

CAMBRIAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

Kanke Road, Ranchi (Jharkhand-834008) Affi-3430087, School code- 66276

Class 12

English (Core) – Summer Vacation Project 2026

Project Question

Title: “Doors We Open, Doors We Close: Language, Escape, and Lost Childhoods”

Prescribed Texts: The Last Lesson, The Third Level, My Mother at 66, Lost Spring.

Writing Skill: Notice Writing

You are required to prepare a project that critically examines how the prescribed texts reflect human responses to loss, escapism, and social exclusion in the 21st century. Your project must demonstrate high-order thinking and connect literature with contemporary realities.

Your project file must include the following components:

1. Introduction – 80-100 words

State the central idea connecting the four texts. What common human experience do they explore?

2. Critical Analysis – 400 words

Attempt any two of the following questions:

a. In *The Last Lesson* language is a key to freedom. In *Lost Spring* poverty locks that door. Critically evaluate: In India in 2026, what has replaced ‘language’ as the real key to freedom for children like Saheb? Use textual evidence and one current government scheme to support your argument.

b. Charley in *The Third Level* and the poet in *My Mother at 66* both use ‘escape’ to cope with fear. Compare their methods of escape. In today’s digital world, what new forms of ‘third levels’ do people use? Is this escape dangerous or necessary? Argue with reasons.

c. *Lost Spring* shows that notices and laws exist, yet childhoods are still lost. *The Last Lesson* begins with a notice from the Berlin order. If Franz and Saheb met in 2026, what ‘notice’ would they jointly write for the government? Draft the notice in 50 words, then explain its significance in 150 words.

3. Creative Extension – 250-300 words.

Imagine you are Charley from *The Third Level*. On the 'fourth level' you meet Mukesh from *Lost Spring*. Write a dialogue or narrative showing what they learn from each other about 'escape' and 'reality'. End with a critical insight: What does their meeting reveal about modern India?

4. Conclusion – 80-100 words.

What is one uncomfortable truth this project made you realize about the society you live in?

5. Reflection Log

Write 4 dated entries of 3 lines each: 'One question from this project that I cannot stop thinking about is...'

Guidelines:

1. Use A4 sheets, spiral-bound. Cover page must mention title, name, class, roll no.
2. All written work must be handwritten. Paste visuals/maps if needed for Part 3.
3. Follow CBSE Notice format strictly wherever required.
4. Marks Distribution: Critical Thinking – 8, Content & Textual Reference – 5, Language – 4, Presentation – 3.
5. Originality is mandatory. Copied work will not be evaluated.

Teacher's Note: This project tests your ability to read literature as a lens to see the world, not just as chapters to memorize. Think deeply.