



**BK BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION
SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS
SENIOR SECONDARY CO-ED DAY CUM BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL
MID TERM 2024-25**



ENGLISH MS

Class: IX
Date: 16.09.24
Admission no:

Duration: 3 hours
Max Marks: 80
Roll no:

General Instructions:

- 1. The Question Paper contains FOUR sections-READING, GRAMMAR, WRITING and LITERATURE.**
- 2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.**

SECTION A: READING SKILLS (20 marks)

I. Read the passage and answer the questions. (1X10=10)

Bioluminescence is a fascinating natural phenomenon found in some organisms that allows them to produce and emit light. This ability is seen in various creatures, including fireflies, certain types of fungi, and deep-sea marine animals. The light produced by these organisms is typically created through a chemical reaction involving a light-emitting molecule called luciferin and an enzyme called luciferase.

In the ocean's depths, bioluminescence serves multiple purposes. For some species, it is a method of attracting prey. For example, the deep-sea anglerfish uses a bioluminescent lure to draw small fish close enough to be captured. Other species use bioluminescence as a form of camouflage. The squid, for instance, can match the light patterns of the surrounding water to hide from predators.

On land, bioluminescence is often seen in fungi and insects. Fireflies are perhaps the most well-known example, using their light to attract mates. The patterns and intensity of their light flashes vary between species, allowing fireflies to find and communicate with potential partners.

Bioluminescence has inspired numerous scientific and technological advancements. Researchers have harnessed this natural light for various applications, including medical imaging and environmental monitoring. For example, bioluminescent markers are used in genetic research to track the activity of specific genes in living organisms.

Despite its beauty and utility, bioluminescence remains a relatively mysterious field of study. Scientists continue to explore the complexities of this phenomenon, seeking to understand its full range of applications and the underlying mechanisms behind it.

Questions:

1. What is bioluminescence?

Bioluminescence is a natural phenomenon that allows some organisms to produce and emit light through a chemical reaction.

2. Name two types of organisms that exhibit bioluminescence.

Fireflies and deep-sea marine animals.

3. What are the two main components involved in the chemical reaction that produces bioluminescence?

Luciferin (the light-emitting molecule) and luciferase (the enzyme).

4. How does the deep-sea anglerfish use bioluminescence?

The deep-sea anglerfish uses a bioluminescent lure to attract small fish close enough to be captured.

5. In what way can squid use bioluminescence as described in the passage?

Squid can use bioluminescence for camouflage by matching the light patterns of the surrounding water to hide from predators.

6. How do fireflies use bioluminescence to communicate?

Fireflies use their light to attract mates, with different species having unique patterns and intensities of light flashes for communication.

7. Mention one application of bioluminescence in scientific research.

Bioluminescent markers are used in genetic research to track the activity of specific genes in living organisms.

8. According to the passage, what is one purpose of bioluminescence in deep-sea Environments?

One purpose is to attract prey, as demonstrated by the deep-sea anglerfish.

9. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a use for bioluminescence in the passage? a. Attracting mate's b. Environmental monitoring c. Producing light in fungi

d. Communicating with extraterrestrial life

10. What aspect of bioluminescence is highlighted as being still under research?

The complexities of bioluminescence, including its full range

II. Read the passage and answer the questions. (1X10=10)

In recent years, the concept of climate change has moved from scientific circles into the public consciousness. Climate change refers to significant, long-term changes in the average temperature and weather patterns of the Earth. The causes of climate change are both natural and anthropogenic (human-made). While natural processes, such as volcanic eruptions and variations in solar radiation, have influenced the climate for millions of years, human activities have significantly accelerated recent changes.

One of the most significant human contributions to climate change is the emission of greenhouse gases, particularly carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and nitrous oxide (N₂O). These gases trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere, leading to the greenhouse effect, which warms the planet. Major sources of these gases include the burning of fossil fuels for energy, deforestation, and industrial processes.

The consequences of climate change are far-reaching and affect various aspects of the environment. Rising global temperatures have led to the melting of polar ice caps and glaciers, contributing to rising sea levels. This poses a threat to coastal communities through increased flooding and erosion. Additionally, changing weather patterns have resulted in more frequent and severe weather events, such as hurricanes, droughts, and heatwaves.

