DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL EDUCATION, AMU
SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION (PART II)
UNIT TEST- II (2026-27)
CLASS XII
SUBJECT: ENGLISH CORE

MM: 25 **DURATION: $1\frac{1}{2}$ HOURS**

NOTE: 1. All questions are compulsory.
2. Marks are indicated against each question.
3. Word limit indicated in a question should be strictly followed.
4. Read instructions given in each section and answer accordingly.
5. Attempt all parts of questions at one place.

Q.1 Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. **(1x5=5)**

EduFuture, a non-profit organization, provides free online educational resources to students in remote areas. Their platform, KnowledgeNet, runs on two aging local servers. These servers frequently crash, especially during peak evening hours when student traffic is highest. The technical director, Mr. Rajeev, has documented that the current hardware is simply overwhelmed by the volume of concurrent video streaming and interactive quizzes. This frequent downtime is causing significant frustration and is directly impacting student learning.
Mr. Rajeev proposed two technology solutions to the board:
Migrate to Cloud Computing: Use a service like Amazon Web Services (AWS) or Google Cloud. This offers high reliability, automatic scaling to handle traffic spikes, and eliminates the need for physical hardware maintenance. The downside is a recurring monthly subscription cost.
Purchase New Local Servers: Buy faster, high-capacity physical servers. This is a large one-time capital expense, but the operational costs are lower over the long term, and EduFuture maintains full control of its data center.
The board's primary concern is long-term cost efficiency and minimizing future technical failures, ensuring uninterrupted service for their users. They must weigh the high up-front cost of new hardware against the flexible, but perpetual, cost of the cloud.

I. What is the name of EduFuture's online platform?
a) RemoteEd
b) TechLearn
c) KnowledgeNet
d) EduConnect

II. What is the main technical issue that KnowledgeNet faces during peak hours?
a) Slow internet connection speed.
b) Frequent server crashes due to high traffic.
c) Problems with the content management system.
d) Lack of interactive quizzes.

III. The main advantage of migrating to Cloud Computing is:
a) Lower one-time cost.
b) Full control of the data center.
c) High reliability and automatic scaling.
d) Reduced monthly subscription fees.

IV. The main disadvantage of purchasing new Local Servers is:
a) Recurring monthly subscription costs.
b) Reduced control over data.
c) A large one-time capital expense.
d) The need to upgrade software continually.

V. What is the board's primary concern when deciding on the upgrade?
a) Hiring more technical staff.
b) Long-term cost efficiency and minimizing future technical failures.
c) Developing new video content.
d) Getting student feedback on the quiz interface.

Q.2Read the following stanza carefully and answer the questions that follow. **(1x3=3)**

A thing of beauty is a joy forever:
Its loveliness increases, it will never
Pass into nothingness; but still will keep
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.

I.Name the poet.
II.What does the word "bower" refer to in the stanza?
III. Mention any two benefits that a thing of beauty provides us with.

Q.3 Attempt any one of the following questions in about 40 words. **(2)**

I.List the things of beauty mentioned in the poem.(A Thing of Beauty)
II.Why is the "grandeur" associated with the "mighty dead" ?(A Thing of Beauty)

Q.4 Attempt any one of the following questions in about 120 words. **(5)**

I.Attempt a character sketch of the peddler.(The Rattrap)
II. Why was Kotha Mangalam Subbu considered number 2 in Gemini Studios?(Poets and Pancakes)

Q.5 Attempt any one of the following questions in about 120 words. **(5)**

I. Why is Antarctica the place to go to, to understand the earth's present, past and future?(Journey to the end of the Earth)
II.Do you agree with the view that the doctor's final solution to the problem was the best possible one in the circumstances?(The Enemy)

Q.6 Write an article for your school magazine on the following topic in about 150 words.

Benefits of Healthy Lifestyle

OR **(5)**

Write a letter to the Chief Executive Officer of Topaz Electricals applying for the post of junior engineer that has been advertised in The New Delhi Times of October 4, 2026. Enclose your curriculum vitae.