  - impulsive
  - revolutionary
  - notorious
- 2) sneered (Line 28) –
- aided
  - taunted
  - realised
  - believed
- (ii) Which word in the passage means the opposite of the word 'dismissed'? (1)
- spread
  - instilled
  - awarded
  - beckoned
- (iii) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words.
- 'Wangari could not bear to think of the land being destroyed.' Why did Wangari feel the way she did? (3)
  - In what way did Wangari prove that she was a nature lover during her childhood? (2)
  - According to Wangari's mother, what significance did the Mugumo tree have? How did this significance impact Wangari at that time? (2)
  - Mention two ways in which you have worked towards improving the environment you live in. (2)
- (iv) In not more than 50 words, comment on how Wangari transformed Kenya into a green country. (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) In a way, this journal \_\_\_\_\_ (be) an ode to my window.

**Answer:** is

I \_\_\_\_\_ (1) (claim) a window in my bedroom throughout my life; for without a window I doubt if I would \_\_\_\_\_ (2) (be) half the writer that I am today. I need a window \_\_\_\_\_ (3) (look) at the world. A room without a window is rather like a prison cell and the soul \_\_\_\_\_ (4) (incline) to shrivel up in a confined space. Shade is welcome only when there is heat from the sun. Great works may \_\_\_\_\_ (5) (write) in prison cells, but for most of us a room with a window is preferable to \_\_\_\_\_ (6) (stare) at four, dark walls. You do not have to be a poet to appreciate the visible presence of the sky, clouds, rain, sunshine and the \_\_\_\_\_ (7) (caress) of a cool breeze. I have lived most of my life in small rooms, but they have almost always had windows \_\_\_\_\_ (8) (open) out onto a greater world.

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

**(4)**

- 1) Medicine should always be kept \_\_\_\_\_ from children.
- 2) Jane made her way up the hill \_\_\_\_\_ the narrow path.
- 3) Calvin put on his jacket and went out \_\_\_\_\_ the cold.
- 4) King John of Bohemia was blind \_\_\_\_\_ one eye.
- 5) The success of the project depends \_\_\_\_\_ the hardwork of the team.
- 6) Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had a great affection \_\_\_\_\_ children.
- 7) Winnie is known \_\_\_\_\_ her integrity and strong sense of discipline.
- 8) The mighty castle was constructed \_\_\_\_\_ the fourteenth century.

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

**(4)**

- 1) The labourers worked day and night. They wanted to complete the project on time.
  - a) The labourers worked day and night as they wanted to complete the project on time.
  - b) Unless they wanted to complete the project on time, the labourers worked night and day.
  - c) They worked night and day if they wanted to complete the project on time.
  - d) The labourers worked night and day while they wanted to complete the project on time.
  
- 2) The mangoes were raw. Ali and his friends climbed up the tree.
  - a) Ali and his friends climbed up the tree, yet the mangoes were raw.
  - b) The mangoes were raw, for Ali and his friends climbed up the tree.
  - c) Unless the mangoes were raw, Ali and his friends climbed up the tree.
  - d) Despite the mangoes being raw, Ali and his friends climbed up the tree.
  
- 3) The prisoner escaped last night. The police officials are looking for him.
  - a) The police officials are looking for the prisoner which escaped last night.
  - b) The police officials are searching for the prisoner who escaped last night.
  - c) The police officials are not looking for the prisoner who escaped last night.
  - d) The prisoner escaped last night, so the police officials are looking for him.
  
- 4) Ben visited his cousin's house. He found her ill.
  - a) Ben visited his cousin's house to find out that she was ill.
  - b) When Ben visited his cousin's house, he found she was ill.
  - c) In Ben cousin's home, he found her ill.
  - d) Ben cousin being ill, he visited her house.

(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 the sentence. Choose the correct option.

(8)

- 1) As soon as Bertha drew the curtains aside, a gecko lizard crawled out.  
(Begin: Hardly...)
  - a) Hardly Bertha drew the curtains aside and a gecko lizard crawled out.
  - b) Hardly when Bertha drawn the curtains aside, a gecko lizard crawled out.
  - c) Hardly had Bertha drawn the curtains aside when a gecko lizard crawled out.
  - d) Hardly had Bertha drew the curtains aside, than a gecko lizard crawled out.
  
- 2) The Sistine Chapel located in Vatican City is breathtakingly beautiful. (Add a question tag.)
  - a) The Sistine Chapel located in Vatican City is breathtakingly beautiful, wasn't it?
  - b) The Sistine Chapel located in Vatican City is breathtakingly beautiful, will it?
  - c) The Sistine Chapel located in Vatican City is breathtakingly beautiful, should it?
  - d) The Sistine Chapel located in Vatican City is breathtakingly beautiful, isn't it?
  
- 3) Mr. Zaveri requested his sons not to quarrel amongst themselves when he was no more. (Begin: Mr. Zaveri said...)
  - a) Mr. Zaveri told, "Please quarrel amongst themselves when I am no more."
  - b) Mr. Zaveri said to his sons, "Please do not quarrel if I am no more."
  - c) Mr. Zaveri said to his sons, "Please do not quarrel amongst yourselves when I am no more."
  - d) Mr. Zaveri said, "Why must you quarrel amongst yourselves when he is no more."
  
- 4) The ground was so uneven that the caravans could not cross it. (Use the adverb 'too')
  - a) The ground was too uneven for the caravans to cross it.
  - b) The caravans were too unable to cross the uneven ground.
  - c) The too uneven ground made it difficult for the caravans to cross it.
  - d) The caravans too were unable to cross the uneven ground.
  
- 5) The doctor is prescribing the medication according to the patient's symptoms. (Change the voice.)
  - a) The medication are prescribed by the doctor according to the patient's symptoms.
  - b) The medication is being prescribed by the doctor according to the patient's symptoms.
  - c) The medication prescribed by the doctor are according to the patient's symptoms.
  - d) The medication has been prescribed by the doctor according to the patient's symptoms.
  
- 6) The villagers stored water. There might be a shortage during the summer. (Use 'lest')
  - a) The villagers stored water lest if there be a shortage during the summer.
  - b) The villagers did not store water lest there will not be a shortage during the summer.
  - c) The villagers felt there would be a shortage during the summer lest they stored water.
  - d) The villagers stored water lest there should be a shortage during the summer.

- 7) The weatherman said, "The weather department has predicted a thunderstorm tonight." (Change to the reported speech.)
- a) The weatherman said that the weather department can predict a thunderstorm.
  - b) The weatherman said that the weather department had predicted a thunderstorm that night.
  - c) The weatherman asked if the weather department had predicted a thunderstorm tonight.
  - d) The weatherman said will the weather department predict a thunderstorm today.
- 8) If Riva does not follow the rules of the competition, she will be disqualified.  
(Begin: Unless...)
- a) Unless Riva does not follow the rules of the competition, she will be disqualified.
  - b) Unless Riva follows the rules of the competition, she will not be disqualified.
  - c) Unless Riva follows the rules of the competition, she will be disqualified.
  - d) Unless Riva follows the rules of the competition while she will be disqualified.

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