Addressing climate change requires a global effort. International agreements, such as the Paris Agreement, aim to limit global warming by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting sustainable practices. Individuals can also contribute by making environmentally conscious choices, such as reducing energy consumption, using public transportation, and supporting renewable energy sources.

By understanding the impact of climate change and taking collective action, it is possible to mitigate its effects and work towards a more sustainable future for generations to come.

Questions:

1. What is the primary focus of the passage?

a. Natural processes affecting climate change

b. The effects of climate change on weather patterns

c. Human activities contributing to climate change

d. The role of international agreements in climate change

2. Which greenhouse gases are mentioned in the passage as significant contributors to climate change?

a. Oxygen and nitrogen

b. Carbon dioxide and ozone

c. Methane and carbon dioxide

d. Carbon monoxide and sulfur dioxide

3. What are some of the consequences of climate change described in the passage?

a. Increased industrial activity

b. Rising sea levels and severe weather events

c. Expansion of polar ice caps

d. Decreased global temperatures

4. What does the Paris Agreement aim to achieve according to the passage?

a. Promote fossil fuel use

b. Increase greenhouse gas emissions

c. Limit global warming by reducing emissions

d. Encourage deforestation

5. According to the passage, how can individuals help address climate change?

a. By increasing energy consumption

b. By avoiding public transportation

c. By supporting renewable energy sources

d. By ignoring international agreements

Short-Answer Questions:

6. Explain the term "greenhouse effect" as used in the passage.

The greenhouse effect refers to the warming of the Earth's atmosphere caused by greenhouse gases trapping heat, which leads to an increase in the planet's temperature.

7. How have rising global temperatures affected polar ice caps and glaciers?

Rising global temperatures have led to the melting of polar ice caps and glaciers, contributing to rising sea levels.

8. What are two sources of greenhouse gases mentioned in the passage?

The burning of fossil fuels for energy and deforestation.

9. Why is international cooperation important in addressing climate change?

International cooperation is crucial because climate change is a global issue that requires collective efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote sustainable practices across countries.

10. List two actions individuals can take to contribute to mitigating climate change.

Reducing energy consumption and supporting renewable energy sources.

SECTION B- GRAMMAR (10 marks)

III. Do as directed

(1x10= 10 marks)

1. Convert the following sentence into reported speech: "He said, 'I am going to visit my cousin next week.'" **He said that he was going to visit his cousin the following week.**

2. Convert the following direct speech to indirect speech:

Direct Speech: "I am going to the store," she said. **She said that she was going to the store.**

3. The following passage has not been edited. The incorrect word is underlined. Choose the most appropriate option.

Inactivity is the greatest cause of overweight

- A. These days. People physical activity
- B. Had decreased these days. The main reason
- C. Is there are many labour saving devices
- D. They doesn't want to walk on foot.
- E. They spend enough time sitting and
- F. Watch television. Their excess weight
- G. Make them sick and they have to spend
- H. Money in medicines.

- A. a. **people's** b. peopled c. pupil d. pupil's
- B. a. have b. is c. **has** d. was
- C. a. **being** b. was c. were d. had
- D. a. didn't b. weren't c. **don't** d. hadn't
- E. a. many b. more c. **most** d. little
- F. a. watched b. **watching** c. have watched d. had watched
- G. a. maked b. making c. **makes** d. made

H. a. into b. with c. from d. **on**

SECTION C-WRITING SKILL (24 marks)

IV. Email

(4 Marks)

Compose an email (50 words) to the school administration providing feedback on a recent school program or initiative, highlighting what worked well and suggesting areas for improvement.

Mark Breakdown:

Content (3 marks): Clear request for feedback, specific areas of concern, reason for the request.

Language and Style (2 marks): Formal yet polite tone, appropriate email structure.

Grammar and Mechanics (1.5 marks): Correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar.

Presentation (0.5 marks): Professional email format.

