

CLASS IX ENGLISH

TOPPER'S NOTES

Exam-Oriented Revision Material

SECTION A — READING SKILLS

Unseen Passage

An unseen passage tests your ability to understand the main idea, locate specific information, infer meaning, identify vocabulary and answer factual or analytical questions.

Topper Tip: Read the questions first, then read the passage carefully. Answer in complete sentences and use words from the passage wherever appropriate.

SECTION B — WRITING & GRAMMAR

1. Descriptive Paragraph

A descriptive paragraph describes a person, place, event, object or situation.

Structure: Introduction → Description → Important Details → Conclusion

Use descriptive adjectives, maintain a logical sequence, use simple but effective vocabulary, avoid repetition and follow the prescribed word limit.

Example Opening: The school campus looked exceptionally beautiful on the morning of the Annual Day.

2. Story Writing

Structure: Beginning → Problem/Conflict → Development → Climax → Ending

Give your story a suitable title, maintain the same tense, use paragraphs, include dialogue where appropriate and end with a meaningful conclusion.

GRAMMAR

1. Tenses

Tense	Example
Simple Present	She plays football.
Present Continuous	She is playing football.
Present Perfect	She has played football.
Present Perfect Continuous	She has been playing football.
Simple Past	She played football.
Past Continuous	She was playing football.
Past Perfect	She had played football.
Simple Future	She will play football.

Topper Tip: Identify the time expression and the subject before choosing the correct tense.

2. Modals

Can — ability: I can swim.

Could — past ability/polite request: Could you help me?

May — permission/possibility: May I come in?

Might — possibility: It might rain today.

Must — strong obligation: You must obey the rules.

Should — advice: You should respect your elders.

Would — polite request/habit in the past: Would you like some tea?

3. Subject–Verb Agreement

The verb must agree with its subject in number and person.

Correct: He plays cricket. / They are students.

Important Rule: Each, every, everyone, everybody, someone and nobody generally take a singular verb.

Example: Everyone is present.

4. Reported Speech

Direct: Riya said, "I am tired."

Reported: Riya said that she was tired.

Direct	Reported
am/is	was
are	were
was/were	had been
have/has	had
will	would
can	could
may	might
today	that day
tomorrow	the next day
yesterday	the previous day

SECTION C — LITERATURE

BEEHIVE — PROSE

1. The Fun They Had

Author: Isaac Asimov

Main Idea: The story presents a futuristic education system where children study individually with mechanical teachers. Margie and Tommy discover an old printed book about traditional schools.

Important Characters:

Margie: A young girl who dislikes her mechanical teacher but becomes curious about old-fashioned schools.

Tommy: Margie's friend who discovers the old book.

Central Theme: The value of human interaction and traditional classroom learning.

Message: Technology can support education, but human teachers and interaction play an important role in making learning enjoyable and meaningful.

2. The Sound of Music

Part I — Evelyn Glennie: Evelyn Glennie was a highly talented percussionist who became profoundly deaf at a young age. Despite her hearing difficulty, she developed the ability to feel music through vibrations.

Qualities: Determination, hard work, self-confidence, courage and perseverance.

Message: Physical limitations need not prevent a person from achieving great success.

Part II — Bismillah Khan: Bismillah Khan was a legendary shehnai player who played a major role in bringing the shehnai to the classical music stage.

Qualities: Dedication to music, love for India, humility, devotion and hard work.

Message: True success comes through dedication, discipline and continuous practice.

POETRY

1. The Road Not Taken

Poet: Robert Frost

Central Idea: A traveller comes across two roads and must choose one. The roads represent the choices and decisions we make in life.

Themes: Choices, individuality, decision-making and consequences.

Important Symbol: Two roads = Two choices in life.

Message: Our decisions shape our lives, and once a choice is made, we often cannot return to choose the alternative.

2. Wind

Poet: Subramania Bharati

Central Idea: The poet describes the destructive power of wind but also presents it as a symbol of challenges.

Message: Weak people are easily defeated by difficulties, while strong people become stronger by facing challenges.

Key Idea: Strong body + strong mind = ability to face difficulties.

3. Rain on the Roof

Poet: Coates Kinney

Central Idea: The sound of rain falling on the roof creates a peaceful atmosphere and brings back childhood memories.

Themes: Nature, memories, mother, childhood and peace.

Message: Nature has the power to create beautiful memories and provide emotional comfort.

■ TOPPER'S EXAM STRATEGY

Before the Examination

- ✓ Revise chapter summaries.
- ✓ Learn important character traits.
- ✓ Understand themes and messages.
- ✓ Practise grammar regularly.
- ✓ Solve unseen passages.
- ✓ Practise writing within the word limit.

While Writing Answers

- ✓ Read the question carefully.
- ✓ Answer exactly what is asked.
- ✓ Use keywords from the chapter.
- ✓ Avoid unnecessarily long answers.
- ✓ Maintain neat handwriting and proper paragraphs.
- ✓ Underline important keywords where appropriate.

■ **Golden Rule:** Don't memorise the entire chapter. Understand the story, characters, themes and important events.