

EXAMINATION SPECIFICATIONS
English Communicative
Code No. 101
CLASS-IX
FROM THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2012 - 13

Division of Syllabus for Term I (April-September)		Total Weightage Assigned
Summative Assessment I		
Section	Marks	
Reading	15=8+7	
Writing	20=3+5+6+6	
Grammar	15=3+3+3+3+3	
Literature	20	
Long Reading Text	10	
Listening and Speaking	10	
Formative Assessment		20%
TOTAL	90 marks	50%

Division of Syllabus for Term II (October -March)		Total Weightage Assigned
Summative Assessment II		
Section	Marks	
Reading	15=8+7	
Writing	20=3+5+6+6	
Grammar	15=3+3+3+3+3	
Literature	20	
Long Reading Text	10	
Listening and Speaking	10	
Formative Assessment		20%
TOTAL	90 marks	50%

Note:

- The total weightage assigned to Summative Assessment (SAI & II) is 60%. The total weightage assigned to Formative Assessment (FA1, 2, 3 & 4) is 40%. Out of the 40% assigned to Formative Assessment, 10%

weightage is assigned to conversation skills (5% each in Term I & II) and 10% weightage to the Reading Project (at least 1 Book is to be read in each term and the Project will carry a weightage of 5% in each term)

2. The Summative Assessment I and Summative Assessment II are for ninety marks each. **Ten marks of listening and speaking test will be added to the 80 marks Summative Assessment paper ie 80 + 10 = 90 marks in each semester.** The weightage assigned to Summative Assessment I is 30% and the weightage assigned to Summative Assessment II is 30%.

SECTION A: READING

15 Marks

Qs 1 & 2 The reading section will have two unseen texts as shown below:

Text Number	Text Type	Length	Marks	Type of Questions.
Text 1	Factual/Discursive/ Literary	500 - 550 words	8 marks	Supply Type (Gap filling, sentence completion, Table completion, word attack questions, Reference and Short Answer Questions)
Text 2	Factual/Discursive/ Literary	300 - 350 words	7 marks	Multiple Choice Questions.

The word limit has been reduced from 1100 to 900.

The total length of the three passages will be between 800 - 900 words. There will be at least 3 marks for assessing vocabulary.

Care should be taken to cover all the text types, ie discursive and literary while selecting the passages. A poem may or may not be used as one of the three texts. Apart from a poem, prose literary texts may include excerpts from authentic literature such as short story, autobiography, biography, travelogue, novel etc.

Whenever a poem or a prose/literary text is used, the other two texts should be discursive. If a poem is selected then, the length of the poem may be between 14 to 25 lines.

SECTION B: WRITING

20 Marks

The writing section comprises four writing tasks as indicated below.

Q. 3 A short composition of about 50 words in the form of a **Notice, Message or Diary Entry.** **3 Marks**

Q. 4 A composition of about 100 words in the form of **Biographical sketch, Data Interpretation, Dialogue Writing or Description (People, Objects or Events)** **5 Marks**

Questions 4 & 5 will assess students' skill of expressing ideas in clear and grammatically correct English, presenting ideas coherently and concisely, writing a clear description, a clear account of events, expanding notes into a piece of writing, transcoding information from one form to another or using a style appropriate for a notice, message or diary entry.

Q. 5 An extended writing task of about 120 words in the form of a **Formal/Informal Letter or Email**. The long piece of writing will assess the use of appropriate style, language, content and expression. **6 Marks**

Q. 6 An extended writing task of about 120 words in the form of an **Article, Speech, Debate, Newspaper/School Magazine Report or Story**. **6 Marks**

Students' skill in expressing ideas in clear and grammatically correct English, planning, organising and presenting ideas coherently by introducing, developing and concluding a topic, comparing and contrasting ideas and arriving at a conclusion, presenting an argument with supporting examples, using an appropriate style and format and expanding notes into longer pieces of writing and creative expression of ideas will be assessed.

Qs 5 & 6 will make use of a visual/ verbal stimulus and one of the questions will be thematically based on MCB.

