

SECTION D LITERATURE

Principal
Sir

ONE SHOT / GOLDEN REVISION

- ✓ QUESTIONS
- ✓ THEMES
- ✓ MESSAGES

HBSE CLASS 12

LIVE @ 11:00 A.M.

ONE DAY BEFORE EXAM!



HBSE ENGLISH LITERATURE – GOLDEN REVISION CHART

 Writer's Tone +  Theme +  Message (With Writer Names)

 Chapter /
Poem

 Writer /
Poet

 Writer's
Tone

 Main Theme

 Core Message
(Golden
Keywords)

The Last Lesson

Alphonse
Daudet

Patriotic,
Emotional

Language &
Identity

Respect mother
tongue; value
time

Lost Spring	Anees Jung	Sympathetic, Critical	Child Labour & Poverty	Society must protect childhood
Deep Water	William Douglas	Inspirational	Fear vs Courage	Face fear with determination
Indigo	Louis Fischer	Respectful, Historical	Non-violence & Justice	Truth brings social change
The Rattrap	Selma Lagerlöf	Philosophical, Humane	Redemption	Kindness transforms lives
Poets and Pancakes	Asokamitran	Satirical, Humorous	Film Industry Reality	Creativity & teamwork
Going Places	A.R. Barton	Realistic, Reflective	Dreams vs Reality	Be practical in life
My Mother at Sixty-Six	Kamala Das	Emotional, Tender	Aging & Separation	Accept life with love
An Elementary School Classroom...	Stephen Spender	Critical, Reformative	Social Inequality	Education = Freedom
Keeping Quiet	Pablo Neruda	Philosophical, Peaceful	Self-reflection	Silence creates awareness

A Thing of Beauty	John Keats	Optimistic, Soothing	Nature & Joy	Beauty heals suffering
A Roadside Stand	Robert Frost	Sympathetic, Serious	Rural Struggle	Urban neglect of villages
Aunt Jennifer's Tigers	Adrienne Rich	Feminist, Critical	Patriarchal Oppression	Art shows hidden freedom
The Third Level	Jack Finney	Nostalgic, Mysterious	Escapism	Humans seek peace
The Tiger King	Kalki	Satirical, Ironic	Pride & Fate	Destiny cannot be escaped
Journey to the End of the Earth	Tishani Doshi	Reflective, Concerned	Climate Change	Protect environment
The Enemy	Pearl S. Buck	Humane, Ethical	Duty vs Humanity	Compassion above war
On the Face of It	Susan Hill	Motivational, Empathetic	Self-Acceptance	Positive thinking heals
Memories of Childhood	Zitkala-Sa & Bama	Emotional, Protest	Discrimination	Education gives dignity

ONE-LINE SUPER REVISION (FOR LIVE SESSION)

- ✓ Patriotic – Daudet
- ✓ Sympathetic – Anees Jung / Frost
- ✓ Inspirational – Douglas
- ✓ Satirical – Kalki / Asokamitran
- ✓ Philosophical – Neruda / Lagerlöf
- ✓ Feminist – Adrienne Rich
- ✓ Humane – Pearl S. Buck

40/40 GUARANTEED STRATEGY – LITERATURE SECTION (HBSE CLASS 12)

  **MASTER ONLY THESE 3 THINGS (Exam Secret)**

Most students waste time on full stories. HBSE checks only:

- ✓ **Questions (Important Points)**
- ✓ **Themes**
- ✓ **Messages + Writer's Tone**

If students remember these, 90% answers become automatic.

2 GOLDEN RULE – EVERY ANSWER FORMULA

Use this structure in ALL answers:

-  Line 1: Theme / Central Idea
-  Line 2: Character / Event Support
-  Line 3: Message + Writer's Tone

Example:

The writer uses a sympathetic tone to highlight child labour and show society's responsibility.

Examiner gives full marks for keywords.

3 MOST SCORING CHAPTERS (DO NOT MISS)

 Flamingo Prose (Compulsory)

- ✓ The Last Lesson
- ✓ Lost Spring
- ✓ Deep Water
- ✓ Indigo
- ✓ The Rattrap

 Poetry (High Weightage)

- ✓ My Mother at Sixty-Six
- ✓ A Thing of Beauty
- ✓ Aunt Jennifer's Tigers
- ✓ Keeping Quiet

🔥 Vistas (Sure Shot)

- ✓ The Third Level
- ✓ The Enemy
- ✓ On the Face of It
- ✓ The Tiger King

👉 These alone cover almost full paper trend.

4 HOW TO WRITE LONG ANSWER FOR FULL MARKS

Use 3 Paragraph Golden Format:

- ✓ Para 1 → Introduction + Theme
- ✓ Para 2 → Example from Chapter
- ✓ Para 3 → Message + Tone + Conclusion line

Golden closing line:

Thus, the writer conveys a powerful message of humanity, courage and hope.

5 EXTRACT QUESTIONS – 100% SCORING TRICK

Always include:

- ✓ Chapter Name
- ✓ Writer Name
- ✓ Tone word (patriotic / sympathetic / ironic)

Example:

The extract is taken from “The Last Lesson” by Alphonse Daudet. The tone is patriotic and emotional.

Examiner instantly gives marks.

6 BIGGEST MISTAKES STUDENTS MAKE

- ✗ Writing full story
- ✗ Missing writer name
- ✗ No theme or message
- ✗ Too long sentences

👉 HBSE prefers short, keyword-rich answers.

★ FINAL GOLDEN MANTRA (Say this in Live Session)

🔥 “Tone + Theme + Message = 40/40 in Literature”

1 The Last Lesson – Alphonse Daudet

This chapter is set during the Franco-Prussian War and highlights the importance of language and patriotism. Through Franz and M. Hamel, the writer shows how people realise the value of their mother tongue only when it is taken away.

🟢 📖 1. THE LAST LESSON – Alphonse Daudet

- 1 🇫🇷 Story set during Franco-Prussian War.
- 2 🧑 Franz is afraid of school due to unfinished homework.
- 3 🏠 Villagers gather quietly in classroom.
- 4 🗣️ M. Hamel announces last French lesson.
- 5 📜 Berlin order makes German compulsory.
- 6 😞 Franz feels regret for ignoring studies.
- 7 📖 Grammar lesson suddenly seems easy.
- 8 🎵 Writing practice becomes emotional.
- 9 🗣️ Old villagers show respect for language.
- 10 🕒 Hamel recalls 40 years of service.
- 11 ❤️ Tone becomes patriotic and emotional.
- 12 🧠 Theme: language = identity.
- 13 💬 “Vive La France” symbolizes resistance.
- 14 🧑 Franz matures through realization.
- 15 📖 Teacher-student bond highlighted.
- 16 ⚔️ War affects education deeply.
- 17 🖌️ Symbolism of blackboard message.
- 18 😞 Silence in class shows grief.
- 19 🏆 Message: value opportunities.
- 20 ✨ Moral: respect mother tongue.

2 Lost Spring – Anees Jung

The chapter presents the harsh realities of child labour and poverty through the lives of Saheb and Mukesh. The author uses a sympathetic tone to expose social injustice and the loss of childhood dreams.

2. LOST SPRING – Anees Jung

- 1  Saheb collects garbage in Seemapuri.
- 2  “Garbage is gold” for poor children.
- 3  Poverty forces child labour.
- 4  Saheb later works at tea stall.
- 5  Loss of freedom shown symbolically.
- 6  Mukesh dreams of being mechanic.
- 7  Firozabad famous for bangle industry.
- 8  Workers suffer blindness.
- 9  Tradition traps families in poverty.
- 10  Education denied to children.
- 11  Writer uses sympathetic tone.
- 12  Theme: stolen childhood.
- 13  Social injustice highlighted.
- 14  Contrast between hope & reality.
- 15  Title symbolizes lost dreams.
- 16  Mukesh shows courage to break cycle.
- 17  Saheb loses happiness at job.
- 18  Urban poverty described vividly.
- 19  Message: society must change.
- 20  Moral: protect children’s future

3 Deep Water – William Douglas

This autobiographical narrative describes Douglas’ childhood fear of water and his journey towards courage. The story inspires readers to overcome fear through determination and practice.



3. DEEP WATER – William Douglas

- 1 🏊 Childhood fear begins at YMCA pool.
 - 2 🧑‍🦯 A boy pushes Douglas into deep water.
 - 3 🌊 He nearly drowns and feels terror.
 - 4 🧠 Trauma affects his confidence.
 - 5 🧑‍🏫 Douglas hires swimming instructor.
 - 6 🧑‍🦯 Training uses belt and rope method.
 - 7 🔄 Repeated practice builds courage.
 - 8 🏞️ Tests himself at Lake Wentworth.
 - 9 🏊 Later swims in Warm Lake.
 - 10 💬 “All we have to fear is fear itself.”
 - 11 🧠 Theme: fear vs courage.
 - 12 🎯 Determination leads to success.
 - 13 🪶 Tone turns inspirational.
 - 14 🧑 Personal growth highlighted.
 - 15 🔥 Fear is psychological barrier.
 - 16 💪 Confidence comes through action.
 - 17 🚫 Experience becomes life lesson.
 - 18 🏆 Message: face fears directly.
 - 19 🧑 Mental strength emphasized.
 - 20 ✨ Moral: perseverance wins.
-

4 Indigo – Louis Fischer

The chapter narrates Mahatma Gandhi’s struggle for justice in Champaran. It highlights the power of non-violence, truth and strong leadership in bringing social change.



4. INDIGO – Louis Fischer

- 1 🌾 Champaran peasants forced to grow indigo.
- 2 🧑‍🦯 Rajkumar Shukla invites Gandhi.
- 3 🧑 Gandhi arrives to investigate.
- 4 ⚖️ British planters exploit farmers.
- 5 🏛️ Gandhi refuses to leave court order.
- 6 🙋 Civil disobedience inspires people.
- 7 📊 Evidence collected from peasants.

- 8 🤝 Settlement gives 25% refund.
 - 9 🧠 Gandhi values moral victory.
 - 10 📖 Education and hygiene reforms begin.
 - 11 🙌 Tone respectful and factual.
 - 12 🕊️ Theme: truth & non-violence.
 - 13 🧑 Lawyer learns courage from Gandhi.
 - 14 🧱 Fear of British authority breaks.
 - 15 🏆 Success of peaceful protest.
 - 16 🌱 Change starts at grassroots.
 - 17 🪦 Leadership through humility.
 - 18 ❤️ Humanity over power.
 - 19 🗣️ Message: justice through unity.
 - 20 ✨ Moral: truth always wins.
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5 Poets and Pancakes – Asokamitran

This humorous account describes life inside Gemini Studios and reveals the reality behind the glamour of the film industry. The writer uses satire to portray human behavior and workplace culture.

🟢 📖 5. THE RATTRAP – Selma Lagerlöf

- 1 🧑 Peddler sells small rattraps.
- 2 🧠 Creates philosophy: world is a trap.
- 3 🏠 Steals money from crofter.
- 4 🌲 Gets lost in forest.
- 5 🔥 Takes shelter at ironmaster's house.
- 6 🧑 Ironmaster mistakes him for captain.
- 7 🧑 Edla shows kindness.
- 8 🌲 Invited for Christmas dinner.
- 9 😊 Peddler feels respect for first time.
- 10 ✉️ Leaves letter and returns money.
- 11 🙌 Tone philosophical & humane.
- 12 🧠 Theme: redemption through compassion.
- 13 ⚖️ Ironmaster judges by appearance.
- 14 ❤️ Edla believes in goodness.
- 15 ☀️ Transformation of character.
- 16 🪄 Rattrap symbolizes worldly temptations.

