

**SEE 2081 (2025)**  
**COMPULSORY ENGLISH**  
 Reading and Writing  
 (Written Test)

*Candidates are required to answer the questions in their own words as far as practicable. Figures in the margin indicate the full marks.*

**Time: 3 hrs.**

**Full Marks: 75**

**Attempt all the questions.**

**1. Read the text and fill in the gaps with correct information from the text.**

**5×1=5**

Pratap Malla was one of the most famous kings of Malla Dynasty. He constructed some magnificent and beautiful architectural structure around Kathmandu. The way he came to the throne is very interesting and controversial at the same time. He had the experience of administration even when his father was alive. When his father Laxmi Nara Singh's madness grew worse, he imprisoned his father and he himself ruled as a regent of his father in Kantipur.

He was an able administrator. Kantipur was highly developed during his reign. Trade with Lhasa (Tibet) was also going on well. By his tact he was making the kings of Lalitpur and Bhaktapur play against each other. Sometimes he sided with Bhaktapur and posed a threat to Lalitpur. On other occasions, he aligned with Lalitpur and fell upon Bhaktapur.

- (i) As a king of Kantipur, Pratap Malla built many artistic ..... in Kathmandu.
- (ii) Pratap Malla's entry into the throne is interesting as well as .....
- (iii) His father's poor mental health made Pratap Malla rule as his .....
- (iv) During Laxmi Nara Singh's reign, Pratap Malla became experienced .....
- (v) Pratap Malla kept Lalitpur and Bhaktapur divided using his.....

**2. Read the following text and do the tasks that follow.**

Sarah and Jamie stood on their tiptoe and gave the card from their school to the tall man behind the counter of a farm. The man frowned and made a face.

"So you're looking for some work. And who are you?" "I'm Sarah. I'm twelve. This is my brother Jamie; he's eleven."

"Shouldn't you be at school?"

"We are on holiday. And would like to earn some money and support our parents." The man lifted his hat and scratched his head. "Working in the farm is a quite tough job for kids like you. I need somebody big and strong to work here," he said.

"There must be some work for us in this big farm. Could you please find one?" Sarah pleaded.

"And right. Let's see. Do you know what a Cabbage White is?" the man asked.

"Yes. It's a beautiful white butterfly that lays its eggs on cabbages. And those eggs change into caterpillars.", answered Sarah.

"And do you know what the caterpillars do?"

"They eat the cabbage leaves!" shouted Jamie.

"Aren't you afraid of caterpillars?" asked the man.

"Not at all." retorted Sarah.

"Alright. So, I think I have a job for you."

"Oh! Thank you very much. And what is the work?", they said.

"I want you to check every single cabbage in the garden and eliminate all the caterpillars," replied the man.

**A. Answer the following questions.**

**5x1=5**

- (i) Who introduces Jamie to the farm owner?
- (ii) According to the kids, why do they need a job?
- (iii) What makes the farm owner say that the job is not for the kids?
- (iv) Why do the kids thank the farm owner?
- (v) What should the kids do in the farm?

**B. Choose and copy the correct answer from the given alternatives.**

**5x1=5**

- a) What does the frowned face of the farm owner indicate ?
  - (i) happiness (ii) approval (iii) disbelief (iv) anger
- b) According to the farm owner, who is suitable for the farm job?
  - (i) the girl (ii) the boy (iii) the parents (iv) strong man
- c) Why were the kids not at school then?
  - (i) they had a holiday
  - (ii) they had to earn for their family
  - (iii) they had to work on a farm
  - (iv) they had to pick the caterpillars

- d) Why did the farm owner scratch his head?
  - (i) to ask a question to the kids
  - (ii) to find a suitable farm work for the kids
  - (iii) to make the kids afraid
  - (iv) to give information about caterpillar
- e) What finally convinced the farm owner to give the job to the kids?
  - (i) they were thankful to him
  - (ii) they pleaded with him
  - (iii) they were not afraid of caterpillars
  - (iv) they knew about butterfly

### 3. **Read the following text and do the tasks.**

June 29, 2019

The Editor,

XYZ Online, Kathmandu

Being a Nepali student and getting in touch with something related to our work and history is always fascinating and moving, especially when you are far from home for study or work ('How two students built Kathmandu's water pipelines and laid its roads', June 12 and 13, Online).

