

බස්නාහිර පළාත් අධ්‍යාපන දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව மேல் மாகாணக் கல்வித் திணைக்களம் Department of Education - Western Province			
තෙවන වාර පරීක්ෂණය மூன்றாம் தவணைப் பரீட்சை - 2026 Third Term Test			
ශ්‍රේණිය } 13 தரம் } Grade }	විෂයය } General English பாடம் } Subject }	පත්‍රය } II வினாத்தாள் } Paper }	පැය } 3 மணித்தியாலம் } Hours }
අමතර කියවීමේ කාලය - මිනිත්තු 10 යි மேலதிக வாசிப்பு நேரம் - 10 நிமிடங்கள் Additional Reading Time - 10 minutes		Index No. :	
Instructions: * Answer all the questions on this paper itself.			

PART A

READING SKILLS [50 Marks]

Question 1

Read the following text in which some words are given in bold type. Then, **underline** the **meaning** that is **most appropriate** to the context for the words given in bold type from (1) – (10). (10 Marks)

Sri Lanka has recently taken steps to (1) **strengthen** its renewable energy sector as the country faces ongoing power challenges. The government has introduced several (2) **initiatives** to promote solar and wind energy, aiming to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. These efforts are (3) **crucial** for ensuring long-term energy security and protecting the environment.

Experts say that renewable energy is becoming increasingly (4) **accessible** to the public, with more households installing solar panels. As technology continues to (5) **advance**, the cost of renewable systems is gradually decreasing, making them more affordable.

Citizens are encouraged to (6) **adopt** sustainable practices, such as conserving electricity and using energy-efficient appliances. However, challenges remain, including the need to (7) **manage** resources effectively and address infrastructure limitations.

Environmentalists warn that failure to act could (8) **worsen** climate-related issues such as floods and droughts. Therefore, it is important to (9) **support** policies that promote sustainability in order to reduce environmental (10) **risks**. (10 Marks)

- | | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| (1) strengthen | improve | weaken | ignore | break |
| (2) initiatives | plans | problems | delays | arguments |
| (3) crucial | unimportant | essential | simple | unclear |
| (4) accessible | hidden | expensive | reachable | limited |
| (5) advance | stop | grow | delay | reduce |

(6) adopt	reject	refuse	accept	remove
(7) manage	control	destroy	forget	divide
(8) worsen	improve	reduce	become worse	disappear
(9) support	oppose	help	question	delay
(10) risks	benefits	dangers	chances	rewards

Question 2

Read the following text and answer questions (I) and (II).

(10 Marks)

Nelson Mandela was born on 18th July 1918 in the village of Mvezo in South Africa. He belonged to a royal family of the Thembu people. His father was a chief, and Mandela grew up learning about leadership and justice from an early age. He completed his education at the University of Fort Hare and later studied law at the University of Witwatersrand.

Mandela became actively involved in the fight against apartheid, a system of racial segregation in South Africa. He joined the African National Congress (ANC) and worked to achieve equal rights for all citizens. Due to his political activities, he was arrested and sentenced to life imprisonment in 1964.

Mandela spent 27 years in prison, most of it on Robben Island. Despite the harsh conditions, he remained committed to his cause. His courage and determination made him a global symbol of peace and resistance.

He was released from prison in 1990 and later became the first Black President of South Africa in 1994. During his presidency, Mandela worked to promote reconciliation and unity among the people of his country.

Mandela received many awards, including the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993. He passed away in 2013, but he is remembered worldwide as a symbol of freedom and equality.

- (I) Do the following statements agree with the information given in the above text?

Write **True** or **False** in the boxes from (1) to (8).

True	If the statement is correct
False	If the statement is wrong

Statements		
1	Nelson Mandela was born in a city.	
2	His father was a chief.	
3	Mandela studied medicine at university.	
4	He was a member of the African National Congress.	
5	Mandela spent less than 10 years in prison.	
6	He became President after his release.	
7	Mandela received the Nobel Peace Prize.	
8	He died in 1990.	

- (II) **Choose** the most appropriate answer.

1. The word “**committed**” in paragraph 3 most nearly means?

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| (a) confused | (b) dedicated |
| (c) afraid | (d) careless |

2. The phrase “**this cause**” refers to?

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| (a) studying law | (b) fighting apartheid |
| (c) becoming president | (d) winning awards |

Question 3

Read the following poem and do the activities that follow.

(05 Marks)

Leisure

What is this life if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare?
No time to stand beneath the boughs
And stare as long as sheep or cows:
No time to see, when woods we pass,
Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass:
No time to see, in broad daylight,
Streams full of stars, like skies at night:
No time to turn at Beauty’s glance,
And watch her feet, how they can dance:
No time to wait till her mouth can
Enrich that smile her eyes began?
A poor life this if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.

W. H. Davies

(A) **Underline** the most appropriate response.

