

# CBSE TOPPER'S SHEET with Suggestions

## 1. Read the passage given below:

- 1 The hopping kangaroo is a familiar sight in every snapshot relating to Australia. Members of the kangaroo family can be as small as a rat or as big as a man. Kangaroos are found mainly in Australia, Tasmania and New Guinea. Kangaroos, which are big-footed marsupials that evolved in Australia use their short front legs like arms. The man-sized kangaroos of Australia are capable of speeding up to 88 km/hr for short distances, their means of locomotion being their powerful hind legs, which carry them over the ground in jumps of 9 m or more at a time.
- 2 Weighing around 70 kg they have an average lifespan of around six to eight years and a maximum lifetime of 20 years. When bothered by predators, kangaroos often head for the water, standing submerged to the chest, and attempting to drown the attacker by holding him under water. Another defensive technique is to get their back to a tree and kick at their adversary with their clawed hind feet, sometimes with sufficient force to kill a man. Normally shy animals, they alert other kangaroos to danger by beating on the ground with their hind feet. This loud alarm signal carries over a long distance.
- 3 The tail is important for kangaroos. It holds them in balance and supports them when they sit or fight against other kangaroos. The kangaroo uses its short legs as arms. With them it scratches itself, cleans its fur and holds branches when it eats leaves. Kangaroos are marsupials and the females carry newborns in a pouch in front of their abdomens. The babies are born small and climb up into the safety of the pouch. There for the next 225 days or so, they eat, sleep and grow. Once they reach full development they leave the pouch. A young kangaroo that leaves the pouch is called a 'joey'. To keep from getting too hot, the kangaroos take naps in the afternoon and do most of their grazing at night. But the best stay-cool secret of these creatures is the spit bath! Kangaroos drool and lick saliva all over their faces and bodies to cool down.

### 1.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage, complete the following sentences with appropriate words/phrases.

- (a) When followed by predators, kangaroos submerge ..... and .....
- (b) The powerful hind legs help kangaroos to .....
- (c) Kangaroos are mainly found in Australia and are .....
- (d) They use their front legs to .....
- (e) Kangaroos warn others of danger by .....
- (f) The secret of kangaroos to stay cool is .....
- (g) They use their tails to .....
- (h) Before becoming 'joeys', the young ones stay in the ..... and .....

- Ans. A1.) 1.1) (a) When followed by predators, kangaroos submerge themselves to the chest (standing) and attempt to drown the attacker by holding him under water.
- (b) The powerful hind legs help kangaroos to carry themselves over the ground in jumps of 9m or more at a time.
- (c) Kangaroos are mainly found in Australia and are big-footed marsupials.
- (d) They use their front legs to scratch themselves, to clean their fur and to hold branches when they eat leaves.

- (e) Kangaroos warn others of danger by beating on the ground with their hind feet.
- (f) The secret of kangaroos to stay cool is to drool and lick saliva all over their faces. Answers well written and to the point
- (g) They use their tails to hold themselves in balance and support themselves when they sit or fight against other kangaroos.
- (h) Before becoming 'joeys', the young ones stay in the safety of the pouch and they eat, sleep and grow in it for the next 225 days or so only to leave the pouch when they reach full development.

## 2. Read the passage given below:

- 1 It is rare to find someone with a good technical and communication skills. You can get far ahead of your colleagues if you combine the two early in your career. People will judge, evaluate, promote or block you based on your communication skills. Since habits form by repeating both good and bad forms of communication, learn to observe great communicators and adopt their styles and traits – in written and verbal forms. The art of listening and learning from each and every interaction, is another secret recipe. Develop the subconscious habit of listening to yourself as you speak and know when to pause.
- 2 Learning what not to say is probably more important than learning what to say. As your career develops, you will realize that the wise speak less. Speak when you have value to add, else refrain. Poorly constructed e-mails with grammatical errors are acceptable between friends, but they should be seriously avoided while communicating formally with your seniors. Avoid any communication in an emotional state when you might say things you will regret later. One unnecessary word uttered at the wrong time or place can ruin a relationship, career or even your life. Such is the power of words. If such a thing happens, you should immediately apologise, else it may haunt you for life.
- 3 Another problem to overcome is speaking too fast. Since our minds are working faster than our speech, we are inclined to speak fast. This does not necessarily mean that the person hearing it will get it any faster. On the contrary, it is always the reverse. So slow down, think before you speak. "When I get ready to speak to people," Abraham Lincoln said, "I spend two-thirds of the time thinking what they want to hear and one-third thinking what I want to say." Adding humour and wit is also essential. But realize that not all jokes are funny and observe certain boundaries. Never say anything that could offend. Remember you are not a comedian who must offend as many people as you can to be witty.