Important Note on Format and Word Limit:

- Format will not carry any separate marks and in most cases, format will be given in the question paper.
- The word limit given is the suggested minimum word limit. No candidate may be penalised for writing more or less than the suggested word limit provided the topic is covered adequately. Stress should be on content, expression, coherence and relevance of the content presented.

SECTION C: GRAMMAR

15 Marks

This section will assess **Grammar** items in context for **15 Marks**. It will carry **5 questions of 3 marks each**.

Questions 7 & 8 will have Multiple Choice Questions. The test types for MCQs include the following:

- **Gap filling**
- **Sentence completion / Dialogue completion**

Questions 9,10 & 11 will be based on response supplied by students (Supply Type). The test types will include the following:

- **Sentence reordering**
- **Editing / Omission**
- **Sentence transformation**

Questions 7 to 11 will test grammar items which have been dealt with in class IX. Different structures such as verb forms, sentence structure, connectors, determiners, pronouns, prepositions, clauses, phrases etc., can be tested through formative assessment over a period of time. **As far as the summative assessment is concerned, it will recycle grammar items learnt over a period of time and will test them in context.**

Tests types used will include gap-filling, cloze (gap filling exercise with blanks at regular intervals), sentence completion, recording word groups into sentences, editing, dialogue-completion and sentence-transformation.

The grammar syllabus will be sampled each year, with marks allotted for:

Verbs forms

Sentence structures

Other areas

Note: Jumbled words in reordering exercise to test syntax will involve sentences in a context. Each sentence will be split into sense groups (not necessarily into single words) and jumbled up.

Section D: LITERATURE

20 Marks

Q 12 will have the following arrangement:

12 A: An extract from poetry with three questions based on reference to context requiring the students to supply the answers.

3 Marks

12 B: An extract from a short story with three reference to context questions requiring the students to supply the answers.

3 Marks

12 C: An extract from a play with three reference to context questions requiring the students to supply the answers.

3 Marks

Q 13 **Two** out of three short answer type questions based on prose, poetry and play of **3 marks each**. The questions will not test recall but inference and evaluation. (30 - 40 words each)

6 Marks

Q 14 **One** out of **two** long answer type questions to assess personal response to text (story, poem or play) by going beyond the text/ poem/story or extract. Creativity, imagination and extrapolation beyond the text and across two texts will also be assessed. (150 words)

5 Marks

Novel/Long Reading Text

10 Marks

Q 15 **Type of Questions: Global questions on theme and plot involving interpretation and inference .**

5 marks

Q16 **One out of two character sketches in 100 words.**

5 marks

Prescribed Books/Materials

1. Interact in English - IX Main Course Book Revised edition
2. Interact in English - IX Literature Reader Revised edition Published by CBSE
3. Interact in English - IX Workbook Revised edition Delhi-110092

Novel/Long Reading Text

4. *Gulliver's Travel* - 2005 (unabridged edition) Jonathan Swift
5. *Three Men in a Boat* - 1889 (unabridged edition) Jerome K. Jerome

Reading Section:

Reading for comprehension, critical evaluation, inference and analysis is a skill to be tested formatively as well as summatively. There will be no division of passages for this section, however, for reading purpose. The Interact in English Main Course Book will be read in two terms i.e. Term I (April-September) and Term II (October-March).

Writing Section:

All types of short and extended writing tasks will be dealt with in both I and II Term Summative as well as in Formative Assessment. For purpose of assessment all themes dealt with in Main Course Book and other themes may be used.

Note on assessing Writing Tasks.

Q. 3	Content	: 2 marks
	Expression	: 1 mark (Accuracy & Fluency)
	Total	: 3 marks

Upto one mark may be deducted for spelling, punctuation and grammar errors.

Q. 4	Content	: 3 marks
	Fluency	: 1 mark
	Accuracy	: 1 mark
	Total	: 5 marks

Upto one mark may be deducted for spelling, punctuation and grammar errors.

Q. 5	Content	: 3 marks
	Accuracy	: 1.5 marks
	Fluency	: 1.5 marks
	Total	: 5 marks

Upto two marks may be deducted for spelling punctuation and grammar errors.

