

URL: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/india-education-system-mindset-shift/article66534525.ece>

(d) A chapter titled "Interpretations of Early Indian History" by Romila Thapar, published in the book Readings in Indian History, edited by R.S. Sharma, Orient Blackswan, New Delhi, 2003, pages. 22-45.

(e) A YouTube video titled How to Overcome Distractions by Gaur Gopal Das, uploaded on July 10, 2021, on the channel "Gaur Gopal Das." Accessed on April 17, 2025. URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ykN8F0tr-mU>



[This question paper contains 24 printed pages.]

Your Roll No.....

Sr. No. of Question Paper : 4678 J

Unique Paper Code : 2035002001

Name of the Paper : English Language Through Literature

Name of the Course : Common Programme Group

Semester : IV/GE Language 2

Duration : 3 Hours Maximum Marks : 90

Instructions for Candidates

1. Write your Roll. No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.
2. This paper contains 3 unseen passages and questions based on them.
3. The questions are in two parts, **A and B. Both** parts are compulsory. Candidates have to answer **ANY THREE** questions from **Part A** and **ANY THREE** questions from **Part B.**

4. Questions in **Part A** carry 10 marks each and questions in **Part B** carry 20 marks each.

Passage 1

On a quiet stretch of the northern coast, far from any city or town, stood a tall white lighthouse called Eirengard Point. Surrounded by sharp cliffs and roaring waves, the lighthouse had been guiding ships away from danger for more than a hundred years. While most lighthouses around the world had been automated long ago, Eirengard Point still had a human keeper. His name was Ansel Mirek, and he was the last official lightkeeper in the country.

Ansel was 55 years old. He had spent more than three decades living in the lighthouse, far away from the noise of the modern world. He enjoyed the silence. His days were slow but steady-checking the light, recording weather data, and maintaining the equipment. He talked very little, mostly to himself or to the sea.

(15)

- (b) Convert each of the entries below into a proper MLA citation as it would appear in a Works Cited page. (5)

(a) A book titled *Wings of Fire: An Autobiography* by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam and Arun Tiwari, published by Universities Press, Hyderabad, 1999.

(b) An article by Vandana Shiva titled "Biodiversity, Biotechnology, and the Politics of the Patent Regime," published in *Economic and Political Weekly*, Volume 35, Issue 15, 2000, pages 1236-1242.

(c) An online article titled "India's Education System Needs a Mindset Shift" written by Anurag Behar, published in *The Hindu* on February 20, 2023. Accessed on April 17, 2025.

8. Imagine you are a concerned college student from South Asia. Write a formal letter to the Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, expressing your concern over the increasing frequency of extreme weather events in your region. (20)

9. In a fast-changing world, the ability to 'learn, unlearn, and relearn' is considered a critical leadership skill.

Discuss how the growth mindset equips leaders to thrive in times of complexity and disruption. Support your answer with two strategies or examples from the passage. (20)

10. (a) You are reporting for a leading daily and are covering the keynote address delivered by Sunita Narain at an international symposium. Write a news article titled: "A Heated Future: Why Climate Justice Must Be at the Heart of Global Policy."

His only contact with the outside world was through supply drops every two weeks and a working radio for emergencies.

Most people would have found such a life lonely, but Ansel found peace in the waves, the wind, and the rhythm of routine. He believed the sea had its own voice, and over time, he had learned to listen.

One summer, a request arrived from a university student named Elira Das. She was studying marine psychology and wanted to spend a few weeks at the lighthouse for her research on how isolation affects the human mind. At first, Ansel was unsure. He hadn't had company in years. But something about her letter—her curiosity, her respect for the sea—moved him. He agreed.

Elira was 21 years old, full of questions and energy. She arrived with notebooks, a laptop, and a recorder. Her first few days were filled with wonder. Everything

was new—the sound of the waves at night, the endless horizon, even the silence. At first, Ansel kept to himself, answering her questions with short replies. But slowly, he began to open up.

Each evening, they climbed to the top of the lighthouse and lit the lamp together. Elira would ask about the stars, the sea, and Ansel's past. He told her about storms he had faced, ships he had helped, and how even in silence, he never felt alone. In return, she shared stories of her college life, her dreams, and how people today were always rushing but rarely listening.

Over time, a quiet friendship formed between them. They ate together, kept separate journals, and sometimes sat in silence watching the sea. Elira began to understand the depth of Ansel's connection with nature. What seemed like a lonely life was actually full of meaning.

PART B

Answer **any 3** of the following in about 300-350 words:

(3x20= 60)

Questions **6 & 7** are based on **Passage 1**;

Question **8** is based on **Passage 2**;

Questions **9 and 10** are based on **Passage 3**.

6. As Ansel, write a diary entry a year after Elira's visit, expressing how her presence continues to shape your life and choices. (20)

7. Create a conversation between Elira and her professor where she explains how her time at the lighthouse changed her view on life and learning. Write 15 turns of dialogue to present this conversation. (20)

3. In Passage 2, Sunita Narain describes climate change as both a "challenge" and an "opportunity." Discuss what she means by this dual framing. In what ways can climate change be viewed as an opportunity for rethinking development and cooperation? (10)

4. Discuss how our current models of development, particularly in the energy sector, are contributing to the climate crisis. Cite two examples from the speech and explain how they reflect a larger global pattern of unsustainable growth. (10)

5. Describe a situation—real or imagined—where someone turned a failure into a learning opportunity by changing their mindset. Why is this shift important for long-term growth? (10)

Then came the storm.

