

Class: VIII

Subject: English

Subject Teacher: Mrs. ABARNA. M

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Duration: 1hr 30mins

**PART-A (READING & WRITING)**

I. a) Read the following prose comprehension and answer the questions below: 5x1=5

The culture of nuclear families is in fashion. Parents are often heard complaining about the difficulties in bringing up children these days. Too much of freedom in demand, too much independence; over night parties; excessive extravagance, splurging pocket money; no time for studies and family all this is a common cry of such families. Aren't parents, themselves, responsible for this pitiful state? The basic need of a growing youth is the family, love, attention and bonding along with moral values. One should not forget that 'charity begins at home'.

Independence and individuality both need to be respected, in order to maintain the sanctity of family. Children, today are to be handled with tact in order to bridge the ever widening generation gap. Only the reasonable demands need to be fulfilled, as there are too many expenses to be met and top many social obligations to be taken care of by the parents. Our forefathers lived happily in joint families. Children loved to live with their cousins, learnt to adjust within means. There was perfect harmony between the generations. There never existed the concept of old-age homes. There was deep respect for the family elders and love, care and concern for the youngsters. Even the minor family differences were solved amicably.

Answer the following questions:

1. Mention any two major common concerns of a nuclear family.
2. Who, according to the passage, are responsible for them?
3. Explain the expression 'charity begins at home'.
4. Describe the atmosphere in joint families.
5. Which word in the passage means 'Holiness of life'?

Answers:

1. Too much independence and no time for studies and family.
2. Parents themselves.
3. The parent should not forget that it is in giving that one receives.
4. In joint families, children get a friendly atmosphere and they also learn to adjust within means.
5. Sanctity

b) Read the following poetry comprehension and answer the questions that follows: 5x1=5

Remember, no men are strange, no countries foreign  
Beneath all uniforms, a single body breathes  
Like ours: the land our brothers walk upon  
Is earth like this, in which we all shall lie.  
They, too, aware of sun and air and water,  
Are fed by peaceful harvests, by war's long winter starv'd.  
Their hands are ours, and in their lines we read  
A labour not different from our own.  
Remember they have eyes like ours that wake  
Or sleep, and strength that can be won  
By love. In every land is common life  
That all can recognise and understand.  
Let us remember, whenever we are told  
To hate our brothers, it is ourselves  
That we shall dispossess, betray, condemn.  
Remember, we who take arms against each other  
It is the human earth that we defile.  
Our hells of fire and dust outrage the innocence  
Of air that is everywhere our own,  
Remember, no men are foreign, and no countries strange.  
BY JAMES KIRKUP

Answer the following questions:

1. What should be discouraged according to the poem?  
(a) the practice of love and brotherhood  
(b) equality  
(c) ill practice of hatred and discrimination  
(d) None  
Answer: (c) ill practice of hatred and discrimination
2. What does the poet ask the people to keep in mind in the last stanza?  
(a) to hate more  
(b) to be powerful  
(c) not to pay attention to the words of hate by selfish people  
(d) all  
Answer: (c) not to pay attention to the words of hate by selfish people

3. What message this poem conveys?

- (a) equality and brotherhood
- (b) individuality of everyone
- (c) everyone is different
- (d) none

Answer: (a) equality and brotherhood

4. How do we pollute the earth according to the poet?

- (a) by throwing waste
- (b) by hating and killing others
- (c) by cutting plants
- (d) all

Answer: (b) by hating and killing others

5. What is this poem emphasising?

- (a) All people are equal
- (b) All people are different
- (c) different people live in different countries
- (d) none

Answer: (a) All people are equal

II. Writing skill: 1x5=5

1. You are Ruhi/Rahul, head girl/boy of ABC convent school. Your school is going to organize an inter-school singing competition. Write a notice for your school notice board inviting names of all the interested students.

Answer:

NOTICE

ABC CONVENT SCHOOL

March 01, 2019

INTER-SCHOOL SINGING COMPETITION

Our school is organising an Inter-school Singing Competition on March 19, 2019; Tuesday at 12pm in the school auditorium. More than 20 schools from all over the city will participate. Interested students may contact the undersigned latest by March 10, 2019.

Ruhi/Rahul  
Head girl/boy

Ruhi/Rahul  
Head girl/boy

### PART-B (GRAMMAR)

III. a) Change the following into direct or indirect speech: 3x2=6

1. Ravi said, "I am reading this book."

Ravi said that he was reading that book.

2. Doctor said to the patient, "Change your food habits".

Doctor suggested/advised the patient to change his food habits.

3. He said to me, "How much money do you have?"

He asked me how much money I had.

b) Complete the sentence by choosing the appropriate non-finite from the following. 4x1=4

1. "I tried \_\_\_\_\_ a stain left by coffee from my shirt using the new cleaning agent."

- a) clean
- b) to clean
- c) to cleaning
- d) to cleaned

Answer:

b) to clean

Remember, the non-finite infinitive is formed by placing 'to' before the base verb. In option 1 'to' is missing. In options 3 and 4 the base verb changes form

2. "We can hear the class choir \_\_\_\_\_ in the hall."

- a) practise
- b) to practise
- c) practised
- d) practising

Answer:

d) practising

Remember, the non-finite gerund is formed by adding '-ing' to the base verb (practise-practising). In the other options the verbs are the wrong form for a gerund.

3. "\_\_\_\_\_ a loud sound, the students rushed out of the auditorium."

- a) Hearing
- b) Hear
- c) To hear
- d) Heard

Answer:

a) Hearing

Remember, the non-finite participle is formed by adding '-ing', '-d', '-ed', '-en', '-t or '-n' to the base verb (hear -hearing). In the other options the verbs are the wrong form for a participle

4. Choose the phrase with the participle from the following.

- a) My car collided with another car.
- b) Collided with another car.
- c) To collide with.
- d) Colliding with.