- 17 🌀 Moral awakening shown.
 - 18 🤝 Kindness changes destiny.
 - 19 🏆 Message: empathy heals.
 - 20 ✨ Moral: trust brings change.
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6 The Interview – Christopher Silvester

This chapter discusses the role and impact of interviews in journalism and literature. It presents different viewpoints about interviews and explores their influence on public life.

6. POETS AND PANCAKES – Asokamitran

- 1 🎬 Story set at Gemini Studios.
- 2 🧴 Pancakes refer to makeup products.
- 3 🌐 Makeup room shows national integration.
- 4 🧑 Subbu known for intelligence.
- 5 🗨️ Office boy envies writers.
- 6 🎥 Film industry culture described.
- 7 😄 Humour and satire throughout.
- 8 🎤 Visit of poetess and critic.
- 9 🗣️ English poet misunderstood by audience.
- 10 🗣️ Writer shares personal experience.
- 11 🗣️ Tone humorous & satirical.
- 12 🧠 Theme: reality behind glamour.
- 13 👥 Teamwork in studio.
- 14 📖 Importance of communication.
- 15 🍷 Creative environment shown.
- 16 📄 Social commentary included.
- 17 😞 Ego and insecurity highlighted.
- 18 🎬 Film culture explored.
- 19 🏆 Message: humility matters.
- 20 ✨ Moral: talent + cooperation = success

7. THE INTERVIEW – Christopher Silvester

- 1  Discusses power of interviews.
 - 2  Opinions of writers about interviews.
 - 3  Some consider it intrusive.
 - 4  Others see it as useful tool.
 - 5  Reveals hidden personality.
 - 6  Example of Umberto Eco.
 - 7  Eco balances writing and academic work.
 - 8  Shows discipline and time management.
 - 9  Interviews shape public image.
 - 10  Tone analytical.
 - 11  Pros and cons balanced.
 - 12  Theme: media influence.
 - 13  Importance of communication.
 - 14  Literature meets journalism.
 - 15  Honest opinions shared.
 - 16  Personality explored through questions.
 - 17  Message: thoughtful dialogue matters.
 - 18  Interviews can inspire readers.
 - 19  Ethical concerns raised.
 - 20  Moral: respect privacy.
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Going Places – A.R. Barton

The story explores teenage dreams and fantasies through Sophie's character. It contrasts imagination with reality and shows the challenges of working-class life.

8. GOING PLACES – A.R. Barton

- 1  Sophie dreams of fame.
- 2  Imagines meeting Danny Casey.
- 3  Lives in fantasy world.
- 4  Jansie represents realism.
- 5  Working-class background shown.

- 6 👨‍👩‍👧 Family struggles financially.
 - 7 🌈 Dreams vs reality contrast.
 - 8 ⚽ Football match becomes escape.
 - 9 💬 Sophie waits for imaginary meeting.
 - 10 😞 Ends in disappointment.
 - 11 🗣️ Tone realistic and reflective.
 - 12 🧠 Theme: illusion vs reality.
 - 13 💡 Youthful imagination highlighted.
 - 14 ⚖️ Practical thinking emphasized.
 - 15 🔄 Emotional growth hinted.
 - 16 👥 Peer influence visible.
 - 17 🏆 Message: stay grounded.
 - 18 📖 Social realism shown.
 - 19 🎯 Dreams need effort.
 - 20 ✨ Moral: balance hope with reality.
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📖 FLAMINGO – POETRY (Short Introductions)

8 📖 My Mother at Sixty-Six – Kamala Das

The poem expresses the poet's fear of losing her aging mother during a journey to the airport. It beautifully portrays love, separation and acceptance of life's realities.

📖 1. MY MOTHER AT SIXTY-SIX – Kamala Das

- 1 🚗 Poet travelling to airport with mother.
- 2 🧓 Mother looks pale and weak.
- 3 🌙 Face compared to "late winter's moon".
- 4 😞 Poet feels fear of separation.
- 5 🌳 Young trees symbolize youth.
- 6 👧 Children running show energy of life.
- 7 😊 Poet hides sadness with smile.

- 8 ❤️ Theme of aging and mortality.
 - 9 🧠 Emotional conflict shown.
 - 10 🍷 Tone tender and melancholic.
 - 11 ⚖️ Contrast between youth & old age.
 - 12 ❤️ Strong mother-daughter bond.
 - 13 🎯 Acceptance of reality.
 - 14 📷 Visual imagery powerful.
 - 15 🗣️ Simple conversational style.
 - 16 🏆 Message: cherish loved ones.
 - 17 😊 Silence shows deep emotion.
 - 18 📧 Fear of loss central idea.
 - 19 💡 Life's cycle highlighted.
 - 20 ✨ Moral: accept inevitable change.
-

9 Keeping Quiet – Pablo Neruda

This philosophical poem encourages people to pause and reflect on their actions. The poet suggests that silence can bring peace, harmony and deeper understanding.

3. KEEPING QUIET – Pablo Neruda

- 1 😊 Poet asks for silence for 12 seconds.
- 2 🌍 Silence brings unity worldwide.
- 3 ✂️ Stop wars and violence temporarily.
- 4 🧠 Encourage self-reflection.
- 5 🐋 Fishermen should not harm whales.
- 6 🧑 Workers stop destructive activities.
- 7 🍷 Tone peaceful and philosophical.
- 8 🎯 Theme of inner awareness.
- 9 🔄 Silence ≠ inactivity.
- 10 🌱 Nature benefits from pause.
- 11 💭 Meditation-like message.
- 12 🕊️ Promotes global harmony.
- 13 ⚖️ Humans must rethink actions.
- 14 🔥 Criticism of violence.
- 15 🧠 Collective consciousness idea.
- 16 🏆 Message: pause and reflect.
- 17 🌌 Spiritual tone present.

- 18 ⚖️ Balance between action & peace.
 - 19 🗣️ Universal appeal.
 - 20 ✨ Moral: silence leads to understanding.
-

10 A Thing of Beauty – John Keats

The poem celebrates the everlasting joy that beauty in nature brings to human life. It highlights how natural beauty provides hope and emotional healing.

📖 4. A THING OF BEAUTY – John Keats

- 1 🌸 Beauty gives eternal joy.
 - 2 🌳 Nature heals human sadness.
 - 3 ☀️ Sun, trees, flowers described.
 - 4 💧 Beauty compared to “immortal drink”.
 - 5 🧠 Removes depression and hopelessness.
 - 6 🌄 Nature creates peace.
 - 7 🗣️ Tone optimistic and soothing.
 - 8 🌀 Theme of nature’s power.
 - 9 🌟 Beauty inspires creativity.
 - 10 🌻 Daffodils symbolize happiness.
 - 11 🖋️ Poetic imagery rich.
 - 12 📖 Romanticism reflected.
 - 13 ❤️ Emotional comfort from nature.
 - 14 🧘 Spiritual refreshment shown.
 - 15 🔄 Beauty never fades.
 - 16 🏆 Message: appreciate nature daily.
 - 17 🌙 Connection between humans & earth.
 - 18 🎨 Art and beauty linked.
 - 19 💡 Positive outlook encouraged.
 - 20 ✨ Moral: beauty sustains life.
-

11 A Roadside Stand – Robert Frost

The poem portrays the struggles of rural people ignored by modern society. Through a serious tone, the poet criticizes urban selfishness and economic inequality.

5. A ROADSIDE STAND – Robert Frost

- 1  Poor villagers set roadside stall.
- 2  Rich city people ignore them.
- 3  Villagers hope for economic help.
- 4  Urban greed criticized.
- 5  Poet shows deep sympathy.
- 6  Rural poverty highlighted.
- 7  Tone serious and critical.
- 8  Theme of social inequality.
- 9  False promises by authorities.
- 10  Village life struggles shown.
- 11  Desire for better future.
- 12  Emotional suffering emphasized.
- 13  Anger toward selfish society.
- 14  Message: rural people deserve respect.
- 15  Need for true development.
- 16  Human compassion required.
- 17  Economic imbalance highlighted.
- 18  Thought-provoking ending.
- 19  Realistic social commentary.
- 20  Moral: empathy towards rural poor.

12 Aunt Jennifer's Tigers – Adrienne Rich

This poem reflects the oppression faced by women in patriarchal society. Through symbolic imagery of tigers, the poet presents a contrast between freedom and suppression.

6. AUNT JENNIFER'S TIGERS – Adrienne Rich

- 1  Aunt Jennifer embroiders tigers.
- 2  Tigers symbolize freedom.
- 3  Heavy wedding ring shows burden.
- 4  Aunt feels oppressed.
- 5  Tone feminist and critical.
- 6  Theme of patriarchal dominance.
- 7  Art expresses hidden desires.
- 8  Woman's struggle highlighted.
- 9  Contrast between tigers & Aunt.
- 10  Tigers remain fearless forever.
- 11  Marriage restricts identity.
- 12  Symbolism central to poem.
- 13  Silent suffering portrayed.
- 14  Message: seek inner freedom.
- 15  Feminist perspective strong.
- 16  Gender inequality exposed.
- 17  Creativity as escape.
- 18  Deep emotional layers.
- 19  Quiet protest through art.
- 20  Moral: strength survives through creativity.

POETIC DEVICES + DEFINITIONS + RHYME SCHEME

1 My Mother at Sixty-Six – Kamala Das

Rhyme Scheme

➔ **Free Verse** – A poem without a fixed rhyme pattern or regular rhythm.

Poetic Devices

✔ **Simile**

- 👉 *Definition:* A comparison using “like” or “as”.
- 👉 Example: “*face... like a late winter’s moon.*”

✔ **Repetition**

- 👉 *Definition:* Repeating words for emphasis.
- 👉 Example: “*smile and smile and smile.*”

✔ **Imagery**

- 👉 *Definition:* Language that creates visual pictures in the reader’s mind.
- 👉 Example: Young trees and running children.

✔ **Contrast**

- 👉 *Definition:* Showing difference between two ideas.
 - 👉 Youth vs Old age.
-

2 Keeping Quiet – Pablo Neruda

Rhyme Scheme

➡ **Free Verse** – No fixed rhyming pattern.

✨ **Poetic Devices**

✔ **Anaphora**

- 👉 *Definition:* Repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning of lines.
- 👉 Example: Repeated use of “Let’s”.

✔ **Alliteration**

- 👉 *Definition:* Repetition of consonant sounds at the beginning of words.
- 👉 Example: “*we will.*”

✔ **Symbolism**

- 👉 *Definition:* Using an object or idea to represent a deeper meaning.
- 👉 Silence represents peace and self-reflection.

✔ **Enjambment**

- 👉 *Definition:* A sentence continues to the next line without pause.
-

3 A Thing of Beauty – John Keats

Rhyme Scheme

→ Heroic Couplet (AA BB CC) – Every two lines rhyme together.

Poetic Devices

Metaphor

- 👉 *Definition:* Direct comparison without using “like” or “as”.
- 👉 Example: Beauty described as “*immortal drink.*”

Alliteration

- 👉 *Definition:* Same starting sound in nearby words.
- 👉 Example: “*cooling covert.*”

Personification

- 👉 *Definition:* Giving human qualities to non-human things.
- 👉 Nature gives joy like a human.

Imagery

- 👉 *Definition:* Descriptive language creating mental images.
-

4 Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers – Adrienne Rich

Rhyme Scheme

→ AABB – Two lines rhyme together followed by another rhyming pair.