One night, the sky darkened quickly. Winds grew wild, waves crashed harder, and the lighthouse shook. Satellite signals were lost. Electricity flickered. The emergency radio crackled a fishing boat had lost its way near the rocks and needed help. Ansel and Elira acted fast. They climbed the slippery stairs of the tower and manually adjusted the light. Ansel used his old logbooks and experience to calculate the boat's likely position. Elira stayed by the radio, updating the log and calling out signals. For hours, they worked together in the storm. Finally, the light caught the boat's eye. The vessel turned away from danger and made it back safely. When the storm ended, the sky cleared. The sea was calm again, but both of them knew something had changed.

A few days later, Elira left the lighthouse. As she boarded the supply boat, she turned and smiled. "Thank you," she said. "For everything."

Weeks passed. Then, one morning, Ansel found a letter in his mailbox. It was from Elira. It read:

"Dear Ansel,

You once told me the sea speaks in waves, winds, and silence. Now, I understand. Thank you for teaching me that some lights don't just guide ships—they guide people too.

Ansel folded the letter and placed it in his journal. Then, for the first time in many years, he walked out onto the cliff and smiled—not just at the sea, but at the memory of a visitor who had reminded him that even the quietest lives could touch others deeply.

Years went by, and Ansel remained at Eirengard Point, still lighting the lamp each evening. But he was no longer the same man. Elira's visit had opened a window in his heart—a reminder that connection could bloom even in the loneliest places. He began writing more

QUESTIONS

PART A

Answer **any 3** of the following in about 250-300 words:

(3×10=30)

Questions **1 and 2** are based on **Passage 1**;

Questions **3 and 4** are based on **Passage 2**;

Question **5** is based on **Passage 3**.

1. Describe how Ansel's life changes after Elira's visit. What does this say about the impact of human connection? (10)
2. What does the story suggest about the value of silence, solitude, and storytelling in today's fast-paced world? (10)

The Way Forward

In an age marked by complexity, disruption, and rapid technological advancement, the ability to learn, unlearn, and relearn has become a cornerstone of effective leadership. The growth mindset offers a potent framework for leaders not just to survive change, but to harness it for transformation-within themselves, their teams, and their organizations.

As psychologist and leadership scholar Warren Bennis once said, "The most dangerous leadership myth is that leaders are born-that there is a genetic factor to leadership. That's nonsense; in fact, the opposite is true. Leaders are made rather than born." The science of growth mindset supports this assertion-and invites a future where leadership is not a position, but a lifelong developmental process.

(751 words)

regularly, not just logs but reflections. Sometimes, a student or researcher would write, and Ansel always responded. The lighthouse still guided ships. But now, it also guided minds. In silence and in storms, Ansel had become more than a keeper of light. He had become a keeper of stories, and of human hope.

(788 words)

Passage 2

"On Thursday the World Meteorological Organization announced that 2010 was the warmest year recorded in large parts of the world. South Asia was particularly warm. IMO said that there is clear evidence now that the world is warming its signs are evident in the changing and variable and extreme weather events.

Just think of last year: Forest fires in Russia, which destroyed vast wheat fields; floods in Pakistan - worst ever in human memory; recent floods in Australia, in

Sri Lanka, in Brazil. Think of how extreme the weather is becoming. Think of how rainfall patterns are changing – it does not rain - it pours.

Let us be clear about the following:

(a) Climate change - the warming of the Earth's surface is caused by the burning of fossil fuels that we need for economic growth. It is human made.

(b) Climate change is real, it is already dangerous.

(c) The world needs to act. It needs to act urgently.

Why do I say so? It is human made: Climate change is linked to economic growth, as we know it today. If we break down the cause of emissions we find that the bulk come from the energy sector burning of coal in power stations, which fuel our factories, give us light and air conditioning. It comes from burning oil in our cars. These sectors contribute some 70 per cent

3. Coaching and Reflective Practice: Offering executive coaching that reinforces self-awareness and adaptive thinking.
4. Modeling from the Top: Leaders who openly share their learning journeys, admit mistakes, and model vulnerability inspire trust and courage within teams.

An impactful example is Google's Project Oxygen, which initially sought to prove that managers did not significantly influence team performance. Contrary to expectations, the research found that effective managers—those who coached, communicated well, and supported development had the most productive teams. These behaviors are deeply aligned with growth mindset thinking and enable the workplaces to manage conflicts and impact the work culture as well as the bottom line in a positive way.

activation when confronted with errors, suggesting a heightened cognitive engagement with mistakes, rather than a withdrawal or avoidance response. For leaders, this capacity to process failure constructively is not only crucial for personal development but also for role-modeling behavior for their teams.

