

SA-1 : CLASS-VIII
SUBJECT : ENGLISH

9/2013

Time : 3 Hrs.

MM: 80

General Instructions :

- 1. Read the questions carefully.**
- 2. Number the answers as given in the question paper.**
- 3. Write in a neat and clear handwriting.**
- 4. Write the answers in complete sentences.**

SECTION-A (READING)

- Q1. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow :
(7)

Stumbling, he made his way forward, the bitter cold wind tearing into him. Two days in weather like this had tempted him beyond measure to turn tail and go back the way he had come.

But he had something to prove. All his life he had followed his father's famous footsteps, forever being compared to him and found wanting. His father, the fearless explorer and adventurer. Whatever he had decided to do, his father had already done, and done better. In an attempt to break free of his father's shadow, he had gone where his father had never been. Antarctica, no man's land.

He shivered, partly from the cold and partly from the knowledge of what lay ahead. He plodded on. The pack he carried began to weigh him down. He had never felt so tired. He had found shelter in caves the first two nights but it seemed he had to spend the night in his small tent where had no protection from the ice-cold air.

Once the tent was up and a small dinner eaten, he settled down to sleep with his dogs by his side, his sole faithful companions.

The next day he walked forward, his once sharp vision blurring from the endless glare of the sun. Perhaps it was because of this he failed to notice the thinning of ice under his feet.

When the ice began to crack, it came as a complete surprise. He was gripped with terror. He freed his dogs from their harness so that they could escape. He threw his backpack and began running for his life, the ice falling behind him into freezing cold water. Now the falling ice was catching him. He reflected upon his folly. How foolish to think that what others thought of him was important.

The dogs looked back as they saw their master falling into the water. In unison they howled their sorrow.

- (i) Why did the boy want to break free of his father's shadow? (2)
- (ii) Where did he decide to go? (1)
- (iii) In what way was his stay in tent different from his earlier stay in caves? (1)
- (iv) Why couldn't the boy notice the thinning of ice under his feet? (1)
- (v) Dogs were his sole companions in his tough journey. What did he do to save their lives? (1)
- (vi) Before falling the boy realized that _____. (1)

Q2. Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow : (6)

Someone dropped a burning match
Unheeded by the way :
It caught on fire some underbrush;
Its user did not stay.
From grass to brush, from brush to tree,
So stealthily it ran,
That no one ever guessed or knew
Just where that fire began.

Someone built a campfire
And failed to put it out.
A breeze came and quickened;
The embers spread about :
And soon the woods were blazing.
The fire spread and spread;
The trees that took long years to grow
Stand blackened now and dead.

Someone saw a little fire
As he was passing by
He did not stop to put it out;
He did not even try.
He had not started it, of course;
He had no time to spare,
That it might start a forest fire
He did not even care.

- (i) How did the campfire result in the forest fire? (2)
- (ii) Explain the phrase 'so stealthily it ran'. (1)
- (iii) What damage did the fire do to the trees? (1)
- (iv) Mention any one reason why someone who saw the fire did not put it out. (1)
- (v) Find words from the poem which mean the same as the given words :
 - (a) not noticed
 - (b) bursting into flames (2x ½=1)

SECTION-B (WRITING)

- Q3. Suppose you are Nidhi Maran, the student leader of Art and Craft Club of your school. On the occasion of Diwali, the members of your club are organising an exhibition-cum-sale of art and craft articles made by them. Design an attractive poster inviting parents, teachers and students giving the relevant details. (4)
- Q4. You are Tarun/Tara, a resident of 21-C, Model Town, Delhi. Write a letter to your friend, Aman/Amisha telling him/her about the 'Magic Show' which was organised by NIE team in your school. (5)
- Q5. You are Radhika, the captain of your school basketball team. Your sports teacher, Mr. Ali had the following conversation with you. Since you have to leave for home, you decide to leave the message for your team mates. Read the conversation carefully and write the message in not more than 50 words. (5)
- Mr. Ali : Radhika, where are the other basketball players?
- Radhika : Sir, they've gone to collect their bags from the classroom.
- Mr. Ali : Tell all of them to be present tomorrow as the school has a match with Bombay Public School.
- Radhika : What time is the match sir and where should we assemble?
- Mr. Ali : The match is at 11:30 am and you should reach the sports room by 10:30 am. Please convey the message.
- Radhika : I'll write on the blackboard sir.
- Mr. Ali : Thank you.