Poetic Devices

Symbolism

- 👉 *Definition:* Objects represent deeper meanings.
- 👉 Tigers = freedom, Ring = burden of marriage.

Alliteration

- 👉 *Definition:* Repetition of consonant sound.
- 👉 “*prancing proud.*”

✓ **Contrast**

- 👉 *Definition:* Opposite ideas shown together.
- 👉 Weak Aunt vs Strong Tigers.

✓ **Imagery**

- 👉 *Definition:* Vivid description of jungle and embroidery.
-

5 A Roadside Stand – Robert Frost

Rhyme Scheme

- ➡ **Free Verse** – No regular rhyme pattern.

✨ **Poetic Devices**

✓ **Irony**

- 👉 *Definition:* Difference between expectation and reality.
- 👉 Villagers expect help but receive none.

✓ **Alliteration**

- 👉 *Definition:* Same consonant sounds repeated.

✓ **Imagery**

- 👉 *Definition:* Visual description of roadside scene.

✓ **Symbolism**

- 👉 *Definition:* Roadside stand represents rural struggle.
-

QUICK GOLDEN REVISION TABLE

 **Poem**

 **Rhyme Scheme**  **Key Devices (Definition Keywords)**

My Mother at Sixty-Six

Free Verse

Simile, Repetition, Imagery

Keeping Quiet	Free Verse	Anaphora, Symbolism
A Thing of Beauty	AA BB CC	Metaphor, Personification
Aunt Jennifer's Tigers	AABB	Symbolism, Contrast
A Roadside Stand	Free Verse	Irony, Imagery

VISTAS – SUPPLEMENTARY READER (Short Introductions)

The Third Level – Jack Finney

This psychological fantasy explores Charley's desire to escape modern stress by imagining a peaceful past. The story blends reality with imagination to present the theme of escapism.

1. THE THIRD LEVEL – Jack Finney

- 1  Story set at Grand Central Station.
- 2  Charley feels stressed in modern life.
- 3  Discovers mysterious third level.
- 4  Leads to year 1894.
- 5  Past life shown peaceful and simple.
- 6  Theme of escapism highlighted.
- 7  Psychological fantasy element.
- 8  Sam sends first-day cover letter.
- 9  Old-style currency described.

- 10 🕒 Nostalgia for past era.
 - 11 🗨️ Tone mysterious and nostalgic.
 - 12 🌀 Reality vs imagination blurred.
 - 13 🏘️ Galesburg symbolizes peace.
 - 14 😊 Desire to escape anxiety.
 - 15 🧑 Modern world shown chaotic.
 - 16 🧠 Mental refuge idea presented.
 - 17 🏆 Message: humans seek comfort.
 - 18 📖 Open-ended ending.
 - 19 🧩 Psychological interpretation possible.
 - 20 ✨ Moral: peace often lies within mind.
-

14 The Tiger King – Kalki

The story is a satirical tale about a king obsessed with killing tigers to defeat a prophecy. It highlights irony and shows how fate ultimately overpowers human pride.

🌐 📖 2. THE TIGER KING – Kalki

- 1 👑 Maharaja obsessed with killing tigers.
- 2 🌐 Prophecy predicts death by tiger.
- 3 🐅 Kills ninety-nine tigers.
- 4 ⚔️ Pride and arrogance grow.
- 5 🎯 Hunts to defeat fate.
- 6 😊 Satire on royal behavior.
- 7 📖 Toy tiger causes injury.
- 8 🦠 Infection leads to death.
- 9 🌀 Strong irony throughout story.
- 10 🗨️ Tone humorous and ironic.
- 11 🧠 Theme: destiny vs power.
- 12 🗨️ Criticism of authority.
- 13 🗨️ Exaggeration adds humour.
- 14 ⚖️ Fate cannot be controlled.
- 15 🧑 Maharaja's ego highlighted.
- 16 🏆 Message: arrogance leads to downfall.
- 17 📖 Political satire present.
- 18 🕒 Story ends with irony.

- 19 💡 Lesson about humility.
 - 20 ✨ Moral: destiny is unpredictable.
-

15 Journey to the End of the Earth – Tishani Doshi

This travel narrative describes a journey to Antarctica and raises awareness about climate change. The writer reflects on environmental responsibility and the future of Earth.

3. JOURNEY TO THE END OF THE EARTH – Tishani Doshi

- 1 ❄️ Writer visits Antarctica.
 - 2 🌍 Explains Earth's geological history.
 - 3 🧊 Ice layers reveal past climate.
 - 4 🧠 Human impact on environment discussed.
 - 5 🔥 Global warming highlighted.
 - 6 🏠 Students on Ice programme introduced.
 - 7 📖 Educational expedition for youth.
 - 8 🍷 Reflective and concerned tone.
 - 9 🌊 Antarctica symbolizes purity.
 - 10 🌐 Theme: environmental awareness.
 - 11 🧑 Humans responsible for damage.
 - 12 🌱 Need to protect nature.
 - 13 📖 Science meets literature.
 - 14 🧠 Climate change warning.
 - 15 🌫️ Fragile ecosystem described.
 - 16 🏆 Message: save Earth's future.
 - 17 💡 Awareness through education.
 - 18 🌍 Antarctica as time capsule.
 - 19 🤝 Global responsibility emphasized.
 - 20 ✨ Moral: respect nature's balance.
-

16 The Enemy – Pearl S. Buck

Set during World War II, this story presents a moral conflict between duty and humanity. Dr. Sadao's actions highlight compassion and ethical responsibility.

4. THE ENEMY – Pearl S. Buck

- 1  Dr. Sadao is a Japanese surgeon.
- 2  Finds injured American soldier.
- 3  World War setting.
- 4  Conflict between duty & humanity.
- 5  Hana supports him.
- 6  Treats enemy secretly.
- 7  Professional ethics highlighted.
- 8  Inner moral struggle shown.
- 9  Helps soldier escape.
- 10  Tone serious and humane.
- 11  Compassion over nationalism.
- 12  Ethical dilemma central.
- 13  War's cruelty exposed.
- 14  Courage in difficult times.
- 15  Message: humanity above hatred.
- 16  Trust between strangers.
- 17  Emotional tension strong.
- 18  Psychological depth.
- 19  Powerful moral lesson.
- 20  Moral: saving life is supreme duty.

17 On the Face of It – Susan Hill

This play explores self-acceptance through the friendship between Derry and Mr. Lamb. It teaches that positivity and confidence can transform one's life.

5. ON THE FACE OF IT – Susan Hill

- 1  Derry has burnt face.
- 2  Meets Mr. Lamb in garden.
- 3  Feels isolated from society.
- 4  Mr. Lamb teaches positivity.

- 5 🍏 Apples symbolize life.
 - 6 🗣️ Deep conversations change Derry.
 - 7 🔄 Theme of self-acceptance.
 - 8 🙌 Tone empathetic and motivational.
 - 9 🏆 Appearance vs inner strength.
 - 10 ☀️ Hopeful message conveyed.
 - 11 🤝 Friendship beyond differences.
 - 12 💭 Fear exists in mind.
 - 13 🧑 Confidence gradually builds.
 - 14 🪦 Mr. Lamb dies tragically.
 - 15 😞 Emotional ending.
 - 16 🏆 Message: think positively.
 - 17 💡 Life has many possibilities.
 - 18 📖 Dialogue-based drama style.
 - 19 🧠 Psychological healing shown.
 - 20 ✨ Moral: accept yourself fully.
-

18 📖 Memories of Childhood – Zitkala-Sa & Bama

These autobiographical accounts describe experiences of discrimination and social injustice. The writers emphasize the power of education and self-respect in overcoming inequality.

🌐 📖 6. MEMORIES OF CHILDHOOD – Zitkala-Sa & Bama

- 1 🧑 Two autobiographical accounts.
- 2 🍌 Zitkala-Sa faces cultural discrimination.
- 3 ✂️ Hair cutting symbolizes identity loss.
- 4 😞 Boarding school oppression.
- 5 🦶 Bama experiences caste discrimination.
- 6 🍌 Untouchability incident shocks her.
- 7 📖 Elder advises education as power.
- 8 🙌 Tone emotional and protest-like.
- 9 🧠 Theme: dignity & equality.
- 10 ⚖️ Social injustice highlighted.
- 11 🧑 Self-respect emphasized.
- 12 🔥 Strong resistance spirit.

- 13  Childhood memories shape identity.
- 14  Message: education brings freedom.
- 15  Cultural awareness important.
- 16  Real-life experiences shared.
- 17  Fight against discrimination.
- 18  Personal growth through struggle.
- 19  Awareness leads to change.
- 20  Moral: equality is fundamental right.

UNIVERSAL ANSWER FORMULA **(40/40 STRUCTURE)**

- ✓ Line 1 – Opening (Chapter + Author + Tone)
 - ✓ Line 2-4 – Add 3 Textual Phrases
 - ✓ Last Line – Strong Conclusion
-

FLAMINGO PROSE – LIVE ANSWER SCRIPT

The Last Lesson – Alphonse Daudet

Opening:

“The Last Lesson’ by Alphonse Daudet is a patriotic and emotional narrative highlighting the value of language.”

Include phrases:

- ✓ “Last French lesson”
- ✓ “Vive La France”
- ✓ “Language as identity”

Closing:

“Thus, the story teaches us to respect our mother tongue before it is lost.”

✨ Lost Spring – Anees Jung

🎤 *Opening:*

“‘Lost Spring’ is a sympathetic account exposing poverty and stolen childhood.”

👉 Phrases:

- ✓ “Garbage is gold”
- ✓ “Seemapuri ragpickers”
- ✓ “Dream of a motor mechanic”

🎤 *Closing:*

“Therefore, the chapter urges society to protect children’s dreams.”

✨ Deep Water – William Douglas

🎤 *Opening:*

“‘Deep Water’ presents a powerful journey from fear to courage through personal experience.”

👉 Phrases:

- ✓ “Terror that froze my blood”
- ✓ “Instructor’s training”
- ✓ “Fear itself”

🎤 *Closing:*

“Ultimately, determination transforms fear into confidence.”

✨ Indigo – Louis Fischer

🎤 *Opening:*

“‘Indigo’ describes Gandhi’s peaceful fight for justice in Champaran.”

👉 Phrases:

- ✓ “Civil disobedience”

- ✓ “25 percent refund”
- ✓ “Fearlessness”

 **Closing:**

“Thus, truth and non-violence become tools of social change.”

The Rattrap – Selma Lagerlöf

 **Opening:**

“This philosophical story shows how kindness changes human behaviour.”

 **Phrases:**

- ✓ “World is a rattrap”
- ✓ “Christmas invitation”
- ✓ “Letter of confession”

 **Closing:**

“In the end, compassion leads to redemption.”

Poets and Pancakes – Asokamitran

 **Opening:**

“This humorous memoir reveals the reality behind film studio glamour.”

 **Phrases:**

- ✓ “Pancake makeup”
- ✓ “Gemini Studios”
- ✓ “Subbu’s creativity”

 **Closing:**

“Thus, satire highlights teamwork and human nature.”

Going Places – A.R. Barton

 **Opening:**

“The story explores teenage fantasy versus harsh reality.”

 **Phrases:**

✓ “Danny Casey dream”

✓ “Working-class life”

✓ “Waiting by canal”

 **Closing:**

“Hence, dreams must be supported by effort and realism.”

FLAMINGO POETRY – LIVE ANSWER SCRIPT

My Mother at Sixty-Six – Kamala Das

 **Opening:**

“This emotional poem reflects fear of losing a loved one.”