### 2.1 Answer the following questions briefly.

- (a) Why is it necessary to have good communication skills?
- (b) How can communication skills be developed?
- (c) What according to the writer should be avoided while communicating?
- (d) Why should you be careful when you tend to be humorous?

Ans.

A9.) 2.1) (a) It is rare to find someone with good technical and communication skills. We can get far ahead of our colleagues if we combine the two early in our career. People will judge, evaluate, promote or block us based on our communication skills. Thus, in order to reach great heights in our lives, it is important for us to have good communication skills.

(b) Since habits form by repeating both good and bad forms of communication, we must learn to observe great communicators and adopt their styles and traits - in written and verbal forms.

The art of listening and learning from each and every interaction, is another secret recipe. We must develop the subconscious habit of listening to ourselves as we speak and know when to pause.

(c) Learning what not to say, according to the writer, is probably more important than learning what to say. As our career develops, we realise that the wise speak less. We must speak when we have value to add, else refrain. We must avoid making grammatical errors and improperly structured emails, especially while communicating with seniors.

We must avoid communication in an emotional state when we might say something we will regret later. Such is the power of words. In case such an event takes place we must apologise.

(d) Adding humour and wit is also essential. But we must realise that not all jokes are funny and observe certain boundaries. We must never say anything to offend anyone.

Properly  
answered

**2.2 Choose the most appropriate meanings of the given words from the options provided.**

- (a) evaluate (para 1)  
(i) estimate                      (ii) assume                      (iii) punish                      (iv) evolve
- (b) trait (para 1)  
(i) treaty                      (ii) trail                      (iii) quality                      (iv) liberty
- (c) utter (para 2)  
(i) flatter                      (ii) speak                      (iii) rot                      (iv) unique
- (d) haunt (para 2)  
(i) hunt                      (ii) chant                      (iii) trouble                      (iv) avoid

Ans.

A2.2 (a) (i) estimate ✓  
(b) (iii) quality ✓  
(c) (ii) speak ✓  
(d) (iii) trouble ✓

3. You had visited Antarctica and had an opportunity to see the polar ice caps melting and realised that the threat of global warming is very real. Taking ideas from the MCB unit on Environment along with your own ideas, write an article in 100–120 words on what a student can do to preserve the environment. You are Rama/Ram.

Or

You were one among a group of students who represented your state in a national youth exchange programme. It was an eye-opener which made you realise the spirit of unity in diversity. Taking ideas from the MCB unit on National Integration along with your own ideas, write a letter to the editor of a newspaper in 100–120 words on the importance of National Integration. You are Maya/Mohan, 4 Rampur Road, Bareilly.

Ans.

A3: <sup>really</sup> Are we the ultimate species? - (Time to think)  
(by Rama)

"No matter how hard we try, we cannot know everything, for it is once in a lifetime that you come across something that truly opens your eyes and you realise that everything that you believed in until now was a gigantic hoax and that there is always more to the story or picture than what appears to be." I was reminded of these lines when I stood in the middle of the land of snow and ice watching the dim sunlight making way

Nice attempt and well organized answer

through the canopy of trees and the sad sight of the ice caps melting seemed to take away all the beauty of the place.