(1) The phrase “**stand and stare**” most nearly means

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| (a) waste time | (b) look carefully at nature |
| (c) sleep peacefully | (d) run quickly |

(2) According to the poet, life is poor if we

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| (a) work too hard | (b) do not enjoy nature |
| (c) earn less money | (d) travel too much |

(3) What does the poet mainly talk about?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| (a) animals | (b) work |
| (c) lack of time to enjoy life | (d) forests |

(4) The attitude of the poet towards modern life is

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| (a) happy | (b) critical |
| (c) careless | (d) proud |

(B) Write down a word from the poem which means the same as “rich.”

.....

Question 4

Complete the blanks of the summary meaningfully and appropriately, using the word only from the passage. (5 marks)

Urban Gardening on the Rise

In recent years, urban gardening has gained popularity in many cities around the world. With limited space and increasing concerns about food security, people are turning to rooftops, balconies, and small plots of land to grow their own fruits and vegetables. This practice not only provides fresh produce but also promotes a healthier lifestyle.

Urban gardening offers several benefits. It helps reduce stress, improves air quality, and strengthens community bonds as neighbors often work together in shared garden spaces. Additionally, it encourages sustainable living by reducing dependence on commercially grown food and minimizing transportation costs.

However, urban gardening is not without its challenges. Limited space, lack of proper knowledge, and difficulty in accessing quality soil and water can hinder success. Despite these obstacles, many city dwellers continue to adopt urban gardening due to its long-term advantages.

Summary

Urban gardening is becoming popular in cities as people grow food in small (1) such as rooftops and balconies. It provides fresh produce and supports a healthy (2) This practice also improves air quality and builds (3) among people. However, factors like limited space and lack of (4) can create difficulties. Even so, its long-term (5) encourage people to continue urban gardening.

Question 5

Read the following text and answer the questions from 1– 4. (20 Marks)

1. In recent years, the use of renewable energy has increased around the world. Many countries are turning to natural sources such as sunlight, wind, and water to produce electricity. Experts believe **this shift** is important to reduce environmental damage.
2. One major advantage of renewable energy is that it does not run out. Unlike fossil fuels, sources like solar and wind energy are naturally replenished. This makes them a reliable option for long-term energy production.
3. In addition, renewable energy helps to reduce pollution. Traditional energy sources release harmful gases into the atmosphere, which contribute to climate change. By using cleaner energy, countries can protect both the environment and human health.

4. However, there are also challenges. The initial cost of building renewable energy systems can be high. For example, setting up solar panels or wind turbines requires significant investment.
5. In countries like India, renewable energy production has grown rapidly over the past decade. Solar power projects have been introduced in many regions, providing electricity to rural communities.
6. Governments play an important role in encouraging the use of renewable energy. **They** offer financial support, tax reductions, and awareness programs to promote clean energy solutions.
7. Technological advancements are also improving the efficiency of renewable energy systems. Modern equipment can store energy for use when natural sources are not available, such as during cloudy or windless days.
8. Despite some difficulties, renewable energy offers many benefits. **It** creates job opportunities, reduces dependence on imported fuels, and supports sustainable development.
9. Experts suggest that global cooperation is necessary to expand renewable energy use. Countries must share knowledge and resources to achieve a cleaner and safer future.

1. Do the following statements agree with the information given in the above text.

In the boxes **a – f** write **True (T)**, **False (F)** or **Not Given (NG)**

True	If the statement is correct
False	If the statement is wrong
Not Given	If there is no sufficient information

Statement		
a	Renewable energy sources are unlimited.	
b	Fossil fuels are environmentally friendly.	
c	Renewable energy systems are cheap to build.	
d	India has increased its use of solar energy.	
e	Technology has no impact on renewable energy development.	
f	Renewable energy can contribute to job creation.	

(1 x 6 = 6 Marks)

2. Match the following main ideas with the paragraphs. Write the number of the paragraph.

Information	Number of the paragraph
1.Environmental benefits of clean energy.	
2.Government support for renewable energy.	
3.Example of a country using renewable energy.	
4.Challenges of renewable energy systems.	
5.Need for international cooperation.	

(1 x 5 = 5 Marks)

3. Who or what do the following pronouns in bold refer to? **(1 x 3 = 3 Marks)**

i) **this shift** (paragraph 1)

ii) **they** (paragraph 6)

iii) **it** (paragraph 8)

4. **Underline** the most appropriate option to complete the following sentence. **(1 Mark)**

Renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power are considered reliable because they are

- a. expensive to maintain
- b. naturally replenished
- c. harmful to the environment
- d. dependent on fossil fuels

5. Write **one** word in each blank, selecting from the passage, which means the same as the following. **(1 x 5 = 5 Marks)**

i) to create or make something

ii) causing damage to the environment

iii) money spent to start something

iv) Improvements or developments

v) Able to continue for a long time

□ **PART B – DIALOGUES [25 marks]**

Question 6

How do you **respond** in each of the following situations? Write **only one** appropriate sentence or question for each, beginning with the word/s given. **(5 marks)**

(1) Your best friend made a great speech at the Impromptu Speech competition. You want to appreciate it.