 **Phrases:**

✓ “Late winter’s moon”

✓ “Young trees sprinting”

✓ “Smile and smile”

 **Closing:**

“Thus, the poem expresses love and silent acceptance.”

Keeping Quiet – Pablo Neruda

 **Opening:**

“The poet promotes silence as a path to peace.”

👉 Phrases:

- ✓ “Count to twelve”
- ✓ “Sudden strangeness”
- ✓ “No engines”

🎤 *Closing:*

“Ultimately, reflection leads humanity towards harmony.”

✨ A Thing of Beauty – John Keats

🎤 *Opening:*

“The poem celebrates beauty as an eternal source of joy.”

👉 Phrases:

- ✓ “Joy forever”
- ✓ “Immortal drink”
- ✓ “Cooling covert”

🎤 *Closing:*

“Hence, nature becomes a healing force.”

✨ A Roadside Stand – Robert Frost

🎤 *Opening:*

“This poem sympathetically portrays rural struggle.”

👉 Phrases:

- ✓ “Polished traffic”
- ✓ “Greedy good-doers”
- ✓ “Childish longing”

🎤 *Closing:*

“Therefore, the poet appeals for compassion.”

✨ Aunt Jennifer's Tigers – Adrienne Rich

Opening:

“The poem symbolically portrays female oppression.”

Phrases:

- ✓ “Prancing proud”
- ✓ “Wedding band burden”
- ✓ “Ringed with ordeals”

Closing:

“Thus, art reflects the desire for freedom.”

VISTAS – LIVE ANSWER SCRIPT

✨ The Third Level – Jack Finney

Opening:

“This psychological fantasy explores escapism.”

Phrases:

- ✓ “Grand Central Station”
- ✓ “Galesburg, Illinois”
- ✓ “First-day cover”

Closing:

“Therefore, imagination becomes a refuge from stress.”

✨ The Tiger King – Kalki

Opening:

“This satirical tale exposes royal arrogance.”

👉 Phrases:

- ✓ “Prophecy”
- ✓ “Ninety-nine tigers”
- ✓ “Toy tiger revenge”

🎤 *Closing:*

“Ultimately, fate proves stronger than pride.”

✨ Journey to the End of the Earth – Tishani Doshi

🎤 *Opening:*

“This travel narrative raises awareness about climate change.”

👉 Phrases:

- ✓ “Students on Ice”
- ✓ “Time capsule Earth”
- ✓ “Fragile ecosystem”

🎤 *Closing:*

“Thus, the writer urges environmental responsibility.”

✨ The Enemy – Pearl S. Buck

🎤 *Opening:*

“The story highlights humanity during wartime conflict.”

👉 Phrases:

- ✓ “Wounded American soldier”
- ✓ “Professional ethics”
- ✓ “Secret escape”

🎤 *Closing:*

“Hence, compassion rises above war.”

🌟 On the Face of It – Susan Hill

🎤 *Opening:*

“This play focuses on self-acceptance.”

👉 Phrases:

- ✓ “Burnt face insecurity”
- ✓ “Apple orchard”
- ✓ “Positive thinking”

🎤 *Closing:*

“Therefore, confidence transforms life.”

🌟 Memories of Childhood – Zitkala-Sa & Bama

🎤 *Opening:*

“These narratives reveal discrimination and dignity through education.”

👉 Phrases:

- ✓ “Hair cutting humiliation”
- ✓ “Untouchability incident”
- ✓ “Study hard advice”

🎤 *Closing:*

“Thus, equality and self-respect become central messages.”

🟢 📖 FLAMINGO – PROSE (Writer’s Tone)

1 The Last Lesson – Alphonse Daudet

👉 **Tone:** Patriotic, emotional, nostalgic

The writer expresses deep love for language and regret for lost opportunities. The tone becomes serious and inspiring toward the end.

2 Lost Spring – Anees Jung

👉 **Tone:** Sympathetic, critical, reflective

The author shows compassion for poor children while criticizing social injustice and child labour.

3 Deep Water – William Douglas

👉 **Tone:** Fearful → Determined → Inspirational

The tone begins with terror but gradually turns motivational as the writer conquers fear.

4 The Rattrap – Selma Lagerlöf

👉 **Tone:** Philosophical, ironic, humane

The writer uses a reflective tone to show moral transformation and the power of kindness.

5 Indigo – Louis Fischer

👉 **Tone:** Admiring, factual, respectful

The tone highlights Gandhi's calm leadership and moral strength with a realistic historical approach.

6 Poets and Pancakes – Asokamitran

👉 **Tone:** Humorous, satirical, observational

The writer gently mocks film industry culture while describing real-life experiences.

7 The Interview – Christopher Silvester

👉 **Tone:** Analytical, argumentative

The writer discusses both advantages and disadvantages of interviews in a balanced way.

8 Going Places – A.R. Barton

👉 **Tone:** Realistic, reflective, slightly ironic
The tone contrasts teenage dreams with harsh reality.

FLAMINGO – POETRY (Poet’s Tone)

9 My Mother at Sixty-Six – Kamala Das

👉 **Tone:** Emotional, melancholic, affectionate
The poet expresses fear of separation but hides sadness behind calm acceptance.

10 An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum – Stephen Spender

👉 **Tone:** Critical, compassionate, reformatory
The poet strongly criticizes social inequality and demands change.

11 Keeping Quiet – Pablo Neruda

👉 **Tone:** Peaceful, reflective, philosophical
The poet encourages silence for self-awareness and global harmony.

12 A Thing of Beauty – John Keats

👉 **Tone:** Optimistic, appreciative, soothing
The poet celebrates nature’s beauty as a source of eternal joy.

13 A Roadside Stand – Robert Frost

👉 **Tone:** Sympathetic, critical, serious
The poet shows concern for rural poor and criticizes urban selfishness.

14 Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers – Adrienne Rich

👉 **Tone:** Critical, symbolic, feminist
The poet highlights oppression of women through powerful imagery.

VISTAS – SUPPLEMENTARY READER (Writer’s Tone)

15 The Third Level – Jack Finney

👉 **Tone:** Mysterious, nostalgic, psychological
The writer blends fantasy with reality to show escapism.

16 The Tiger King – Kalki

👉 **Tone:** Satirical, humorous, ironic
The writer mocks royal arrogance and fate through strong irony.

17 Journey to the End of the Earth – Tishani Doshi

👉 **Tone:** Reflective, informative, concerned
The writer warns about climate change with a serious environmental tone.

18 The Enemy – Pearl S. Buck

👉 **Tone:** Serious, humane, ethical
The writer highlights compassion and moral conflict during war.

19 On the Face of It – Susan Hill

👉 **Tone:** Motivational, empathetic
The writer promotes self-acceptance and positivity through dialogue.

20 Memories of Childhood – Zitkala-Sa & Bama

👉 **Tone:** Protest, emotional, inspiring

Both writers expose discrimination while encouraging dignity through education.

★ QUICK REVISION TABLE (EXAM USE)

- ✓ Patriotic → *The Last Lesson*
- ✓ Sympathetic → *Lost Spring, A Roadside Stand*
- ✓ Inspirational → *Deep Water*
- ✓ Satirical → *Poets and Pancakes, The Tiger King*
- ✓ Philosophical → *Keeping Quiet, The Rattrap*
- ✓ Feminist/Critical → *Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*
- ✓ Humane → *The Enemy*

🏆 100 MOST IMPORTANT LITERATURE MCQs (WITH ANSWERS)

🟢 THE LAST LESSON (1–10)

1. Who was Franz afraid of?
A) Parents B) Police C) M. Hamel D) Mayor
✓ **Ans: C**
2. Why was Franz late?
A) Illness B) Playing C) Overslept D) Forgot school
✓ **Ans: B**
3. Berlin order meant teaching of:
A) English B) French stopped C) German introduced D) Hindi started
✓ **Ans: C**
4. M. Hamel wore:
A) New coat B) Old dress C) Special uniform D) Black suit

✓ **Ans: C**

5. Villagers came to school to:
A) Protest B) Study C) Thank Hamel D) Celebrate

✓ **Ans: C**

6. Franz realised importance of:
A) Maths B) French language C) Games D) Music

✓ **Ans: B**

7. Blackboard message was:
A) Freedom B) Vive La France C) Goodbye D) Learn German

✓ **Ans: B**

8. Franz found grammar lesson:
A) Difficult B) Easy C) Boring D) Funny

✓ **Ans: B**

9. M. Hamel taught for:
A) 10 yrs B) 20 yrs C) 40 yrs D) 50 yrs

✓ **Ans: C**

10. Theme of chapter is:
A) War B) Patriotism C) Science D) Comedy

✓ **Ans: B**

DEEP WATER (11–20)

11. Douglas' fear began at:
A) River B) Lake C) YMCA pool D) Sea

✓ **Ans: C**

12. Who pushed Douglas?
A) Instructor B) Boy C) Friend D) Brother

✓ **Ans: B**

13. Douglas felt:
A) Joy B) Terror C) Excitement D) Anger

✓ **Ans: B**

14. Instructor used:
A) Rope and belt B) Float board C) Boat D) Tube
 Ans: A
15. Douglas practiced for:
A) Weeks B) Months C) Years D) Days
 Ans: B
16. Roosevelt's quote used:
A) Fear itself B) Hard work C) Truth wins D) Stay strong
 Ans: A
17. Final test of courage was at:
A) River B) Lake Wentworth C) Pond D) Sea
 Ans: B
18. Theme is:
A) Fear and courage B) Friendship C) War D) Wealth
 Ans: A
19. Douglas wanted to:
A) Run B) Swim freely C) Teach D) Travel
 Ans: B
20. Story shows importance of:
A) Luck B) Practice C) Money D) Magic
 Ans: B
-

LOST SPRING (21–30)

21. Saheb collected:
A) Books B) Garbage C) Toys D) Fruits
 Ans: B
22. Saheb lived in:
A) Flats B) Bungalows C) Seemapuri D) Village
 Ans: C
23. Mukesh belonged to:
A) Delhi B) Firozabad C) Mumbai D) Goa

✓ **Ans: B**

24. Mukesh's dream was:

A) Teacher B) Mechanic C) Actor D) Doctor

✓ **Ans: B**

25. "Garbage to them is gold" means:

A) Wealth B) Survival C) Luxury D) Fun

✓ **Ans: B**

26. Saheb worked at:

A) Shop B) Tea stall C) School D) Hotel

✓ **Ans: B**

27. Bangle workers suffer from:

A) Blindness B) Fever C) Cold D) Injury

✓ **Ans: A**

28. Title suggests:

A) Happy childhood B) Lost childhood C) Nature D) Spring season

✓ **Ans: B**

29. Theme is:

A) Wealth B) Child labour C) Adventure D) Magic

✓ **Ans: B**

30. Mukesh wants to break:

A) Tradition B) School C) Family D) Society

✓ **Ans: A**

INDIGO (31–38)

31. Gandhi visited:

A) Bihar B) Punjab C) Assam D) Goa

✓ **Ans: A**

32. Rajkumar Shukla was a:

A) Teacher B) Peasant C) Lawyer D) Doctor

✓ **Ans: B**

33. British planters forced farmers to grow:
A) Wheat B) Rice C) Indigo D) Tea
 Ans: C
34. Settlement refund was:
A) 50% B) 10% C) 25% D) 75%
 Ans: C
35. Gandhi believed in:
A) Violence B) Non-violence C) War D) Revenge
 Ans: B
36. Civil disobedience showed:
A) Fear B) Strength C) Weakness D) Anger
 Ans: B
37. Lawyers felt:
A) Proud B) Ashamed C) Angry D) Happy
 Ans: B
38. Theme is:
A) Justice through truth B) Comedy C) Travel D) Wealth
 Ans: A
-