Answer:

b) Collided with another car.

Remember, a participle has one of these: '-ing', '-d', '-ed', '-en', '-t or '-n' as its ending.

Option 1 is a sentence. Option 3 is a phrase with a non-finite verb (to collide) known as an infinitive. Option 4 is a phrase with a non-finite verb (colliding) known as a gerund.

Remember, participles have two forms: present participle and past participle. Present participles generally end with '-ing.' Past participles end with '-d', '-ed', '-en', '-t or '-n.'

Participles function like adjectives

#### PART-C (SUPPLEMENTARY)

#### IV. CHOOSE THE BEST ANSWER 10×1/2=5

1. On what condition did the bird agree to stay in all night?

- (a) If she kept him in it forever
- (b) If she gave him food
- (c) If she let him sleep
- (d) If she let him out in the morning

Answer: (d) If she let him out in the morning

2. In how many languages could they say 'Pretty Polly'?

- (a) Five
- (b) Seven
- (c) Nine
- (d) Eleven

Answer: (b) Seven

3. "The King of Siam had a peculiar habit" What habit are they talking about?

- (a) Giving gifts on his birthday instead of receiving them
- (b) Receiving gifts on his birthday instead of giving them
- (c) Receiving gifts on others' birthdays instead of giving it to them
- (d) Giving gifts to others' on their birthdays instead of receiving it from them

Answer: (a) Giving gifts on his birthday instead of receiving them

4. Who is the writer of the story "Princess September"?

- (a) Rudyard Kipling
- (b) Rabindranath Tagore
- (c) T.S. Eliot
- (d) Somerset Maugham

Answer: (d) Somerset Maugham

5. The general opinion in the King's palace was that

- (a) the Parrots were better
- (b) the bird sang much better than the parrots
- (c) the bird was a divine creature
- (d) the bird should be put in the cage

Answer: (b) the bird sang much better than the parrots

6. Ranji discovered a pool in the forest in the season which was

- (a) very hot
- (b) very cold
- (c) rainy
- (d) autumn

Answer: (a) very hot

7. The water in the pool was

- (a) transparent
- (b) dirty
- (c) translucent
- (d) clear

Answer: (c) translucent

8. "The warrior's mouth hung open in amazement." What was the reason behind it?

- (a) Ranji's dive
- (b) Ranji swimming under water
- (c) Ranji's swimming skills
- (d) All of the Above

Answer: (a) Ranji's dive

9. Who claimed himself to be a Fighter?

- (a) Ranji
- (b) Suraj
- (c) Both of them
- (d) None of them

Answer: (a) Ranji

10. The lesson 'The fight' is written by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) Ruskin Bond
- (b) Rabindranath Tagore
- (c) T.S. Eliot
- (d) None of the Above

Answer: (a) Ruskin Bond

#### PART-D (LITERATURE)

V. a) Meanings-  $4 \times 1 = 4$

1. Reverence- respect
2. Jubilant-very happy because of success
3. Drooping- bending
4. A china deer- a clay deer that is easily broken

b) Answer the following questions: (any 6)  $6 \times 2 = 12$

1. How did Jody feel as he touched the fawn's skin?

Answer:

Jody found the fawn's skin very soft and clean. He stroked its sides gently as though it were made of clay and would break soon.

2. What did Doc Wilson mean when he said, "Nothing in the world ever comes quite free ?

Answer:

Doc Wilson meant to say that every service in this world demands something in return. Penny's life was saved at the cost of the fawn's mother. So now it was the duty of Penny's family to take care of the young fawn.

3. Why does the boy compare himself to a caged bird?

Answer:

Like a caged bird, the boy is also not free to do any thing at his own will. He wants to lead a life of freedom but he can't because there are many restrictions on him.

4. What makes the school boy unhappy?

Answer:

He has to go to school even in a summer morning when there is so much to enjoy in open fields and forests. Secondly, his teacher is cruel and the lessons are uninteresting.

5. Why is adventure, which is risky, also pleasure?

Answer: Mountain climbing is a great adventure but is also risky. It is a great challenge and doing a challenging job is in itself pleasurable. It gives immense joy to the doers.

6. What were the 'Symbols of Reverence' left by members of the team on Everest?

Ans: On Everest, a picture of Guru Nanak was left by the author, a picture of Goddess Durga was left by Rawat; a relic of Buddha was left by Phi Dorji. Apart from these 'Symbols of Reverence' there was also the Cross that had been buried by Edmund Hillary.

7. What are three qualities that played a major role in author's climb?

Ans: The three qualities that ensured the success of the author were 'endurance' persistence and 'will power'.

c) Answer in Paragraph:(any 1)  $1 \times 4 = 4$

1. How did Jody persuade his father to go to the forest to bring back the fawn?

Ans: Jody was a small, brave and sensitive boy. He was with his father when he (his father) was bitten by a rattlesnake. His father quickly killed a doe and used its heart and liver to draw out the snake's poison. Jody was happy to see that his father got a new life but at the same time he was worried for the little fawn who was left alone without its mother. He wanted to bring back the fawn. He requested his father to allow him to go to the forest to find the fawn. He told him that he didn't need to drink milk because he was now a big boy. He would give the milk to the fawn. He also said that it was ungrateful to leave the fawn to starve. His father was in a fix. He couldn't say "no" to his son. And finally allowed him (Jody) to go to the forest to find the fawn.

2. What problems do the climbers face as they climb a mountain?

Answer:

Breathing at great height is difficult. The climber has to cut the steps in the hard ice and he has to strain every nerve as he takes every step. Sometimes he curses himself for undertaking such a task. There are moments when he feels like going back for relief. But there is something that does not let him give up the struggle.