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The Tiger King — CBSE Class 12 English Core Chapter Test

FREE CHAPTER TEST · CLASS XII · ENGLISH CORE (301) · PATTERN OF THE CBSE SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER 2026-27

TIME ALLOWED	MAXIMUM MARKS	QUESTIONS	NAME / ROLL NO.
45 minutes	21	13 (A 8 · B 4 · C 1)	

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. This question paper contains 13 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper is divided into three sections: A, B and C.
3. Section A (Q1–8) contains objective questions of 1 mark each.
4. Section B (Q9–12) contains short answer questions of 2 marks each; answer in 40–50 words.
5. Section C (Q13) contains a long answer question of 5 marks with an internal choice; answer in 120–150 words and attempt only one of the alternatives.
6. Answer in your own words, within the word limits.
7. This chapter test follows the question types, marks and word limits of the Literature section (Section C) of the CBSE Class XII English Core (301) Sample Question Paper 2026-27, for one chapter: 21 marks in 45 minutes.
8. The answer key and the marking scheme are at the end of this booklet. Attempt the paper in 45 minutes before you look at them.

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Chapter: The Tiger King (Vistas) · **Topics:** The prophecy · The hundred tigers · Irony and satire · Wildlife and power

SECTION A

This section comprises 8 objective questions of 1 mark each, testing comprehension, interpretation, inference and appreciation of the chapter.

1. At the Maharaja's birth the royal astrologers predicted that 1

(A) he would be a great warrior

(B) he would die because of a tiger

(C) he would rule the whole of India

(D) he would never marry

2. To escape the prophecy, the Maharaja decided to 1

(A) leave the kingdom

(B) never go to the forest

(C) kill a hundred tigers, and banned tiger hunting by anyone else

(D) become a monk

3. Why did the Maharaja marry a girl from a particular state? 1

(A) The state had a large tiger population.

(B) She was the richest princess.

(C) The British officer arranged it.

(D) The astrologers advised it for his health.

4. How did the Maharaja save his throne when a high-ranking British officer was annoyed with him? 1

(A) He apologised in public.

(B) He gave up hunting.

(C) He sent his army to the officer.

(D) He sent costly diamond rings to the officer's wife, costing three lakh rupees.

5. Where did the hundredth tiger come from? 1

(A) The Maharaja's own forest

(B) An old tiger brought by the dewan from the People's Park in Madras

(C) A circus in the city

(D) The British officer's estate

6. What really happened to the hundredth tiger? 1

(A) It ran away.

(B) The Maharaja killed it with one shot.

(C) It only fainted from the Maharaja's shot; the hunters killed it secretly.

(D) It attacked the Maharaja.

7. How did the Maharaja die? 1

(A) A sliver from a wooden toy tiger pricked his hand; the infection spread, and he died after the operation

(B) In a tiger hunt

(C) In a war with the British

(D) Of old age

8. The Tiger King is mainly a satire on 1

(A) the courage of hunters

(B) the beauty of forests

(C) the love of animals

(D) the arrogance and whims of rulers, and man's attempt to escape fate

SECTION B

This section comprises 4 short answer questions of 2 marks each. Answer each in 40–50 words.

9. How did the Maharaja react to the astrologers' prediction? (40–50 words) 2

10. Why did the dewan bring an old tiger from Madras? (40–50 words) 2

11. What does the story say about the relationship between the ruler and his subjects? (40–50 words) 2

12. What is the irony in the death of the Tiger King? (40–50 words) 2

SECTION C

This section comprises 1 long answer question of 5 marks. Answer in 120–150 words.

13. (a) The Tiger King is a satire on the conceit of those in power. Discuss. (120–150 words) 5

OR

(b) The story raises the issue of the extinction of wildlife. How does The Tiger King make this point? (120–150 words)

END OF THE QUESTION PAPER

ANSWER KEY — SECTION A

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8
(B)	(C)	(A)	(D)	(B)	(C)	(A)	(D)

MARKING SCHEME AND WORKED SOLUTIONS

Value points are shown with their marks in brackets. Credit any other relevant point made in the student's own words.

Q1. Answer (B). The astrologers foretold that a tiger would be the cause of his death.

Q2. Answer (C). He would kill a hundred tigers; anyone else hunting tigers would have his property confiscated.

Q3. Answer (A). He chose a bride from a state with many tigers, so he could continue his hunt there.

Q4. Answer (D). The officer's wife accepted the rings, and the Maharaja kept his kingdom.

Q5. Answer (B). When no tigers were left, the dewan placed an old tiger from a park in the forest.

Q6. Answer (C). The bullet missed; the frightened hunters shot it dead to save their jobs.

Q7. Answer (A). The cheap wooden tiger he bought for his son caused the fatal infection — the prophecy came true.

Q8. Answer (D). Kalki mocks the vanity of princely rulers, their sycophantic courtiers, and the needless killing of wildlife.

Q9. (2 marks) Answer: defiance; decided to kill a hundred tigers.
He refused to accept fate quietly; [1] he decided to kill a hundred tigers to escape death, banned tiger hunting by anyone else, and went on killing tigers in his own and his in-laws' state. [1]

Q10. (2 marks) Answer: to save his job when tigers ran out.
Tigers had become extinct in the state, and the Maharaja was furious that he could not complete his hundred; [1] fearing for his own job, the dewan brought an old tiger from the People's Park in Madras and released it in the forest. [1]

Q11. (2 marks) Answer: fear and flattery under a whimsical ruler.
The ruler is whimsical and selfish; [1] the officials and subjects are afraid of him and flatter him — the dewan, the hunters and the shopkeeper all act out of fear or greed. [1]

Q12. (2 marks) Answer: killed by a wooden tiger.
He killed a hundred tigers to cheat death, [1] but the hundredth tiger only fainted, and he finally died because of a cheap wooden toy tiger — the prophecy came true in the most unexpected way. [1]

Q13. (5 marks) Answer: irony, exaggeration; vanity of rulers; sycophancy; destiny.
Value points [5]: the Maharaja of Pratibandapuram, with a long string of titles, defies the prophecy by killing a hundred tigers and banning others from hunting; he marries for tigers and bribes the British officer's wife with diamond rings worth three lakh rupees; his dewan and hunters fear him — the dewan brings an old tiger from Madras, the hunters secretly kill the tiger that only fainted; his arrogance ends in death from a sliver of a cheap wooden toy tiger; Kalki uses irony and exaggeration to mock the vanity of rulers, sycophancy and the senseless killing of wildlife.
OR Value points [5]: the Maharaja kills tigers in his kingdom until none is left, then in his in-laws' state; hunting is a show of power, not need; the ban on others' hunting is for his own glory, not for conservation; the old tiger from a zoo shows how few were left; the story satirises the destruction of wildlife by the powerful and warns against it; the death by a toy tiger is a final irony — nature has its revenge.

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