THE RATTRAP (39–48)

39. Peddler sold:
A) Shoes B) Rattraps C) Toys D) Clothes
 Ans: B
40. World compared to:
A) Trap B) River C) Forest D) Palace
 Ans: A
41. Ironmaster was a:
A) Farmer B) Blacksmith C) Soldier D) Clerk
 Ans: B
42. Edla showed:
A) Anger B) Kindness C) Fear D) Pride

✓ **Ans: B**

43. Peddler stole:

A) Money B) Food C) Clothes D) Shoes

✓ **Ans: A**

44. He returned money because of:

A) Fear B) Edla's trust C) Police D) Hunger

✓ **Ans: B**

45. Theme is:

A) Revenge B) Transformation C) War D) Comedy

✓ **Ans: B**

46. Peddler felt world was:

A) Friendly B) Trap C) School D) Home

✓ **Ans: B**

47. Ironmaster judged by:

A) Heart B) Appearance C) Talent D) Age

✓ **Ans: B**

48. Ending shows:

A) Change of heart B) Escape C) Failure D) Death

✓ **Ans: A**

POETS AND PANCAKES (49–55)

49. Gemini Studios was in:

A) Delhi B) Chennai C) Mumbai D) Goa

✓ **Ans: B**

50. Pancakes referred to:

A) Food B) Makeup C) Films D) Lights

✓ **Ans: B**

51. Subbu was:

A) Writer B) Office boy C) Assistant D) Actor

✓ **Ans: C**

52. Makeup room showed:
A) Unity B) Conflict C) War D) Silence
 Ans: A
53. Boss was called:
A) Director B) Chief C) Boss D) Producer
 Ans: C
54. Studio reflected:
A) National integration B) Politics C) Poverty D) Nature
 Ans: A
55. Theme includes:
A) Film culture satire B) Horror C) Travel D) Crime
 Ans: A

POETRY MCQs (56–75)

My Mother at Sixty-Six

56. Who is the poet of *My Mother at Sixty-Six*?
A) Kamala Das
B) Adrienne Rich
C) John Keats
D) Pablo Neruda
 Ans: A
57. The poet compares her mother's face to:
A) A red apple
B) A late winter's moon
C) A bright sun
D) A flower
 Ans: B
58. What emotion does the poet feel while looking at her mother?
A) Joy
B) Fear of loss
C) Anger
D) Pride
 Ans: B

59. The 'young trees sprinting' symbolize:

- A) Old age
- B) Youth and energy
- C) Sadness
- D) Death

✓ **Ans: B**

60. The repetition of "smile and smile and smile" shows:

- A) Excitement
- B) Hidden pain
- C) Anger
- D) Surprise

✓ **Ans: B**

A Thing of Beauty

61. Who wrote *A Thing of Beauty*?

- A) Robert Frost
- B) John Keats
- C) Wordsworth
- D) Blake

✓ **Ans: B**

62. According to the poet, a thing of beauty is:

- A) Temporary joy
- B) A joy forever
- C) A burden
- D) An illusion

✓ **Ans: B**

63. What does beauty remove from our lives?

- A) Wealth
- B) Sadness and despair
- C) Knowledge
- D) Time

✓ **Ans: B**

64. "Immortal drink" refers to:

- A) Water
- B) Eternal happiness
- C) Medicine

D) Juice
✓ **Ans: B**

65. The main theme of the poem is:
- A) War
 - B) Nature's healing power
 - C) Politics
 - D) Technology
- ✓ **Ans: B**
-

Aunt Jennifer's Tigers

66. The tigers in the poem symbolize:
- A) Fear
 - B) Freedom and courage
 - C) Weakness
 - D) Silence
- ✓ **Ans: B**
67. The 'ring' on Aunt Jennifer's finger represents:
- A) Beauty
 - B) Patriarchal burden
 - C) Wealth
 - D) Freedom
- ✓ **Ans: B**
68. The tigers are described as:
- A) Nervous
 - B) Fearless and proud
 - C) Lazy
 - D) Slow
- ✓ **Ans: B**
69. Who is the poet of this poem?
- A) Kamala Das
 - B) Adrienne Rich
 - C) Keats
 - D) Neruda
- ✓ **Ans: B**

70. The poem highlights the theme of:

- A) Celebration
- B) Oppression of women
- C) Adventure
- D) Comedy

✓ **Ans: B**

Keeping Quiet

71. Who wrote *Keeping Quiet*?

- A) John Keats
- B) Pablo Neruda
- C) Frost
- D) Eliot

✓ **Ans: B**

72. The poet asks people to keep quiet for:

- A) Ten seconds
- B) Twelve seconds
- C) One minute
- D) One hour

✓ **Ans: B**

73. What does 'twelve' symbolize?

- A) Months
- B) Clock hours
- C) Countries
- D) Seasons

✓ **Ans: B**

74. According to the poet, silence promotes:

- A) Violence
- B) Self-reflection
- C) Laziness
- D) Sleep

✓ **Ans: B**

75. The poet clarifies that keeping quiet does not mean:

- A) Peace
- B) Inactivity or death
- C) Thinking

- D) Unity
 Ans: B
-

VISTAS MCQs (76–100)

The Third Level

76. Where did Charley find the third level?
A) Airport
B) Grand Central Station
C) Hotel
D) School
 Ans: B
77. The third level seemed to belong to which year?
A) 1994
B) 1894
C) 1945
D) 2001
 Ans: B
78. What item suggested that Sam reached the past?
A) Letter
B) First-day cover
C) Ticket
D) Map
 Ans: B
79. Charley wanted to escape from:
A) Family
B) Modern stress
C) School
D) Job
 Ans: B
80. The main theme of the story is:
A) Adventure

- B) Escapism
- C) Comedy
- D) Mystery crime

Ans: B

The Enemy

81. Dr. Sadao was a:

- A) Lawyer
- B) Surgeon
- C) Teacher
- D) Pilot

Ans: B

82. The injured soldier belonged to:

- A) Japan
- B) America
- C) China
- D) India

Ans: B

83. Dr. Sadao's wife was named:

- A) Hana
- B) Yumi
- C) Edla
- D) Bama

Ans: A

84. The central conflict of the story is between:

- A) Wealth and poverty
- B) Duty and humanity
- C) Friendship and hate
- D) Love and fear

Ans: B

85. The story promotes the value of:

- A) Revenge
- B) Compassion
- C) Power
- D) Pride

Ans: B

On the Face of It

86. Derry suffers from:

- A) Blindness
- B) Burnt face
- C) Broken leg
- D) Illness

Ans: B

87. Mr. Lamb's garden was full of:

- A) Roses
- B) Apples
- C) Mangoes
- D) Wheat

Ans: B

88. Derry initially felt:

- A) Confident
- B) Inferior and lonely
- C) Proud
- D) Angry

Ans: B

89. Mr. Lamb died due to:

- A) Illness
- B) Fall from ladder
- C) Accident
- D) Attack

Ans: B

90. The play teaches:

- A) Revenge
- B) Self-acceptance
- C) War
- D) Comedy

Ans: B

The Tiger King

91. The Maharaja was obsessed with killing:

- A) Lions
- B) Tigers
- C) Bears
- D) Elephants

Ans: B

92. The prophecy predicted death by:

- A) Hunter
- B) Tiger
- C) War
- D) Disease

Ans: B

93. The Maharaja finally died because of:

- A) Real tiger
- B) Toy tiger
- C) Soldier
- D) Accident

Ans: B

94. The story uses strong:

- A) Romance
- B) Irony
- C) Horror
- D) Fantasy

Ans: B

95. The theme highlights:

- A) Pride and destiny
- B) Friendship
- C) Nature
- D) Comedy

Ans: A

Memories of Childhood

96. Bama faced:
- A) Poverty
 - B) Caste discrimination
 - C) War
 - D) Migration
- Ans: B**
97. What advice did Bama receive?
- A) Work hard
 - B) Study and be strong
 - C) Leave school
 - D) Travel abroad
- Ans: B**
98. The chapter promotes:
- A) Wealth
 - B) Social equality
 - C) Competition
 - D) Adventure
- Ans: B**
-

Journey to the End of the Earth

99. Antarctica helps scientists understand:
- A) Ancient climate history
 - B) Politics
 - C) Culture
 - D) Sports
- Ans: A**
100. The “Students on Ice” programme aims to:
- A) Entertainment
 - B) Environmental awareness
 - C) Tourism
 - D) Business
- Ans: B**

2026 HBSE Literature – Top 10 Long Answers (3-Paragraph Format)

1 Explain the significance of the title *Lost Spring*.

The title *Lost Spring* symbolises the loss of childhood dreams due to poverty and exploitation. Spring represents hope and new beginnings, but children like Saheb and Mukesh are deprived of education and freedom.

Saheb works at a tea stall despite longing for school, while Mukesh dreams of becoming a motor mechanic to escape the bangle industry. Their lives reflect harsh social inequality.

The phrase “garbage to them is gold” highlights their helpless reality. The story criticises society for denying children their basic rights and urges readers to recognise that true development lies in protecting childhood and nurturing dreams.

2 How did William Douglas overcome his fear of water? (*Deep Water*)

Douglas’ fear began after a childhood drowning incident that left him traumatised. The fear controlled his thoughts and prevented him from enjoying life fully.

Determined to conquer it, he hired an instructor who used scientific training methods. Step by step, Douglas practised swimming until he gained confidence and learned to trust himself.

His realization comes in the line “All we have to fear is fear itself.” By facing the terror directly, Douglas transformed weakness into strength, proving that courage grows through persistence and disciplined effort.

3 Describe the character of the peddler. (*The Rattrap*)

The peddler is a lonely man who survives by selling rattraps and develops a cynical philosophy that the world itself is a trap full of temptations. Poverty makes him dishonest and bitter.

However, Edla's kindness awakens his conscience. She treats him with respect and gives him a chance to rediscover dignity.

The metaphor "the world had never been kind to him" explains his actions, yet compassion transforms him. By returning the stolen money, he proves that even a lost person can change when shown trust and humanity.

4 Evaluate the character of Dr. Sadao as a doctor as well as a patriot. (*The Enemy*)

Dr. Sadao faces a moral conflict between his duty to his country and his professional responsibility as a doctor. Finding an injured American soldier, he risks punishment to save his life.

Despite being a loyal Japanese citizen, he believes that medical ethics come before political hatred. His actions reflect deep compassion and courage.

The idea that "a doctor's duty is to save life" guides him. Eventually, he helps the soldier escape, showing that humanity rises above war and proving that true patriotism includes moral integrity.

5 Justify the title *The Tiger King*.

The title reflects the Maharaja's obsession with killing tigers to defeat a prophecy about his death. His arrogance and pride drive him to hunt ninety-nine tigers.

Ironically, despite his power and determination, fate defeats him through a simple toy tiger. This twist highlights the unpredictability of destiny.

The line "the hundredth tiger took its revenge" shows the strong irony. The title becomes symbolic because the king's identity and downfall are both connected to the tiger, making it central to the story's theme.

6 Describe Charlie's experience at the Third Level. (*The Third Level*)

Charlie discovers a mysterious third level at Grand Central Station that leads to the peaceful world of 1894. Tired of modern stress, he longs for a simpler past.