Q. 6	Content	: 3 marks
	Accuracy	: 1.5 marks
	Fluency	: 1.5 marks
	Total	: 6 marks

Upto two marks may be deducted for spelling, punctuation and grammar errors.

Though marks have been allotted specifically for Content, they should not be awarded in a mechanical manner. For instance, if a student has merely mentioned the value points (content) as per the marking scheme, the examiner should assess whether the content has been expressed/communicated in a **coherent** and **cohesive** manner. It means content and expression are perceived as **interlinked** aspects of writing.

Similarly in all the writing tasks credit should be given to creativity in the realm of ideas and language use. What it means for the examiner is that students who think differently and are able to use the language with felicity in terms of structures as well as vocabulary should be given due weightage. This need not necessarily be seen as leaning towards subjectivity in marking. **A proper balance of content, expression (accuracy, fluency, cohesion and coherence) and creativity** would encourage students to aim for higher standards in written communication. Errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar should be penalised to the extent of marks allotted for Accuracy.

Grammar:

Grammar items mentioned in the syllabus will be taught and assessed summatively as well as formatively over a period of time. There will be no division of syllabus for Grammar in the summative or formative assessments for the terms. However a suggested split - up of the Work Book for the two terms is given to help teachers in planning their classroom teaching.

CLASS IX - COMMUNICATIVE Syllabus for the Two Terms

S.No. Text Books	First Term (April - September)			Second Term (October - March)		
	FA 1 10	FA2 10	SA I 30	FA3 10	FA4 10	SA II 30
Literature Reader						
PROSE						
1. How I Taught My Grandmother to Read	✓		✓			
2. A Dog Named Duke		✓	✓			
3. The Man Who Knew too Much				✓		✓
4. Keeping it from Harold				✓		✓
5. Best Seller					✓	✓
POETRY						
1. The Brook	✓		✓			
2. The Road Not Taken	✓		✓			
3. The Solitary Reaper		✓	✓			
4. Lord Ullin's Daughter		✓	✓			

5.	The Seven Ages				✓		✓
6.	Oh, I Wish I'd Looked After Me Teeth				✓		✓
7.	Song of the Rain					✓	✓
DRAMA							
1.	Villa for Sale		✓	✓			
2.	The Bishop's Candlesticks					✓	✓
Main Course Book							
1.	People	✓		✓			
2.	Adventure	✓		✓			
3.	Environment		✓	✓			
4.	The Class IX Radio and Video Show		✓	✓			
5.	Mystery				✓		✓
6.	Children					✓	✓
7.	Sports and Games					✓	✓

**WORK BOOK* - Suggested Break-up of Units for the Purpose of Classroom Teaching only-
NOT FOR TESTING (see the note below)**

Term I

1. Verb Forms
2. Determiners
3. Future Time Reference
4. Modals

Term II

5. Connectors
6. The Passive
7. Reported Speech
8. Prepositions

Long Reading Text		
<i>Guliver's Travels in Four Parts</i>	Part I & II	Part III & IV
<i>Three Men in a Boat</i>	Chapters 1-10	Chapters 11-19

*NOTE ON WORKBOOK

The suggested split up of the units of the Workbook reflects a distribution for the purpose of classroom teaching only. **Since grammar and usage is not to be tested discreetly, but in an integrated manner, the split up as shown above will not restrict questions in the grammar section of SA I and SA II question papers to the specific units shown in the split up of Workbook units.** Grammar will be tested recycling grammar items learnt over a period of time in a comprehensive manner. Teachers may adapt this suggested distribution for classroom teaching making modifications according to their specific needs. Similarly Formative Assessment of grammar items may also be carried out in an integrated manner along with the skills of Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening as well as Literature.

Note:

1. Formative Assessment is **assessment 'for' learning**. Thus schools may adapt the above break-up as per their convenience.
2. All activities related to Formative Assessment such as Language games, quizzes, projects, role plays, dramatization, script writing etc must be done as 'in class' and 'in school' activities. In case, a field survey or visit is taken up it must be under the direct supervision of the teacher.