

CBSE CLASS X

# English Language & Literature (184)

## QUESTION PAPER

From previous CBSE Board Exam questions

Code: Y6CoFA

Questions: 25

Maximum Marks: 98

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### SELECTIONS USED

|                    |                               |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Source             | Previous-year board           |
| Subject            | English Language & Literature |
| Lessons            | The Sermon at Benares         |
| Year               | 2022-2026                     |
| Questions selected | 25                            |

Composition — Types: 15 Short · 8 literature\_long · 1 literature\_extract · 1 Long

### Q1.

[6]

Answer any one of the following two questions in 100–120 words:

Analyse and evaluate the role of faith in 'A Letter to God' and 'The Sermon at Benares'.

Previously asked in: 2025 2/2/1 Q10 (a)

♦ A Letter to God

The Sermon at Benares

### Q2.

[6]

Answer any one of the following two questions, in 100-120 words: You have been chosen to address the student gathering from the nearby schools, to speak on "How to Deal with Loss – Personal or Material". Prepare the speech draft in not more than 120 words, with reference to the commonality of themes in John Benyman's 'The Ball Poem' and 'A Sermon at Benaras'. You may begin this way. Good Morning everyone. Today, I'd like to discuss two pieces of literature that offer a powerful insight into how we can learn to deal with loss. You may end in this way – To conclude, I'd like to say that – Thank you.

Previously asked in: 2024 2/2/1 Q10(b)

♦ 3.4 The Ball Poem

The Sermon at Benares

### Q3.

[6]

How do Lencho in 'A Letter to God' and Kisa Gotami in 'The Sermon at Benares' respond to their experiences of suffering and loss? How did they overcome their respective losses?

Previously asked in: 2026 2/2/1 Q10(a)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

A Letter to God

Q4.

[5]

"I heard an old religious man  
But yesternight declare  
That he had found a text to prove  
That only God, my dear,  
Could love you for yourself alone  
And not your yellow hair."

Read the following extract and answer the questions.

- (i) Complete the sentence appropriately : The speaker addresses the person he is speaking to as "my dear" because \_\_\_\_\_. [1]
- (ii) The poet mentions "yellow hair". What is its significance in the context of the statement ? Answer in about 40 words. [2]
- (iii) Fill in the blank with the correct word from the brackets. The poet suggests that God's love in comparison to that of a human being is \_\_\_\_\_ (selfish/selfless). [1]
- (iv) As per the above extract, what attributes does God not love a person for ? Select the correct option. 1. Wealth 2. Physical appearance 3. Intelligence 4. Inner qualities 5. Youth [1]
- A 1 and 4  
B 3, 4, and 5  
C 2 and 4  
D Only 4

Previously asked in: 2025 2/1/1 Q7(a)

♦ 8.1 For Anne Gregory

Q5.

[3]

What message might the Buddha's story hold for those who are in positions of power and privilege?

Previously asked in: 2024 2/1/1 Q8 (v)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

Q6.

[2]

How, according to Buddha, can one obtain peace of mind? (The Sermon at Benares)

Previously asked in: 2022 2/1/1 Q6 (i)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

Q7.

[2]

"These sights so moved him that he at once went out into the world to seek enlightenment." What were the sights that moved 'him'? (The Sermon at Benares)

Previously asked in: 2022 2/4/1 Q6 (ii)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

Q8.

[2]

Ananda was blamed for a number of things. Mention any two.

Previously asked in: 2022 2/2/1 Q6 (iii)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

**Q9.****[3]**

What did Siddhartha Gautama come across by chance when he was about twenty-five years old?

Previously asked in: 2023 2/2/1 Q8 (e)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

**Q10.****[3]**

What does the Buddha say about the world?

Previously asked in: 2023 2/1/1 Q8 (e)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

**Q11.****[6]**

Answer in about 100-120 words :

'As ripe fruits are in danger of falling early, so mortals when born are always in danger of death'. With this statement of the Buddha find out the moral values that Kisa Gotami learnt after the death of her child.

Previously asked in: 2023 2/4/1 Q10(a)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

**Q12.****[6]**

Through the story of Kisa Gotami, what did the Buddha try to preach to the common man?

Previously asked in: 2023 2/1/1 Q10(b)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

**Q13.****[4]**

How does Buddha bring about a different perspective in Kisa Gotami's understanding of life ? (The Sermon at Benares)

Previously asked in: 2022 2/2/1 Q7 (i)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

**Q14.****[3]**

What did Kisa Gotami do after the death of her only son ?

Previously asked in: 2023 2/6/1 Q8 (a)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

**Q15.****[6]**

Why did Kisa Gotami meet the Buddha? How did Buddha change her life?

Previously asked in: 2023 2/5/1 Q10(b)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

**Q16.****[3]**

Why did Kisa Gotami, despite her desperate efforts to find a solution for her grief, ultimately become weary and hopeless ? (The Sermon at Benares)

Previously asked in: 2026 2/3/1 Q8 (iii)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

**Q17.****[2]**

Grief is often seen as a measure of love. Justify your response to Buddha's sermon.

Previously asked in: 2022 2/3/1 Q6 (i)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

**Q18.****[6]**

Grief or sadness is an emotion natural to all types of loss or significant change. You have been asked to present an analysis of the approaches of Lencho and Kisa Gotami in dealing with their respective losses. Write this presentation draft including your insights, and comparing the approaches of both.

You may begin like this: One acknowledges that Lencho had unwavering faith in God whereas Kisa Gotami in her grief, believed that her son ..... however .....

(Reference – A Letter to God and The Sermon at Benares)

Previously asked in: 2024 2/4/1 Q10(a)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

**Q19.****[6]**

Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words:

"The Sermon at Benaras" and "For Anne Gregory", deal with the themes of 'love' and 'life'. Discuss.

Previously asked in: 2026 2/1/1 Q10(II)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

8.1 For Anne Gregory

**Q20.****[3]**

Explain, why the speaker mentions God in the poem "For Anne Gregory".

Previously asked in: 2024 2/1/1 Q8 (iv)

♦ 8.1 For Anne Gregory

**Q21.****[3]**

The idea of beauty is a one-dimensional cultural conception or one that has been created by human beings themselves. Comment on the statement with reference to the conventional ideas of beauty in the poem 'For Anne Gregory'. (For Anne Gregory)

Previously asked in: 2025 2/6/1 Q8 (v)

♦ 8.1 For Anne Gregory

**Q22.****[3]**

"Not from weeping or from grieving will anyone obtain peace of mind; on the contrary his pain will be greater and his body will suffer."

Validate this preaching of Buddha with reference to the story 'A Sermon at Benaras'. (A Sermon at Benaras)

Previously asked in: 2025 2/6/1 Q8 (i)

♦ The Sermon at Benares

**Q23.****[3]**

Do you think you can love a person for his/her inner beauty alone and not care about the physical appearance?

Previously asked in: 2024 2/5/1 Q8 (v)

♦ 8.1 For Anne Gregory

**Q24.****[3]**

The religious man's perspective in 'For Anne Gregory' reinforces the concept of divine love. Illustrate.

Previously asked in: 2026 2/3/1 Q8 (v)

♦ 8.1 For Anne Gregory

**Q25.****[3]**

What lesson does "For Anne Gregory" present for youthful love ?

Previously asked in: 2026 2/4/1 Q8 (iii)

♦ 8.1 For Anne Gregory

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