The third level represents escapism and nostalgia. Charlie's belief in it shows how imagination offers relief from reality's pressures.

The reference to "first-day cover" strengthens the mystery and suggests that Sam truly reached the past. The story explores psychological escape and the human desire to find comfort in memories of a calmer era.

7 Describe the circumstances which forced Gandhiji to come to Champaran. (*Indigo*)

Poor peasants in Champaran were exploited by British planters through the unjust sharecropping system. Rajkumar Shukla persistently requested Gandhi to help them.

Gandhi's arrival gave peasants courage to stand against injustice. He used truth and non-violence to challenge the authorities and restore dignity to the farmers.

The phrase "civil disobedience had triumphed for the first time in modern India" highlights his success. Gandhi's leadership proved that peaceful resistance could bring social and political change.

8 How did Derry get attracted towards Mr. Lamb? (*On the Face of It*)

Derry initially feels isolated because of his burnt face and believes people judge him unfairly. Meeting Mr. Lamb changes his perspective about life.

Mr. Lamb encourages him to accept himself and focus on possibilities rather than limitations. His optimistic outlook inspires Derry to overcome fear and loneliness.

The idea “you are not different from others” gives Derry confidence. Through kindness and understanding, Mr. Lamb becomes a mentor who helps Derry see beauty and hope beyond physical appearance.

9) What moral issue does *Should Wizard Hit Mommy?* raise?

The story explores the conflict between fantasy and harsh reality. Jo believes in happy endings, while Jack insists that stories must reflect real-life lessons.

The wizard’s decision to hit Mommy raises questions about authority, parenting and truth. It shows how adults sometimes impose rigid values on children.

The phrase “life is not always fair” reflects Jack’s viewpoint. The story highlights the importance of balancing imagination with responsibility and reveals the tension between innocence and adult logic.

10) Discuss the character of Subbu. (*Poets and Pancakes*)

Subbu was a highly talented and resourceful member of Gemini Studios who assisted the boss with creative ideas and problem-solving. His cheerful personality made him popular among colleagues.

He represented the collaborative spirit of the film industry and had a deep understanding of human nature.

The phrase “he was tailor-made for films” captures his versatility. Through humour and intelligence, Subbu contributed significantly to the studio’s success, making him one of the most memorable characters in the chapter.

 **HBSE 2026 – TOP 15 LONG ANSWERS
(120 WORDS EACH)**

1 Significance of the Title *Lost Spring*

The title *Lost Spring* symbolises the stolen childhood of poor children forced into labour. Spring represents hope and growth, but Saheb and Mukesh live without education or freedom.

Saheb collects garbage and later works at a tea stall, while Mukesh dreams of becoming a motor mechanic to escape poverty. Their lives show harsh social inequality and broken dreams.

The phrase “**garbage to them is gold**” reflects their reality. The story criticises society for neglecting children and reminds readers that true progress lies in protecting childhood and giving equal opportunities.

2 Douglas’ Journey from Fear to Courage (*Deep Water*)

Douglas’ fear began after a childhood drowning incident that haunted him for years. The trauma prevented him from enjoying water activities.

He hired an instructor who used gradual training methods. Through repeated practice and determination, Douglas slowly gained confidence and learned to control his fear.

His realization comes in the line “**All we have to fear is fear itself.**” By facing his weakness directly, Douglas transformed fear into strength, proving that courage develops through persistence and self-belief.

3 Character Sketch of the Peddler (*The Rattrap*)

The peddler is a lonely man who survives by selling rattraps and develops a pessimistic philosophy that the world is a trap filled with temptations.

Though he commits theft, Edla’s kindness changes him. Her trust awakens his conscience and helps him rediscover dignity and honesty.

The idea that “**the world had never been kind to him**” explains his bitterness. His transformation shows that compassion and understanding can reform even a morally lost person.

4 Dr. Sadao as Doctor and Patriot (*The Enemy*)

Dr. Sadao faces a moral conflict when he finds an injured American soldier during war. As a Japanese citizen, he risks punishment by helping the enemy.

However, his professional ethics guide him to save the soldier's life. He believes humanity should come before national hatred.

The principle “**a doctor's duty is to save life**” defines his character. By secretly helping the soldier escape, Dr. Sadao proves that compassion and moral courage are greater than political boundaries.

5 Justify the Title *The Tiger King*

The title reflects the Maharaja's obsession with killing tigers after hearing a prophecy about his death. His pride leads him to hunt ninety-nine tigers.

Despite his efforts, fate defeats him through a simple toy tiger. The irony highlights the limits of power and human control over destiny.

The statement “**the hundredth tiger took its revenge**” reveals the story's irony. The tiger becomes a symbol of fate, making the title meaningful and central to the narrative.

6 Charlie's Experience at the Third Level (*The Third Level*)

Charlie discovers a mysterious third level at Grand Central Station that leads to the peaceful world of 1894. He longs to escape modern stress and anxiety.

The third level symbolizes nostalgia and the human desire for a simpler life. Charlie's imagination offers emotional relief from reality.

The reference to “**first-day cover**” strengthens the mystery of time travel. The story suggests that escapism can be a psychological refuge when the present feels overwhelming.

7 Gandhi's Leadership in *Indigo*

Champaran peasants suffered under the exploitative sharecropping system imposed by British planters. Rajkumar Shukla persuaded Gandhi to investigate their problems.

Gandhi used truth and non-violence to unite the farmers and challenge injustice. His calm approach gave them courage and restored dignity.

The line “**civil disobedience had triumphed for the first time in modern India**” highlights his success. Gandhi proved that peaceful resistance could bring social transformation.

8 Derry's Transformation through Mr. Lamb (*On the Face of It*)

Derry feels isolated because of his burnt face and believes society judges him unfairly. He avoids people and loses confidence.

Mr. Lamb encourages him to accept himself and see life positively. His optimism inspires Derry to overcome fear and loneliness.

The message “**you are not different from others**” helps Derry gain self-respect. Mr. Lamb's guidance shows that kindness and acceptance can change a person's outlook on life.

9 Moral Issue in *Should Wizard Hit Mommy?*

The story highlights the conflict between fantasy and reality. Jo prefers happy endings, while Jack insists that stories must reflect real-life discipline.

The wizard's action raises questions about parenting, authority and moral teaching. It shows how adults impose their beliefs on children.

The idea “**life is not always fair**” represents Jack's viewpoint. The story explores the balance between imagination and responsibility in shaping a child's understanding of the world.

10 Character of Subbu (*Poets and Pancakes*)

Subbu was a talented and intelligent member of Gemini Studios who solved problems creatively. His cheerful nature made him popular among colleagues.

He represented dedication and teamwork in the film industry. His ideas and humour helped maintain harmony in the studio.

The phrase “**he was tailor-made for films**” describes his versatility. Subbu’s character highlights the importance of creativity, cooperation and adaptability in professional life.

11 Importance of Language in *The Last Lesson*

The story shows how language connects people with their identity and culture. Franz realizes its value only when he is about to lose it.

M. Hamel’s emotional teaching reflects love for the French language and patriotism. The classroom becomes a symbol of resistance against foreign rule.

The words “**Vive La France**” express hope and national pride. The lesson teaches that preserving one’s language is essential for cultural survival.

12 Theme of Aging in *My Mother at Sixty-Six*

The poem explores the poet’s fear of losing her aging mother. Observing her mother’s pale face reminds the poet of life’s fragility.

Despite sadness, she hides her emotions behind repeated smiles. The imagery of young trees contrasts with her mother’s weakness.

The line “**smile and smile and smile**” shows emotional strength. The poem beautifully captures love, separation and acceptance of inevitable change.

13 Symbolism in *Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers*

The tigers symbolize freedom, courage and strength, while Aunt Jennifer represents oppression within marriage.

The heavy wedding ring reflects patriarchal control and emotional burden. Through her embroidery, Aunt Jennifer expresses a desire for independence.

The phrase “**ringed with ordeals she was mastered by**” reveals her suffering. Even after her death, the fearless tigers continue to prance, symbolizing art’s lasting power.

14 Beauty as a Healing Force (*A Thing of Beauty*)

Keats believes that beauty in nature provides emotional comfort and hope. It helps humans overcome sadness and despair.

Natural elements like trees, flowers and sunlight create a sense of peace and inspiration. Beauty becomes a spiritual experience.

The line “**a thing of beauty is a joy forever**” emphasizes its eternal impact. The poem suggests that appreciation of beauty strengthens the human spirit.

15 Theme of Escapism in *The Third Level*

Charley feels stressed by modern life and seeks refuge in a simpler past. The third level symbolizes a psychological escape from reality.

His imagination reflects the human desire for peace and nostalgia. The mysterious setting blurs the line between fantasy and truth.

The symbol of the “**first-day cover**” reinforces the possibility of time travel. The story shows that escapism can offer emotional comfort during difficult times.

2025 PAPER – LONG ANSWER **LITERATURE QUESTIONS**

(Section-D, Literature)

HBSE Class 12 2025 A

◆ Q9. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100-120 words :

1. “The true character of a society is revealed in how it treats its children.” Discuss the above statement in context of the chapter ‘Lost Spring : Stories of Stolen Childhood’.
2. Write a brief character-sketch of the peddler. (*The Rattrap*)
3. Discuss the character of Subbu, focusing on his diverse intellectual and creative abilities.

◆ **Q12. Answer any one of the following questions in about 100-120 words :**

1. **Justify the title of the chapter 'The Tiger King'.**
OR
 2. **Evaluate the character of Dr. Sadao as a doctor as well as a patriot. (*The Enemy*)**
-

  **2023 PAPER – LONG ANSWER
LITERATURE QUESTIONS**

(Main Reader + Supplementary Reader)

HBSE Class 12 2023 A

◆ **Q8. Answer the following in about 80-100 words :**

1. **What changes did the order from Berlin cause that day?**
OR
 2. **How did William Douglas overcome his fear of water?**
-

◆ **Q12. Answer any one of the following in about 80-100 words :**

1. **How did Derry get attracted towards Mr. Lamb? Explain.**
OR
 2. **What did the Maharaja of Pratibandapuram do to find the required number of tigers to kill?**
-

2021 PAPER (SUBJECTIVE) – LONG ANSWER LITERATURE QUESTIONS

(Main Reader Flamingo + Vistas)

HBSE Class 12 2021 A

Q4. Answer any one of the following :

1. **Explain the significance of the title of the lesson 'Lost Spring'.**
OR
 2. **Describe the circumstances which forced Gandhiji to come to Champaran for the help of the peasants.**
-

Q7. Answer any one of the following in about 100 words :

1. **What is the moral issue that the story 'Should Wizard Hit Mommy' raises?**
OR
 2. **Describe Charlie's experience at The Third Level.**
-

2021 SEMESTER-B PAPER

(Objective type —  No long answer literature questions)

HBSE Class 12 English 2021 Sem B

FINAL COMBINED LIST (ALL LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS 2021-2025)

- ✓ Explain significance of title **Lost Spring**
- ✓ Gandhiji and Champaran movement
- ✓ Berlin order impact (*The Last Lesson*)
- ✓ Douglas overcoming fear (*Deep Water*)
- ✓ Character sketch of the peddler
- ✓ Character of Subbu (*Poets and Pancakes*)
- ✓ Society & children (*Lost Spring*)
- ✓ Character of Dr. Sadao (*The Enemy*)
- ✓ Title justification (*The Tiger King*)
- ✓ Derry and Mr. Lamb (*On the Face of It*)
- ✓ Maharaja's tiger hunting (*The Tiger King*)
- ✓ Moral issue in *Should Wizard Hit Mommy*
- ✓ Charley's Third Level experience

2026 HBSE ENGLISH LITERATURE – 50 MOST EXPECTED Q&A (TOPPER STYLE)

FLAMINGO – PROSE

1 Why did Franz feel regret at the end? (*The Last Lesson*)

Franz realized the importance of his mother tongue only when he was about to lose it. He regretted wasting time on trivial things and not learning his lessons seriously earlier.

