

CBSE CLASS X

English Language & Literature (184)

QUESTION PAPER

From previous CBSE Board Exam questions

Code: 4ABGWR

Questions: 13

Maximum Marks: 57

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SELECTIONS USED

Source	Previous-year board
Subject	English Language & Literature
Lessons	The Book That Saved the Earth
Year	2022-2026
Questions selected	13

Composition — Types: 6 Short · 4 literature_long · 3 literature_extract

Q1.

[3]

A well known book of nursery rhymes saved the world from a Martian invasion. Comment with reference to 'The Book that Saved the Earth'.

Previously asked in: 2024 2/2/1 Q9 (iii)

♦ The Book That Saved the Earth

Q2.

[6]

Answer in about 100-120 words: Half-baked knowledge is always dangerous. Rushing to conclusions without going deep into the details of things always leads to uninvited chaos and disasters. Explain the above mentioned statements in the light of Think-Tank's interpretation of the rhymes in the book 'Mother Goose'. (The Book that saved the Earth)

Previously asked in: 2025 2/4/1 Q11.II

♦ The Book That Saved the Earth

Q3.

[3]

Today reading books is on the decline because of the prevalence of electronic media. Contrarily, earth is saved by a 'Book' in the chapter "The Book That Saved the Earth". Elaborate.

Previously asked in: 2025 2/1/1 Q9 (ii)

♦ The Book That Saved the Earth

Q4.

[3]

Think-tank excelled in misinterpreting and mispresenting things. Do you agree? Justify giving appropriate reasons. (The Book that Saved the Earth)

Previously asked in: 2025 2/6/1 Q9 (iii)

♦ The Book That Saved the Earth

Q5.**[3]**

How did Apprentice Noodle act smartly by suggesting something about the book without offending Think-Tank?
(The Book That Saved The Earth)

Previously asked in: 2024 2/4/1 Q9 (ii)

♦ The Book That Saved the Earth

Q6.**[3]**

How did Think – Tank interpret the following nursery rhyme?
"How does your garden grow with cockle shells and silver bells?" (The Book that Saved the Earth)

Previously asked in: 2024 2/3/1 Q9 (iii)

♦ The Book That Saved the Earth

Q7.**[5]**

Think-Tank: communication with our manned space probe to that ridiculous little planet we are going to put under our generous rulership. What do they call it, again?

Noodle: Earth, your Intelligence.

Think-Tank: Earth — of course. You see how insignificant the place is? But first something important. My mirror. I wish to consult my mirror.

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

(i) Think-Tank wants to communicate with the _____. [1]

- (a) People of Earth
- (b) Scientists on Earth
- (c) Environmentalists on Earth
- (d) Martians on Earth

(ii) Complete the analogy by selecting the suitable word from the passage. read : learn : : explore : _____ [1]

(iii) Your Intelligence refers to [1]

- (a) Earth
- (b) Noodle
- (c) Little Planet
- (d) Think-Tank

(iv) What does Think-Tank want to do? [1]

(v) Fill in the blank with one word only. Think-Tank is a _____ of the Martian team. [1]

Previously asked in: 2023 2/5/1 Q6(B)

♦ The Book That Saved the Earth

Q8.**[3]**

The play, 'The Book that Saved the Earth', uses humour and misunderstandings between the Martians and Earthlings to explore the themes of perception and cultural differences. Comment.

Previously asked in: 2025 2/3/1 Q9 (iii)

♦ The Book That Saved the Earth

Q9.

[6]

How does Think-Tank's arrogance and ignorance contribute to the theme of wit over power in 'The Book that Saved the Earth'?

Previously asked in: 2026 2/2/1 Q11(b)

♦ The Book That Saved the Earth

Q10.

[5]

OMEGA: Yes, sir. (She reads with great seriousness.) Mistress Mary, quite contrary. How does your garden grow?
With cockle shells and silver bells And pretty maids all in a row.

OOP: Ha, ha, ha. Imagine that. Pretty maids growing in a garden.

THINK-TANK: (alarmed) Stop! This is no time for levity. Don't you realise the seriousness of this discovery? The Earthlings have discovered how to combine agriculture and mining. They can actually grow crops of rare metals such as silver. And cockle shells. They can grow high explosives, too. Noodle, contact our invasion fleet.

NOODLE: They are ready to go down and take over Earth, sir.

Read the following extract and answer the questions.

- (i) What can we infer from the given statement, "This is no time for levity" ? [1]
- (ii) Think-Tank thinks that Earthlings have reached a high level of civilisation. Why does he think so ? [2]
- (iii) Complete the sentence appropriately : The piece of information that Noodle provides to Think-Tank is _____. [1]
- (iv) What is the tone of Omega while reading the rhyme ? 1. happy 2. optimistic 3. serious 4. pessimistic 5. sarcastic
Select the correct option : [1]
 - (A) Only 1
 - (B) 4 and 5
 - (C) Only 3
 - (D) 1 and 2

Previously asked in: 2026 2/3/1 Q6(b)

♦ The Book That Saved the Earth

Q11.

[6]

In 'The Book That Saved the Earth', how does the play use humour and irony to comment on both futuristic technology and human assumptions? What message do you think the author conveys through the Martians' misinterpretation of a nursery rhyme?

Previously asked in: 2026 2/5/1 Q11(B)

♦ The Book That Saved the Earth

Q12.

[5]

OOP : I haven't a clue. I've been to seven galaxies, but I've never seen anything like this. Maybe they're hats. (He opens a book and puts it on his head.) Say, maybe this is a haberdashery!

OMEGA : (bowing low) Perhaps the Great and Mighty Think-Tank will give us the benefit of his thought on the matter.

THINK-TANK : Elementary, my dear Omega. Hold one of the items up so that I may view it closely. (Omega holds a book on the palm of her hand.) Yes, yes, I understand now. Since Earth creatures are always eating, the place in which you find yourselves is undoubtedly a crude refreshment stand.

OMEGA : (to Iota and Oop) He says we're in a refreshment stand.

OOP : Well, the Earthlings certainly have a strange diet.

Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two given:

I "Elementary, my dear Omega." What is Think-Tank's tone in the sentence? [1]

- A patronising
- B admonishing
- C ironic
- D sarcastic

II Why does Omega call Think–Tank great and mighty? [2]

III Fill in the blank with the correct word from the bracket: After viewing the book closely, Think-Tank concludes that Earth creatures _____ (enjoy/dislike) eating food. [1]

IV Why does Oop open the book and put it on his head? [1]

Previously asked in: 2026 2/1/1 Q6(B)

♦ The Book That Saved the Earth

Q13.

[6]

Answer any one of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words :

Discuss how the play "The Book that Saved the Earth" depicts how misunderstanding of cultural differences and lack of awareness about other races cause confusion and conflict.

Previously asked in: 2026 2/4/1 Q11 (b)

♦ The Book That Saved the Earth

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