“It”

(2) There is a football match in the school playground today. Suggest to your friend to watch it.

“Let’s”

(3) Your sister is busily preparing dinner as your mother is not well. You are willing to help her.

“May I”

(4) The Art Society of your school is planning to have a musical show in the school premises. You want to praise that idea.

“Wow,”

(5) You couldn’t take part in the school get together. You want to make an apology with a reason. “I’m sorry”

Question 7

Imagine that you are Malith. Complete the following dialogue between Malith and Ishara. Do **not** use more than **two** sentences/ questions in each blank. **(5 marks)**

Ishara : Hi, Malith!

Malith : Hello, Ishara! How are you?

Ishara : Fine. Thanks. Why didn’t you join the trip to Kandy last weekend?

Malith : (1)

Ishara : Oh! I see. We shared all the details about the trip in our group. Didn’t you check them?

Malith : (2)

Ishara : Alright. Everyone missed you.

Malith : Really? I wish I had come. Anyway (3)?

Malith : (4)

Malith : Sounds interesting. (5)

Malith : Yes, please. Thank you.

Question 8

- Discussion about the items
- The order of the items
- Final agreement on the items

(15 marks)

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal dotted lines, typical of primary school handwriting practice paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the entire width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings present.

□ PART C – WRITING SKILLS [65 marks]

Question 9

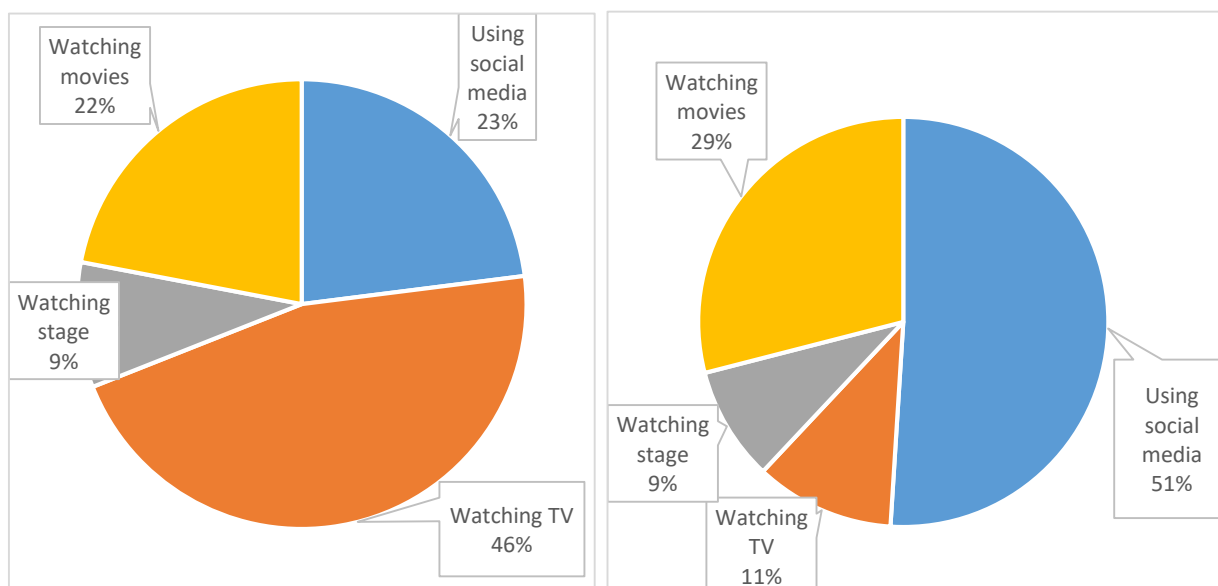
Select any **five** words from the list given below. Write five **meaningful sentences** using the selected words. You may use the verbs in any tense and nouns in singular or plural form. Do **not** change the form of other words. **(5 marks)**

employer	definition	promote	create	behave
youngest	tough	softly	immediately	gently

- (1)
-
- (2)
-
- (3)
-
- (4)
-
- (5)
-

Question 10

The pie charts below illustrate the main methods of entertainment used by the people in Sri Lanka in 2015 and 2025. Describe the information given in the charts by reporting the main features and making comparisons where relevant. Use about **100** words. **(10 marks)**



.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Question 12

Imagine that you are the secretary of the Art and Literary Association of your school. The association has decided to organize a drama festival. Write a letter to the principal requesting permission to organize it. In your letter, include the following. Use about **100-125** words.

(15 marks)

- A short description of the event you intend to organize.
- How your association plans to organize it.
- Proposed date, time, and venue.
- Request permission from the principal for the event.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Question 13

Use of digital devices in classroom learning should be improved as to the needs in the 21st century skills. Some people believe that the present system is the best. What is your opinion? Write an essay, giving reasons for your choice. Use about **150 -200** words. Do **not** exceed the word limit. **(20 marks)**

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

[illegible]