We often take things for granted and think of ourselves as the greatest example of evolution on earth. In our desire to be the ultimate species we have become horribly self-centered, caring little about the environment around us and what effects our actions have on the environment. Little do we realise that without the environment and its well-being, there will be no 'us', for it our duty to co-exist with the forces of nature peacefully and harmoniously. The threat of Global Warming is very real and our misdeeds have already begun to show their ill effects. The excessive emission of carbon in the atmosphere, reckless cutting of trees on a large scale and use of automobiles has lead released emissions in the atmosphere that disturb the natural balance of cycles in nature, <sup>which is</sup> also the reason why there are untimely rain-showers and droughts and floods in places. If this continues then <sup>pretty</sup> soon ~~enough~~ the entire mankind will be wiped away off from the surface of the earth because we all know about the all pervasive power of nature and ephemerality of humankind.

Therefore, I think it is time we start doing something about it. As students we can urge our elders to use more eco-friendly transport, to not burn firewood, to minimise the use of aerosols or anything that contributes to environment degradation. We need to follow

the three R's — Reuse, Reduce, Recycle and take steps towards a better future.

The future awaits us with a gold mine of treasures and benefits for those who wish to coexist peacefully and use what the environment or nature has to offer at optimum levels. So it's finally time to stop thinking and start doing!

4. Write a short story in 150-200 words on the basis of the hints provided.

The doorbell rang. Sunil opened the door. At first he could not recognise the tall and well-dressed man who stood before him. Then the man spoke and all of a sudden .....

Or

Aravind was distracted. He couldn't concentrate in the class. The incident which had happened that morning had shattered him .....

Ans.

Q4) short story OR The Best Mom

Aravind was distracted. He couldn't concentrate in the class. The incident which had happened in the morning had shattered him. Aravind felt dizzy at the very thought and covered his face with his hands as if to save himself from the horror of his thoughts. Ever since Aravind's father died his mother was his only family. He died before Aravind could get to know him better and so his mother was the only family he knew. Lately his mother had become very protective of him and felt the urge to question his every action and prevented him from going out with his friends. The morning in question he had an argument with his mother about the same. What started off as a mere spark escalated to wild fire and Aravind stormed out of the house leaving his mother almost in tears as he slammed the door behind him and ~~stom~~ walked out. He questioned his mother's integrity and cursed her for ruining his life. Now that an hour had passed by he finally realised how wrong he was. He couldn't get himself to think about how badly he <sup>had</sup> hurt his mother. He felt as if the ground was slipping

beneath his feet and he was crouching on soot. He thought of various ways to make amends with his mother and finally came up with a brilliant idea. He knew that what he had done could not be compensated for by a simple apology but he decided to give it a try.

When we went back home with heavy steps each speaking of the guilt and shame that hung over him he did not find his mother at home. He wrote a letter to his mom saying how sorry he was about how he acted and that he promised to never repeat it. He bought flowers for her and left the letter and the flowers at her desk.

When his mom came back from work he hid himself behind the curtains to note her expression on reading it. Within ~~5~~ five minutes he noticed her crying and rushed to give her a hug and whispered in her ear, "You are the best mom ever."

Well organized answer

5. Read the passage given below and fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate options from the ones that follow:

Alaska's size and climate make transportation (a) ..... challenge. Long ago sledges pulled (b) ..... dog teams were the best way to travel (c) ..... native people.

- |     |        |           |           |             |
|-----|--------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| (a) | (i) an | (ii) the  | (iii) a   | (iv) for    |
| (b) | (i) by | (ii) with | (iii) of  | (iv) beside |
| (c) | (i) by | (ii) to   | (iii) for | (iv) with   |

Ans.

A5)	(a) (iii) a	✓	filled in correctly
(b)	(i) by	✓	
(c)	(iii) for	✓	

6. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line against which a blank has been given. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet against the correct blank number as given in the example. Remember to underline the word that you have supplied.

	Incorrect	Correct
The road to success is no a bed of roses.	no	not
(a) Only those who wade on hazards and hurdles	.....	.....
(b) can achieve successful. Set yourself clear goals	.....	.....
(c) and define precisely what you wants to do.	.....	.....
(d) Goals provide direction for your behaviour	.....	.....
(e) and guide your actions or thoughts. Specific goals	.....	.....
(f) are better than general ones. Let every parts	.....	.....
(g) of your body is full of that idea. Winners do not	.....	.....
(h) do different things, they does things differently.	.....	.....