SECTION-C (GRAMMAR)

- Q6. Identify the tense of the given sentences : (3x1=3)
- (i) My mother is reading an interesting novel. _____
 - (ii) I watched a movie on Sunday. _____
 - (iii) India has won the cricket series. _____

- Q7. Rearrange the words and phrases to make meaningful sentences : (2x1=2)
- with his family/he/twelve hundred/lived/of/an income/on/a year
 - has/its flag/each and every/world/country/of/the
- Q8. Fill in the blanks with one verb in the past tense and the other in past progressive tense : (4x½=2)
- I _____ (meet) my friend while I _____ (go) for the morning walk.
 - Amit _____ (write) a letter to his mother when his friend _____ (call) him.
- Q9. Complete these sentences with the correct determiners : (4x½=2)
- There are a _____ things you can buy from here. (plenty/plenty of)
 - _____ he had in his bag was stolen. (A little/The little)
 - I watched a wonderful science fiction with _____ friends (few/a few)
 - You can buy them from _____ shop. (any/any of)
- Q10. Fill in the blanks with suitable relative pronouns : (2x1=2)
- The story _____ I wrote was published yesterday.
 - The people _____ live in our neighbourhood are helpful.
- Q11. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb given in brackets : (4x½=2)
- More rains are _____ for the next few days. (forecast)
 - Last night, all fishermen were _____ a warning. (give)
 - I _____ along the road when suddenly I _____ an old lady. (walk, meet)
- Q12. Change the voice of the given sentences and rewrite them : (1x3=3)
- Her brother gave her a beautiful gift. (Passive Voice)
 - The teacher has already finished the lesson. (Passive Voice)
 - The colourful kites were sold by the children. (Active Voice)
- Q13. Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions : (4x½=2)
- Tiny ants have no fear _____ anything. They are capable _____ bringing a mighty elephant on his knees. Look _____ an ant hill and appreciate the architectural skills _____ the ants.

Q14. Replace the underlined words with a verb and rewrite the sentences : (2x1=2)

- (i) I gave for consideration my article at the office of The Times of India.
- (ii) A month later I was given the information that my article was selected.

SECTION-D (LITERATURE)

Q15. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow :

- (a) “You’ll have what you want, dear, I’ll start work tonight.” (3x1=3)
With my expert assistance, he soon finished the chore...”

- (i) Who is referred to as ‘I’ in the above lines?
- (ii) What work was ‘he’ going to start that night?
- (iii) With whose assistance did he finish the work?

- (b) “Now then, we’ll have a nice little talk about yourself”. (3x1=3)

- (i) Who is the speaker and the listener of the above lines?
- (ii) What ‘nice little talk’ is the speaker talking about?
- (iii) Why did the speaker want to talk about ‘yourself’?

Q16. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each : (2x2=4)

- (i) What plan did Ryder make to accuse John Horner, the plumber for stealing the Blue Carbuncle?
- (ii) “Dr. Raman did not tell anything about Gopal’s health till the end of the lesson, which created a lot of curiosity among the family members”. What was the condition of Gopal’s wife at that time?

Q17. Answer the following question in 30-40 words : (2)

How did Mini and Kabuliwala become good friends?

Q18. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each : (2x2=4)

- (i) ‘Father Gilligan was a God fearing man’. Explain with reference to the poem ‘The Ballad of Father Gilligan’.
- (ii) With reference to the poem ‘Grandma Climbs a Tree’, prove that Ruskin’s father was a dutiful son.

Q19. Answer the given question in 80-100 words : (5)

'Presence of mind is the ability to act bravely and wisely in times of crises'.
Elucidate the above statement, referring to the lesson 'If I Were You'.

OR

"How he has survived this attack will be a puzzle to me all my life". Referring to the lesson 'The Doctor's Word' explain how the medical treatment and the psychological change of mind helped Gopal to survive?

Q20. Answer the following question in 70-80 words each : (4)

How did Anukul find a solution to Nikunja Babu's financial problem?

OR

The narrator preferred to curtail some of the festivities from Mini's marriage and give that money to Rahman. What made him do so?

Q21. Answer the following question in 30-40 words : (3)

Explain the condition of the Time Traveller when he returned from his first journey into time.

Q22. Answer the following question in 80-100 words : (5)

Where did the Time Traveller go on his first journey on his Time Machine? How was he treated there?

OR

Describe the White Sphinx and its surroundings in your own words.