2 Role of M. Hamel as a teacher

M. Hamel was strict yet devoted. On the last day, he became emotional and taught with patience, showing deep love for French language and culture.

3 Meaning of the last blackboard message

“Vive La France” symbolized patriotism and resistance. It showed M. Hamel’s silent protest against foreign domination and his hope for France’s future.

4 How did Douglas overcome fear? (*Deep Water*)

Douglas practiced swimming under a trained instructor who used gradual techniques. Step-by-step practice built confidence and replaced fear with courage.

5 Psychological meaning of Douglas’ fear

His fear represented trauma from childhood drowning experience. It showed how fear can dominate the mind until challenged through determination and practice.

6 Why was Gandhi’s presence significant? (*Indigo*)

Gandhi empowered peasants to fight injustice without violence. His leadership restored confidence and brought social change through truth and non-cooperation.

7 Why did Gandhi accept only 25% refund?

He valued moral victory over money. Accepting partial refund broke the planters’ authority and strengthened peasants’ self-respect.

8 Title justification – *Lost Spring*

The title symbolizes stolen childhood of poor children forced into labour. Poverty denies them education, dreams and freedom.

9 Contrast between Saheb and Mukesh

Saheb dreams of freedom but loses hope, while Mukesh dreams of becoming a motor mechanic, showing determination despite poverty.

10 Role of Subbu (*Poets and Pancakes*)

Subbu was a creative genius at Gemini Studios. He solved problems with intelligence and humour, earning admiration from colleagues.

11 Why was Gemini Studios called national integration?

People from different regions and languages worked together harmoniously, reflecting unity in diversity.

12 Symbolism of the rattrap (*The Rattrap*)

The world is compared to a trap where material temptations capture humans. The metaphor shows moral weakness and possibility of redemption.

13 How did Edla transform the peddler?

Her kindness and respect made him feel valued. He changed his behavior and returned the stolen money with gratitude.

14 Ironmaster vs Edla

Ironmaster judged by appearance, while Edla saw inner goodness. Her compassion brought real transformation.

15 Sophie's dreams vs reality (*Going Places*)

Sophie lives in fantasy and imagines meeting Danny Casey, while reality remains harsh and ordinary.

16 Why is Jansie practical?

She understands their financial condition and discourages Sophie from unrealistic dreams.

FLAMINGO – POETRY

17 Theme of *My Mother at Sixty-Six*

The poem explores aging, fear of loss and deep mother-daughter bond. The poet hides her sadness behind a smile.

18 Meaning of “smile and smile and smile”

The repeated smile shows the poet’s attempt to conceal her fear and give emotional strength to herself.

19 Central idea of *A Thing of Beauty*

Beauty in nature brings joy and removes sadness. It inspires hope and gives spiritual strength.

20 Meaning of “immortal drink”

Beauty acts like an eternal source of happiness that refreshes human spirit.

21 Symbolism in *Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*

Tigers represent freedom and courage, contrasting Aunt's suppressed married life.

22 Theme of patriarchy in the poem

The heavy ring symbolizes marital burden and male dominance that restricts Aunt Jennifer's freedom.

23 Message of *Keeping Quiet*

Silence promotes self-reflection and harmony. The poet advocates thoughtful pause, not inactivity.

24 Difference between silence and inactivity

Silence means inner peace and awareness, whereas inactivity suggests lifelessness.

25 Poet's sympathy in *A Roadside Stand*

The poet highlights exploitation of rural poor and criticizes urban selfishness.



26 Symbolic meaning of the Third Level

It represents escape from modern stress into a peaceful past.

27 Meaning of first-day cover

It shows Charley's belief that Sam truly reached the past, strengthening the mystery.

28 Character of Dr. Sadao (*The Enemy*)

Dr. Sadao is compassionate and ethical. He saves an enemy soldier despite risk, proving humanity above nationalism.

29 Conflict in *The Enemy*

The conflict lies between professional duty as a doctor and loyalty to country.

30 Role of Mr. Lamb (*On the Face of It*)

Mr. Lamb inspires Derry to accept himself and see life positively.

31 Why does Derry feel isolated?

His burnt face causes social rejection, making him insecure and lonely.

32 Irony in *The Tiger King*

Despite killing many tigers, the king dies because of a toy tiger, highlighting fate's irony.

33 Obsession of the Maharaja

His pride and superstition drive him to hunt tigers, ignoring real dangers.

34 Importance of Antarctica study (*Journey to the End of the Earth*)

It helps understand climate change and Earth's past history.

35 Aim of Students on Ice programme

To educate youth about environmental conservation and global warming.

36 Advice given to Bama (*Memories of Childhood*)

Education is the path to dignity and equality.

LONG ANSWERS (TOPPER STYLE – 100–120 WORDS)

37 Character Sketch of the Peddler

The peddler begins as a dishonest man shaped by poverty and loneliness. His rattrap philosophy reflects bitterness toward society. However, Edla's kindness awakens his conscience. He returns the stolen money and proves that compassion can transform even a lost soul.

38 Theme of *Lost Spring*

The story exposes harsh realities of child labour and poverty. Saheb and Mukesh symbolize lost dreams and limited opportunities. Through their struggles, the author criticizes social inequality and highlights the need for education and hope.

39) Dr. Sadao as Doctor and Patriot

Dr. Sadao saves an enemy soldier because of his medical ethics. Though loyal to Japan, he believes humanity comes first. His actions show moral courage and the universal duty of doctors to save lives.

40) Significance of *The Last Lesson*

The story highlights love for language, patriotism and regret for lost opportunities. M. Hamel's emotional farewell teaches the importance of cultural identity.

41) Douglas' Journey from Fear to Courage

Douglas turns trauma into strength through discipline and persistence. His experience shows that courage grows when fear is faced directly.

42) Symbolism in *Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*

The fearless tigers symbolize freedom and strength, contrasting the poet's oppressed life. Even after Aunt's death, the tigers remain bold, suggesting art's immortality.

43) Beauty as a Healing Force (*A Thing of Beauty*)

Keats believes beauty connects humans with nature and provides emotional relief. It offers hope even during suffering.

44 Theme of Escapism in *The Third Level*

Charley's imagination reflects the desire to escape modern stress. The third level represents nostalgia and longing for simplicity.

45 Gandhi's Leadership in *Indigo*

Gandhi used truth and non-violence to challenge injustice. His calm approach united peasants and brought social change.

QUICK SHORT ANSWERS (HIGH PROBABILITY)

- 46 Why does Sophie dream big? — To escape reality.
- 47 Why does Mukesh want to be mechanic? — Desire for freedom.
- 48 Why did Franz fear scolding? — He had not prepared lesson.
- 49 Why does the poet smile at airport? — To hide fear of loss.
- 50 What does silence symbolize? — Peace and introspection.

2026 HBSE ENGLISH LITERATURE – MOST EXPECTED QUESTIONS

FLAMINGO PROSE – TOP PREDICTIONS

1 The Last Lesson ★★★★★

HBSE repeats every cycle.

- Why did Franz feel regret at the end?
- Role of M. Hamel as a teacher.

- ✓ Importance of language & patriotism.
- ✓ Meaning of last blackboard message.

🎯 **Expected Pattern:** Extract + 30–40 words.

2 Deep Water ★★★★★

Very high frequency chapter.

- ✓ Describe Douglas' fear psychology.
- ✓ How did instructor help him regain confidence?
- ✓ Meaning of "terror vs courage".

🎯 Value-based question highly possible.

3 Indigo ★★★★★

Mostly short answers repeat.

- ✓ Why was Gandhi's presence significant in Champaran?
- ✓ What lesson did peasants learn from Gandhi?
- ✓ Why did Gandhi accept only 25% refund?

4 Lost Spring ★★★★★

Social-theme favourite.

- ✓ Contrast between Saheb & Mukesh dreams.
- ✓ Title justification "Lost Spring".
- ✓ Exploitation of child labour.

🎯 Long-answer prediction.

5 Poets and Pancakes ★★★★★

Pattern shows rotation.

- ✓ Role of Subbu in Gemini Studios.
 - ✓ Why was make-up room called national integration?
 - ✓ Satire on film industry culture.
-

6 The Rattrap ★★★★★

Always returns in some form.

- ✓ How did Edla change the peddler?
 - ✓ Symbolism of the rattrap philosophy.
 - ✓ Ironmaster vs Edla character comparison.
-

7 Going Places ★★★★★

Often appears as short question.

- ✓ Sophie's dreams vs reality.
 - ✓ Why does Jansie represent practicality?
-

FLAMINGO POETRY – TOP PREDICTIONS

8 My Mother at Sixty-Six ★★★★★

HBSE favourite.

- ✓ Theme of aging & fear of loss.
 - ✓ Meaning of “smile and smile and smile”.
 - ✓ Airport scene imagery.
-

9 A Thing of Beauty ★★★★★

Repeated concept questions.

- ✓ How beauty removes sadness?
 - ✓ Explanation of “endless fountain of immortal drink”.
-

10 Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers ★★★★★

Very strong prediction.

- ✓ Symbolism of tigers vs Aunt.
 - ✓ Theme of patriarchy & oppression.
 - ✓ Rhyme scheme & poetic devices.
-

11 Keeping Quiet ★★★★★

Rotation expected again.

- ✓ What does silence teach humanity?
 - ✓ Difference between inactivity & introspection.
-

12 A Roadside Stand ★★★★★

Likely short-answer return.

- ✓ Who are greedy good-doers?
 - ✓ Poet’s sympathy for villagers.
-

VISTAS – MOST EXPECTED

13 The Third Level ★★★★★

HBSE's most repeated Vistas chapter.

- ✓ What is the Third Level symbolically?
 - ✓ Meaning of first-day cover.
 - ✓ Charley's escapism psychology.
-

14 The Enemy ★★★★★

Very strong long-answer prediction.

- ✓ Dr. Sadao – doctor vs patriot conflict.
 - ✓ Theme of humanity above war.
-

15 On the Face of It ★★★★★

Frequently rotated.

- ✓ Role of Mr. Lamb in changing Derry.
 - ✓ Theme of self-acceptance.
-

16 The Tiger King ★★★★★

Long-answer probability high.

- ✓ Irony in the title.
 - ✓ Maharaja's obsession & fate.
-

17 Journey to the End of the Earth ★★★★★

Expected factual question.

- ✓ Importance of Antarctica study.
 - ✓ "Students on Ice" programme.
-

18 Memories of Childhood ★★ ★

Likely short-answer.