Ans.

A6.)	<u>Errors</u>	<u>Correction</u>	
(a)	on	through	✓
(b)	successful	success	✓
(c)	wants	want	Corrections done meticulously
(d)	for	to	
(e)	or	and	✓
(f)	parts	part	✓
(g)	is	be	✓
(h)	does	do	✓

7. Read the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences.

- (a) coloured bus/children/we saw/full of/a yellow/excited/
- (b) they were/we guessed/on the/planetarium/way/to the/
- (c) part/this/study tour/of their/was/

Ans.

A7.)	(a) We saw a yellow coloured bus full of excited children.	✓
	(b) We guessed they were on the way to the planetarium.	✓
	(c) This was part of their study tour.	✓

Rearranged words into meaningful sentences

8. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

And immediately I regretted it.

I thought how paltry, how vulgar, what a mean act!

I despised myself and the voices of my accursed human education.

- (a) What was the mean act?
- (b) Why did the poet despise himself?
- (c) What does the word 'accursed' mean in the above context?

Or

"Well, you needn't be, because I just came to tell you to stop bothering us for assistance; you ain't going to get it. We're going on strike!"

- (a) Who speaks these words and to whom?
- (b) What was the 'assistance' that was denied?
- (c) What does the word 'accursed' mean?

Ans.

Q8)

Or

A) (a) The ghost/phantom named Helen speaks these words to John Hallock. ✓

(b) Helen and the other ghosts, who were a part of the Writers' Inspiration Bureau used to help writers by providing them inspiration to write and to give them ideas, but now that they were going on strike they decided to stop providing them with this assistance.

(c) 'Bothering' means troubling or asking for something.

To the point answers

9. Answer any **four** of the following questions in 30-40 words each.

- (a) Why was the Albatross considered as a 'Christian Soul'?
- (b) Why couldn't Michael help Sebastian the first time?
- (c) How did Decius Brutus interpret Calpurnia's dream?
- (d) How did Patol Babu lose his job in Calcutta?
- (e) What message does the poem, 'Ozymandians' convey?

Ans.

(a) The sheer devastating power and overtaking wing of the ocean wave/sea wave had forced the ship in the southward (extreme) direction, far away from its destination so much so that the ship looked like victim trying to run away from its enemy with the enemy's shadow still falling on it. This change in direction took them to the land of ice and mist. There was ice all around floating in the form of cliffs appearing

like emeralds due to reflection of surface water. The atmosphere was dismal and disheartening making them devoid of hope. In such unpleasant circumstances, the Albatross came from the land of mist and fog and to the Christian sailors aboard, it seemed to be a 'Christian soul' bringing hope to them just like Jesus had brought <sup>new</sup> hope to the world. It was the only living creature they had spotted in a long time and it was only after his arrival that the favourable south winds started blowing and the ship set sail again as the ice cracked.

(c) Decius Brutus was one of the conspirators who wanted Caesar dead and therefore had come to fetch Caesar to the Senate House. When Caesar told him about his wife's fears and ill omens, he realised that in that case the conspiracy or plan to kill him would fail. Hence, to save his skin as well as to realise his selfish intentions he interpreted the dream so that it would appeal to Caesar's vanity. He told him that his

Deep understanding  
of the topic

statue gushing blood like a fountain from a hundred spouts was a sign that Rome will gain energy and life from him. That powerful Romans bathe their hands in it signifies that they will dip their handkerchiefs in his sacred blood and keep them as momentos or souvenirs. Thus, it signifies that he would become the most powerful of all Romans.

(d) In 1934, Patel Babu got a better job with comparatively better wage than his previous job (in the (Railway factory) with Hudson and Kimberley. He worked as a clerk and got money enough to keep his financial condition stable and look after his family crisis. For as long as he worked there he led a satisfactory life and, was also fortunate enough to find a flat in the Netaji Bhattacharji Lane where he started living <sup>in Calcutta</sup> with his wife. But in 1943, due to sudden retrenchment (golden handshake) in his office, he lost his job.

