

CBSE CLASS X

English Language & Literature (184)

QUESTION PAPER

From previous CBSE Board Exam questions

Code: LV2VA2 Questions: 13 Maximum Marks: 43 Generated: 2026-06-15 13:05

SELECTIONS USED

Source	Previous-year board
Subject	English Language & Literature
Lessons	The Midnight Visitor
Year	2022-2026
Questions selected	13

Composition — Types: 11 Short · 2 literature_extract

Q1. [3]

Who was Henry? What role did he play in Ausable's plan? (The Midnight Visitor)

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

♦ The Midnight Visitor

Q2. [3]

Examine the witty strategy used by Ausable in emerging as a super spy. (The Midnight Visitor)

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

♦ The Midnight Visitor

Q3. [3]

Mention how Ausable was always one step ahead of everyone. (The Midnight Visitor)

Previously asked in: 2026 2/1/1 Q9 II

♦ The Midnight Visitor

Q4. [3]

Why was Fowler interested in meeting Ausable ? (The Midnight Visitor)

Previously asked in: 2026 2/4/1 Q9 (i)

♦ The Midnight Visitor

Q5. [3]

How did Ausable get rid of Max without using a weapon. (The Midnight Visitor)

Previously asked in: 2023 2/4/1 Q9 (b)

♦ The Midnight Visitor

Q6. [3]

Describe Ausable's fabricated tale regarding the balcony. (The Midnight Visitor)

Previously asked in: 2025 2/4/1 Q9 III

♦ The Midnight Visitor

Q7.**[3]**

Describe Max as a secret agent.

Previously asked in: 2023 2/5/1 Q9 (a)

♦ The Midnight Visitor

Q8.**[3]**

One should never judge a book by its cover. Explain with reference to Ausable and how he outwits Max with his presence of mind.

(The Midnight Visitor)

Previously asked in: 2024 2/5/1 Q9 (i)

♦ The Midnight Visitor

Q9.**[3]**

Despite his unusual appearance, Ausable's presence of mind helped him get rid of Max. Comment with reference to the story 'The Midnight Visitor'.

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

♦ The Midnight Visitor

Q10.**[3]**

How did Ausable get rid of Max?

(The Midnight Visitor)

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

♦ The Midnight Visitor

Q11.**[3]**

Ausable displayed a remarkable presence of mind combined with a good sense of humour to handle Max. Justify. (The Midnight Visitor)

Previously asked in: 2026 2/3/1 Q9 (ii)

♦ The Midnight Visitor

Q12.

[5]

"It's not my balcony," Ausable said with extreme irritation. "It belongs to the next apartment." He glanced explanatorily at Fowler. "You see," he said, "this room used to be part of a large unit, and the next room — through that door there — used to be the living room. It had the balcony, which extends under my window now. You can get onto it from the empty room two doors down — and somebody did, last month. The management promised to block it off. But they haven't."

Read the following extract and answer the questions:

- (i) What was the management supposed to do regarding the balcony? [1]
- (ii) Which of the following was the reason that irritated Ausable about the balcony? [1]
- A its size and layout
 - B its location relative to his apartment
 - C its accessibility from the neighbouring unit
 - D its maintenance by the apartment management
- (iii) How does Ausable's detailed explanation of the balcony's history and current accessibility contribute to the atmosphere of suspense or tension in the story? Answer in about 40 words. [2]
- (iv) Fill in the blank with the correct word from the brackets. The reference to 'last month' and 'now' adds to a sense of _____ (reconciliation/mystery). [1]

Previously asked in: 2025 2/3/1 Q6(b)

♦ The Midnight Visitor

Q13.

[5]

Ausable did not fit any description of a secret agent Fowler had ever read. Following him down the musty corridor of the gloomy French hotel where Ausable had a room, Fowler felt let down. It was a small room, on the sixth and top floor and scarcely a setting for a romantic adventure. Ausable was, for one thing, fat, very fat. And then there was his accent. Though he spoke French and German passably, he had never altogether lost the American accent he had brought to Paris from Boston twenty years ago. "You are disappointed," Ausable said wheezily over his shoulder.

Read the given extract and answer the questions:

- (i) Which of the following describes how Fowler felt on seeing Ausable for the first time? [1]
- (A) excited and happy
 - (B) indifferent and disgusted
 - (C) surprised and disappointed
 - (D) envious and in awe
- (ii) How did the hotel's atmosphere influence Fowler's mood? [2]
- (iii) Fill in the blank with the correct word from the bracket: Ausable's reaction on seeing how Fowler felt shows that he was _____. (observant/ embarrassed) [1]
- (iv) In what way does Ausable defy the typical spy image? [1]

Previously asked in: 2026 2/5/1 Q6(A)

♦ The Midnight Visitor

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