I came in touch with the news form the paper's official site and found myself overwhelmed when I read something so deeply researched about the overseas students and how they were related to Nepal. It is very rare when someone touches the matter of neglected, minority groups and presents it with true facts and astute research. The newspaper's *Education and Contribution* section and the reporters have done a commendable job.

Newspapers play an important role in spreading messages to their readers - much more than people realise. With the volume of countless readers, this esteemed newspaper has, it is indeed exciting for us to have the contributions of overseas students recognised in our country since it was highly relevant regarding the identity issues that we face when we walk along the streets of Kathmandu. Even today, we are chased by curious questions about who we are, and about whether we are from the bordering country. Although we are Nepali, we are oftentimes asked about how we came to learn the national language by judging the colour of our skin.

This has been much appreciated, and I hope that you give steadiness to issues and stories usually side-lined - so that ignored contributions within Nepal like ours can be acknowledged by all.

**Avaya Bantawa**, via email

**A. Put the following sentences in the correct order as they appear in the text. 5x1=5**

- (i) The writer thinks that the news he read has recognized the overseas students' contribution in Nepal.
- (ii) The writer asks the paper to write about other students and their contributions too.
- (iii) The writer complains that the overseas students are still searching for their identity in Nepal.
- (iv) The news the writer had read was published in *Education and Contribution* column of the online paper.
- (v) The writer had read the news about the overseas students online.

**B. Write TRUE for true and FALSE for false statements. 5x1=5**

- (i) The text is written as a response to the news published online on June 29.
- (ii) Currently the writer seems to be living abroad.
- (iii) The writer rejects the reporters' representation of truths about the overseas students.
- (iv) According to the writer, people still doubt overseas students' knowledge of the Nepali language.
- (v) The text is an example of a letter to the editor sent via email.

**4. Read the text and do the tasks.**

In the late 1600s, the Enlightenment swept through Europe, bringing with it an explosion of invention and innovation. Although separated from Europe by the Atlantic Ocean, Sybilla Masters contributed to this outpouring of innovation. She was the first English colonist to receive a royal patent.

Sybilla Masters was the mistress of a prosperous household in Philadelphia. Still, she made time to play with ideas on how to improve life in the colonies. Sybilla had watched Native women pound corn with a mortar and pestle. Their methods inspired her. Sybilla invented a corn gin that could do the same work with less human effort. In 1712, Sybilla

sailed to London to get a patent for her invention. A patent is a document issued by the government that gives a person full rights over their invention.

Because she was a woman who lived under the English practice of dependence on men, Sybilla could not apply for the patent in her own name. Instead, she submitted it in her husband's name. Thankfully, her husband was proud of her work and supportive of her efforts. He insisted that she be listed as the true inventor in the government records. If he had not, her story would be lost to history. After receiving her patent, Sybilla and her husband sold the corn meal that her invention produced. They called this product "Tuscarora Rice." It was similar to the dish that people call "grits" today.

The patent for the corn gin was not the only patent she received in her lifetime! Sybilla also invented a method for weaving palmetto leaves together. She used this method to make hats, bonnets, and furniture. She received a patent from the English government for this method, too. Sybilla was a very creative and productive inventor. Her ingenuity ensured her legacy as the only colonial woman to receive a patent from the English government.

**A. Match the meanings in 'Column A' with the words from the text in 'Column B'. One word doesn't have a match. 5x1=5**

**Column A**

- (i) a sudden outburst of something
- (ii) a woman in a position of authority or control
- (iii) territories controlled by another country
- (iv) demanded something forcefully
- (v) the quality of being clever and inventive

- (a) submitted
- (b) ingenuity
- (c) mistress
- (d) explosion
- (e) colonies
- (f) insisted

**Column B**

**B. Answer the following questions. 5x1=5**

- (i) Who was the first English colonist to receive a royal patent?
- (ii) What inspired Sybilla's invention of the corn gin?
- (iii) Do you think Sybilla's husband supported her? Give a reason.
- (iv) Why did Sybilla take a patent in her husband's name?
- (v) How did Sybilla receive the second patent from the English government?