- ✓ Advice given to Bama.
 - ✓ Theme of social discrimination.
-

TOP 10 “SUPER SURE” QUESTIONS FOR 2026

(If students prepare only these, chances of scoring high are maximum)

- 1 Douglas' fear & courage – *Deep Water*
 - 2 M. Hamel & patriotism – *The Last Lesson*
 - 3 Character of the Peddler – *The Rattrap*
 - 4 Title “Lost Spring” justification
 - 5 Symbolism in *Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*
 - 6 Central idea of *My Mother at Sixty-Six*
 - 7 Beauty theme – *A Thing of Beauty*
 - 8 Symbolic meaning of Third Level
 - 9 Character of Dr. Sadao – *The Enemy*
 - 10 Gandhi's leadership – *Indigo*
-

★ HBSE 2026 STRATEGY (Based on Pattern)

- ✓ One Extract from Flamingo Prose almost fixed
- ✓ One Poetry Extract always repeated
- ✓ Vistas Long Answer rotates between **Enemy / Tiger King / Third Level**
- ✓ Social-theme chapters (Lost Spring, Indigo) are high scoring

MOST REPEATED LITERATURE QUESTIONS (HBSE 2021–2025)

FLAMINGO – PROSE (VERY HIGH FREQUENCY)

1 **The Last Lesson** ★★★★★

Repeated in 2021, 2023, 2025

- ✓ What did M. Hamel write on the blackboard?
- ✓ What changes came after the Berlin order?
- ✓ Extract-based identification questions.
- ✓ Character & theme-based short answers.

👉 Prediction: **Extract + 30–40 words question almost fixed.**

2 **Deep Water** ★★★★★

Repeated in 2021, 2023, 2025

- ✓ Which incident made Douglas afraid of water?
- ✓ How did Douglas overcome fear?
- ✓ YMCA swimming pool reference MCQs.

👉 Very high weightage every year.

3 **Indigo** ★★★★★

Repeated in 2021, 2023, 2025

- ✓ Why Gandhi went to Champaran?
- ✓ 25% settlement refund question.
- ✓ Treatment at Rajendra Prasad's house.

👉 Mostly short-answer pattern.

4 Lost Spring ★★★★★

Repeated in 2021, 2023, 2025

- ✓ Saheb's reality vs name.
- ✓ Society & children theme.
- ✓ Firozabad glass bangle workers.

👉 Expect long answer or value-based question.

5 Poets and Pancakes ★★★★★

Repeated in 2023 & 2025

- ✓ National integration at Gemini Studios.
 - ✓ Character-based question on Subbu.
 - ✓ Short factual questions.
-

6 The Rattrap ★★★★★

Repeated in 2021, 2023, 2025

- ✓ Character sketch of the peddler.
- ✓ Meaning of rattrap idea.
- ✓ Extract-based questions.

👉 HBSE favourite chapter.

7 Going Places ★★★★★

Repeated in 2023 & 2025

- ✓ Jansie & Sophie questions.
 - ✓ Reality vs dreams theme.
-

FLAMINGO – POETRY (VERY HIGH FREQUENCY)

8 **My Mother at Sixty-Six** ★★★★★

Repeated in 2021, 2023, 2025

- ✓ Central idea / familiar ache questions.
 - ✓ Airport scene extract.
-

9 **A Thing of Beauty** ★★★★★

Repeated in 2023 & 2025

- ✓ “A thing of beauty is a joy forever” explanation.
 - ✓ Meaning-based stanza questions.
-

10 **Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers** ★★★★★

Repeated in 2021, 2025

- ✓ Symbolism of tigers.
 - ✓ Oppression theme.
 - ✓ Poetic devices & rhyme scheme.
-

11 **Keeping Quiet** ★★★

Repeated in 2021 & 2023

- ✓ Why poet wants silence?
 - ✓ Inactivity vs peace discussion.
-

12 A Roadside Stand ★★☆☆

Repeated in 2025 + previous pattern

- ✓ Greedy good-doers question.
-

● 🔥 VISTAS – SUPPLEMENTARY (VERY HIGH FREQUENCY)

13 The Third Level ★★★★★

Repeated in 2021, 2023, 2025

- ✓ First-day cover meaning.
 - ✓ Sam & third level discovery.
 - ✓ Short-answer pattern fixed.
-

14 The Enemy ★★★★★

Repeated in 2021, 2023, 2025

- ✓ Character of Dr. Sadao.
 - ✓ Enemy nationality MCQs.
-

15 On the Face of It ★★★★★

Repeated in 2021 & 2025

- ✓ Derry's fear question.
 - ✓ Mr. Lamb character.
-

16 The Tiger King ★★★★★

Repeated in 2023 & 2025

- ✓ Title justification.
 - ✓ Maharaja & tigers.
-

17 Memories of Childhood ★★☆☆

Repeated in 2025 + objective patterns

- ✓ Advice given to Bama.
-

18 Journey to the End of the Earth / Students on Ice ★★★★

Repeated in 2023 & 2025

- ✓ Programme success & aim.
-

FINAL TOP 10 MOST REPEATED QUESTIONS (Golden List)

These are **HBSE's most favourite repeaters**:

- 📌 Deep Water – fear & YMCA incident
 - 📌 The Last Lesson – Berlin order / blackboard
 - 📌 The Rattrap – peddler character
 - 📌 Lost Spring – Saheb / society theme
 - 📌 My Mother at Sixty-Six – familiar ache
 - 📌 A Thing of Beauty – joy forever line
 - 📌 Aunt Jennifer's Tigers – symbolism
 - 📌 The Third Level – first-day cover
 - 📌 Indigo – Gandhi settlement
 - 📌 The Enemy – Dr. Sadao character
-

★ PRO TIP (Based on Pattern Analysis)

HBSE repeats **concepts**, not exact wording:

- ✓ Extract → Short Answer → Long Answer rotation
- ✓ Same chapter appears in different formats every year
- ✓ Flamingo Prose + Poetry always dominates marks

HBSE Class 12 English – Literature Questions (All Papers Combined)

2025 PAPER – Literature Questions

(Section-D, Pages 10-16)

HBSE Class 12 2025 A

Extract-Based Questions (Flamingo Prose)

1. Who does the 'stranger' refer to here?
2. What did the ironmaster hear about the stranger at church?
3. What did the valet reply to the ironmaster?
4. For whom had the stranger left the Christmas present?
5. Name the chapter from which the passage has been taken.

OR – The Interview

6. Name the writer of the chapter.
 7. Who is the speaker here?
 8. What demerits of interview are discussed?
 9. Which attitude is not reflected?
 10. Find word opposite to 'pleasant'.
-

Short Answer (30–40 words)

1. What did M. Hamel write on the blackboard? (*The Last Lesson*)
 2. Which incident scared Douglas of water? (*Deep Water*)
 3. How was Gandhiji treated at Rajendra Prasad's house? (*Indigo*)
 4. How was Gemini Studios' makeup room a fine example of national integration? (*Poets and Pancakes*)
 5. What do you know about Jansie? (*Going Places*)
-

◆ Long Answer (100–120 words)

1. True character of society & children (*Lost Spring*)
 2. Character-sketch of the peddler (*The Rattrap*)
 3. Character of Subbu (*Poets and Pancakes*)
-

◆ Poetry Extract Questions

- Identify poem
- Types of wars
- Meaning of "Victory with no survivors"
- Meaning of "put on clean clothes"
- Poetic device used

OR – Aunt Jennifer's Tigers

- Name poem & poet
 - Aunt's feelings
 - Symbolism of tigers
 - Rhyme scheme
 - Tiger's attitude after death
-

◆ Poetry Short Answers

1. Central idea of *My Mother at Sixty-Six*
 2. Justify "A thing of beauty is a joy forever."
 3. Greedy good-doers in *A Roadside Stand*
-

◆ Vistas Long Answer

1. Justify title *The Tiger King*
 2. Character of Dr. Sadao (*The Enemy*)
-

◆ Vistas Short Answers

1. Third Level – Sam's third level
 2. Students on Ice success
 3. Derry's fear (*On the Face of It*)
 4. Advice to Bama (*Memories of Childhood*)
-

● 2023 PAPER – Literature Questions

(Main Reader + Poetry + Supplementary)

HBSE Class 12 2023 A

◆ Extract-Based Prose

1. Who came as a new guest?
2. Who heard the sound of carriage?
3. Name the chapter.
4. Writer of the passage.
5. Complete name of the lady.

OR – The Interview passage

6. Name the chapter.
 7. Who is 'I'?
 8. What does narrator consider himself?
 9. Meaning of 'audience'?
 10. Who laughs and shrugs?
-

◆ Long Answer (80–100 words)

1. Changes caused by Berlin order (*The Last Lesson*)
 2. How Douglas overcame fear (*Deep Water*)
-

◆ Very Short Answers

1. Saheb's real contrast (*Lost Spring*)
 2. Gandhi settlement refund (*Indigo*)
 3. Firozabad eyesight problem (*Lost Spring*)
 4. National integration example (*Poets and Pancakes*)
 5. Did Sophie meet Danny Casey? (*Going Places*)
 6. Thumbprints meaning
 7. Peddler's rattrap idea
-

◆ Poetry Extract

1. What did poet look at?
2. Poet's name
3. Who looked at whom?
4. Familiar ache meaning
5. Distance from mother

OR – A Thing of Beauty

- Name poem & poet
 - Meaning of morrow
 - Type of days
 - What binds us to earth
 - Meaning of 'dearth'
-

◆ Poetry Short Answers

1. Sour cream walls
 2. Keeping Quiet – inactivity idea
 3. Central idea of Aunt Jennifer's Tigers
-

◆ Vistas Long Answer

1. Derry & Mr. Lamb
 2. Maharaja & tigers (*The Tiger King*)
-

◆ Vistas Short Answers

1. Students on Ice aim
 2. First-day cover (*The Third Level*)
 3. Dr. Sadao & enemy
 4. Evans the Break
-

● 2021 PAPER (Subjective) – Literature Questions

(Main Reader Flamingo + Vistas)

HBSE Class 12 2021 A

◆ Long Answer (Flamingo)

1. Explain title *Lost Spring*
 2. Why Gandhi went to Champaran (*Indigo*)
-

◆ Short Answers

1. Why Saheb unhappy at tea stall?
 2. What did the peddler sell?
 3. Douglas' determination
-

◆ Poetry Questions

1. Theme of *An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum*
 2. Where is poet going? (*My Mother at Sixty-Six*)
 3. Why keep quiet? (*Keeping Quiet*)
-

◆ Vistas Long Answer

1. Moral issue – *Should Wizard Hit Mommy?*
 2. Charlie & Third Level experience
-

◆ Vistas Short Answers

1. Mr. Lamb
 2. Dr. Sadao
 3. Meaning of Third Level
 4. Why Evans called Evans the Break?
-

● 2021 SEMESTER-B (Objective) – Literature MCQs

(Objective Literature Questions)

HBSE Class 12 English 2021 Sem B

◆ Prose MCQs

- Chapter name (*The Last Lesson*)
 - Who was Wachter?
 - Author identification
 - Swimming pool memories (*Deep Water*)
-

◆ Poetry MCQs

- Poet identification (*Aunt Jennifer's Tigers*)
 - Actions of tigers
 - Poem *A Thing of Beauty* questions
-

Text-Based MCQs

- Writer of *The Rattrap*
 - Douglas childhood decision
 - Where Saheb lived
 - Who Mr. Hamel was
 - Enemy nationality (*The Enemy*)
 - Mr. Lamb's death
 - Story characters (*Should Wizard Hit Mommy*, *Evans Tries an O-Level*)
-

FINAL SUMMARY (All Years)

From all papers, the most repeated literature chapters are:

- ✓ The Last Lesson
- ✓ Lost Spring
- ✓ Deep Water
- ✓ Indigo
- ✓ Poets and Pancakes
- ✓ The Rattrap
- ✓ My Mother at Sixty-Six
- ✓ A Thing of Beauty
- ✓ Aunt Jennifer's Tigers
- ✓ The Third Level
- ✓ The Enemy
- ✓ On the Face of It
- ✓ The Tiger King