The application of growth mindset to leadership is not automatic; it requires intentional design within leadership development frameworks. Organizations that have successfully embedded this orientation emphasize the following strategies:

1. Feedback-rich Environments: Encouraging real-time, constructive feedback as a tool for learning rather than criticism.
2. Reframing Failure: Normalizing experimentation and setbacks as pathways to innovation.

of the emissions in the world today. Carbon dioxide and methane are the key gases. The problem is complicated because CO₂ has a particularly long life -what you emit today remains for 50100 years. This is why the world worries about the cumulative impact created by the historical emissions.

It is dangerous: Scientists say that the world must remain below 20 C to avoid catastrophic damage even this is considered too high). As I said before it is emissions from growth that have led to this temperature increase. The world has already increased temperature by 0.8 degree Celsius. It has also pumped so much gas in the last 100 years or so that another 0.8 C is now inevitable. So a very small window of opportunity remains. It demands drastic action. The world has to reduce emissions by 85 per cent over its 2000 levels by 2050. The same emissions that give it growth. This is the challenge.

Why the world needs to act: We in south Asia are most vulnerable. Climate change is about extreme

events. It is also difficult to estimate. We cannot say that this flood or this extreme winter or even this heat wave is because of climate change. We cannot. But we can. We can say that the increased frequency of extreme and variable weather events is because of climate change. We can say that increased intensity and frequency of storm surges and tropical storms is because of climate change.

But estimating increased frequency requires long-term trends that are still not available. Remember the world is making history now. Science will not be certain. It cannot lead policy into action. But we must be clear: Our climate is changing. This change has the potential to devastate our world. This is not acceptable. So what do we do?

The 3-truths of climate change. This is where the 3-truths of climate change must be understood.

by growth mindset principles. As a result, Microsoft not only regained market relevance but also became one of the most admired and valuable companies globally. Nadella himself credits Dweck's theory as a foundational philosophy for organizational transformation (Nadella, 2017).

The Neuroscience of Growth Mindset in Leaders

Emerging research from neuroscience and neuroplasticity supports the idea that adult brains retain the capacity to form new neural connections-what is often referred to as brain plasticity. This scientific basis underlines the potential for leaders to reshape their thinking patterns, decision-making frameworks, and even emotional responses through deliberate practice and cognitive reappraisal.

A study published in *Frontiers in Psychology* (2019) by Mangels et al. revealed that individuals with growth mindsets demonstrated greater prefrontal cortex

in the face of obstacles. Such leaders also encouraged a culture of continuous improvement within their teams, viewing failures as learning opportunities rather than threats to personal or organizational identity.

Growth Mindset and Transformational Leadership

Transformational leadership is characterized by four key elements: idealized influence, inspirational motivation, intellectual stimulation, and individualized consideration. Leaders who possess a growth mindset naturally align with these principles. Their orientation towards learning enables them to model resilience and adaptability, essential traits in volatile and uncertain environments.

A notable case study is that of Satya Nadella, CEO of Microsoft, who upon taking the reins in 2014, initiated a cultural shift from a "know-it-all" to a "learn-it-all" organization. Nadella's leadership emphasized empathy, innovation, and learning-traits underpinned

- (a) Climate change is related to economic growth. No country in the world has built a low carbon growth economy (as yet).
- (b) Climate change is about sharing growth between nations and between people - think of the atmosphere as a glass filled with water (emissions of Co2). Countries for their growth have filled this glass, with emissions as they have grown. If we take even the recent period 1950-2000 - the cumulative emissions of one country - the US occupy some 30 percent of the atmospheric space. China with a quarter of the world's people occupied some 10 percent of the space.
- (c) Climate change is about cooperation and it is about collaboration. Let us be clear, unless the world has an agreement based on equity and fairness, there will be no cooperation on climate change. Equity is a prerequisite for agreement on climate change. We cannot agree to a world which does

not give the poor the right to development."

(Above is an excerpt taken from the Speech delivered at Asian University for Women Symposium: Imagining Another Future for Asia: Ideas and Pathways for Change, held at Dhaka, Bangladesh in January 2011. "The challenge and opportunity for our world" by Sunita Narain, the then Director General, Centre for Science and Environment) (761 words)

Passage 3

In recent decades, a significant body of research in psychology and organizational behavior has converged on the idea that leadership is not merely a function of charisma or strategic ability, but also of cognitive adaptability and belief systems-especially the concept of growth mindset. Coined by psychologist Dr. Carol S. Dweck, the growth mindset refers to the belief that abilities and intelligence can be developed through

effort, learning, and persistence. In contrast, a fixed mindset assumes that talent and intelligence are static traits.

Growth Mindset: Origins and Evidence

Carol Dweck's pioneering research in the early 2000s with school children demonstrated that students praised for their effort, rather than innate intelligence, were more willing to tackle challenging tasks and showed higher levels of resilience. The notion gained further traction with the rise of positive psychology, which emphasized strengths-based development, grit (Duckworth, 2016), and self-efficacy (Bandura, 1997).

In a 2014 study by Harvard Business Review, organizations that embedded growth mindset cultures reported increased employee engagement, stronger ethical behavior, and improved overall performance. Leaders with growth mindsets were observed to be more collaborative, open to feedback, and persistent