**C. Fill in the gaps with the correct information from the text. 5x1=5**

- (i) Despite living away from Europe, Sybilla was influenced by the European trend of .....
- (ii) After making the corn meal Sybilla went to London to apply for a/an .....
- (iii) Sybilla's husband helped to maintain Sybilla's achievement history in .....
- (iv) Sybilla and her husband produced the corn meal named .....
- (v) Sybilla was the only woman to receive a patent from the English government from ..... background.

**5. Write in about 100 words a recipe for a food (dish) of your choice. Take help of the following clues. 5**

name of the dish ..... number of people to serve ..... ingredients and quantities ..... step by step directions for cooking ..... way of serving

**6. One of your friends has received the first prize in a speech competition organized by your municipality/rural municipality. You want to publish a message of congratulations in a newspaper. Write a formal message of congratulations in about 100 words using the clues given. 5**

Anuska Sherpa ..... first prize in speech competition ..... hard work, discipline, oratory skills ..... happy and proud ..... congratulations ..... best wishes

**7. You became sick and met a doctor the day before. The doctor gave you some medicines; and suggested that you should rest at home for 3 days. Write an application for leave in about 150 words to your class teacher mentioning the reason for your leave, the duration and the dates you will be absent. Also, assure your teacher that you will cover the course you miss in your absence. 6****8. Write a review of a film of your choice in about 200 words. Mention summary of the plot, strengths and weaknesses in acting, visuals, and music. Also, write why you recommend it to others. 8**

**9. Reproduce the following sentences as indicated in the brackets.  $6 \times 1 = 6$** 

- (i) The house looks expensive, ..... ? (Add a correct question tag.)
- (ii) Did Grisma go to the university? (Change into statement.)
- (iii) Ansarul's shop is in the city centre. (Change into 'Where' question.)
- (iv) Pemba..... (finish) her assignments before her teacher arrived. (Use the correct form of the verb 'finish' to complete the sentence.)
- (v) They have kept the books on the racks. (Change into passive voice.)
- (vi) Mamata asked, "Was there a parking space?" (Change into indirect speech.)

**10. Choose and copy the correct alternative given in the brackets in the text below. Rewriting of the text is not compulsory.  $10 \times 0.5 = 5$** 

I was 30 years old then. There lived (a) ..... (a/ an/ the/ no article) girl and two widows near my house in Putalibazar. The girl used to go to work (b) ..... (on/ at/ in/ from) her car. One day, while I was going to market, I met her in front of my house. As usual she (c) ..... (went/ was going/ had gone/ has gone) to her office. I was in a hurry. I knew she was ignoring me. However, I was able to draw her attention as she was with the two widows. I asked her, "(d) .... (she may drop me/ if she could drop me/ can you drop me/ if she would drop me) to the station please?" She didn't reply but I could hear her speaking to the widows, "There is *inDrive* service here, (e) ..... (wasn't there/ weren't there/ aren't there/ isn't there) ? Neither the girl nor the widows (f) ..... (was/ were/ had/ has) paying attention to me. I walked to the station. As soon as I reached the station I saw that the girl's car was not working (g) ..... (although/ despite/ because/ so that) it had hit the lamppost and its front part was completely damaged. I saw that one of the widows (h) ..... (was badly injured/ were badly injured/ is badly injured/ are badly injured). I said to myself, "If they had given me a lift, I (i) ..... (would/ will/ had/ would have) helped them." But my human feeling made me (j) ..... (helped/ help/ helping/ to help) them and I took them to hospital. Now, the girl, Nilima is one of my best friend's wives who tells this story to my wife every time we meet.