(e) The poem, 'Ozymandias', is written by Percy Bysshe Shelley. The powerful and the rich often get their statues erected in an attempt to immortalise themselves so that the posterity/progeny remember their mighty deeds in the times to come. This highlights their short-sightedness, for nature, <sup>which</sup> is all pervasive and all powerful, rendering has the ability to render all such attempts as futile. Time takes its toll on everyone and everything, and

they mock at the dilapidated remains of statues which lie neglected here and there. Thus, the poem highlights the all pervasive, long-lasting power of nature and the ephemeralities (short-lives) of mankind.

10. Patience and hard work go a long way in achieving your goals. How does Patol Babu win the admiration of the director through a very small role ? Write in 80-100 words.

Or

Mark Antony, with the help of his oratory, succeeded in winning the mob over to his side. This led to the downfall of the conspirators. Write in 80-100 words, how with the power of words he could effect a change in his listeners.

Ans.

OR

Mark Antony was Caesar's loyal friend and all through his life remained true to his country, to its people and to his slain friend.

He was a hard practical idealist-dreamer and was a powerful orator. The moment he saw his friend's corpse lying on the ground he referred to him as the noblest man who ever lived and asked the men to kill him (if they intended to) for no hour and no weapon would be as suitable as the hour and weapon <sup>used for</sup> of Caesar's death or to kill Caesar, even if he lived on for a thousand years. Later he got hold of his emotions and thought of taking revenge and turning the tables on the conspirators for if he were dead then they would succeed in their political ambitions. He asked for an opportunity to speak at Caesar's funeral in the marketplace and shook hands with the conspirators. Despite.

disapproval from Caesar, Brutus granted him permission asking him to mention that he was speaking with their permission and only to praise Caesar and not to speak ill of them.

Mark Antony and Brutus delivered their speech.

**11. Answer the following in 150-200 words.**

How does Anne criticise the attitude of the grown-ups in her diary ?

Or

Write a character sketch of Mrs. van Daan.

Or

What were Helen's memories of Radcliffe ?

Or

How important was the presence of Miss Anne Sullivan in Helen's life ?

**Ans.**

“ Without Miss Anne Sullivan, ~~to~~ my life was literally and symbolically in darkness. It was like a ship without a compass.”

Such was the love that Helen had for her teacher. Before the arrival of Miss Sullivan Helen was like the wild child caught inside the silent prison of her own body. Helen became deaf, blind and dumb at the age of two. She had a lot of anger and agitation trapped

inside herself for she felt like an outcast in the world even though she was greatly loved by her family. Helen's father was a gentleman who believed in the power of hope and did not want to deprive Helen of the benefits of education. They started looking for an accomplished teacher to teach Helen and found assistance in Anne Sullivan who was known to be an expert in

teaching the blind. Helen at first had difficulty adapting to this new phase of life that she was to embark upon but with Anne Sullivan's assistance she learned to read and write with the help of the manual alphabet. She spelled letters in her hand and repeated and read stories to her.

The first word that Helen spoke was doll and then water and this gave her immense pleasure to know that she could do things just like everybody else. Anne Sullivan accompanied Helen wherever she went and it was because of her untiring efforts that Helen could live her dream of going to Radcliffe College and work on her humanitarian missions around the world.

Had Miss Anne Sullivan not been there Helen would not have been able to achieve so much in her life. She was like a constant companion in good times and in bad. She encouraged her to believe in herself and pushed her to achieve greater things in life. She taught her to aim for the moon because that way even if she failed she would land up among the stars. She persuaded Helen to write, to work on her weaknesses and constantly assisted her during lectures.

Thus, it would be right to say that she liberated the caged bird and there is no Helen Keller story without Anne Sullivan for it was only when she got the wind knocked out of her that she was reminded of how much she loved the taste of air.

Sound understanding  
of the novel