V. Informal Letter

(5 Marks)

Write an informal letter (100 words) to a relative or friend thanking them for a recent gift, expressing how much you appreciate it and how you plan to use it.

Mark Breakdown:

Content (2 marks): Engaging description of the event, personal anecdotes.

Language and Style (1.5 marks): Friendly and conversational tone.

Grammar and Mechanics (1.5 marks): Correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar.

Presentation (0.5 marks): Proper informal letter layout.

VI. Formal Letter

(7 Marks)

Write a formal letter to the Principal (120 words) requesting the addition of more books and study materials in the school library to better support students' academic needs.

Mark Breakdown:

Content (1.5 marks): Relevance and clarity of the request, reason for the extension.

Language and Style (1 mark): Formal tone and structure.

Grammar and Mechanics (1.5 marks): Correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar.

Presentation (0.5 marks): Proper letter format and layout.

VII. Descriptive Paragraph

(8 Marks)

Write a descriptive paragraph (150 words). Describe the moment the first monsoon rain arrives after a long, dry season. Capture the anticipation and excitement as the dark clouds gather, the first raindrops fall, and the earth begins to soak up the much-needed moisture.

Mark Breakdown:

Content (3.5 marks): Detailed description, use of sensory details, and clarity of the setting.

Language and Style (2.5 marks): Effective use of descriptive language and imagery.

Grammar and Mechanics (1.5 marks): Correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar.

Cohesion (0.5 marks): Logical flow and coherence of the paragraph.

SECTION D – LITERATURE (26 marks)

VIII. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow: 1 X 4 = 4

- A. Behold her, single in the field,
Yon solitary Highland lass!
Reaping and singing by herself;
Stop here, or gently pass!

- a) Which region does the solitary reaper belong to?
The solitary reaper belongs to the Highlands of Scotland.
- b) What was the girl doing?
The girl was reaping and singing by herself in the field.
- c) What does the poet suggest?
The poet suggests that the passerby should either stop and listen to her song or gently pass without disturbing her.
- d) Name the poet who wrote this poem.
The poet who wrote this poem is William Wordsworth.

B. A few weeks ago, worded as if in special tribute to Duke, an order came through from the chemical company's headquarters: "... therefore, to advance our objectives step by step, Charles Hooper is appointed Assistant National Sales Manager."
1 X 4 = 4

- a) Who paid a special tribute to Duke?
The chemical company paid a special tribute to Duke.
- b) What does the expression advance objectives step by step mean?
The expression "advance objectives step by step" means achieving goals gradually and in a planned, methodical manner.
- c) Who helped Hooper the most?
Duke, the dog, helped Hooper the most by aiding him in his recovery and helping him regain mobility after his accident.
- d) Who was Duke?
Duke was Charles Hooper's loyal dog, a Doberman, who played a crucial role in helping Hooper recover from his physical disability.

IX. Answer ANY SIX of the following seven questions in about 30- 40 words each **6 X 2 = 12**

- a) How did the poet pave the way for cavities, caps, and decay?
The poet in the poem "Oh, I Wish I'd Looked After Me Teeth" paved the way for cavities, caps, and decay by not brushing her teeth properly and eating too many sweets as a child.
- b) How do the expressions bicker down, hurry down, slip between ridges, chatter, and chatter help in creating the image of the young river? (The Brook)
The expressions "bicker down", "hurry down", "slip between ridges", "chatter", and "chatter" help create the image of the young river by describing its flow and movement.
It rushes in high speed through hills, ridges, towns and villages. This is where the poet uses the words 'bicker', hurry up, 'slip between the ridges' and 'chatter chatter' to explain the noisy and irregular movement of the brook.
- c) What did Harold ask his father to do for him? What for?
Harold asked his father to fight in a boxing match because he had bet with his friend on Murphy losing. He was worried about losing the bet and two shillings if his father didn't participate.
- d) What did the grandmother do to express her gratitude?
In a gesture of deep respect and gratitude, the grandmother touched the narrator's feet on Dassara. She wanted to express her appreciation for teaching her to read and write, considering it a significant achievement.

- e) The solitary reaper sings a melancholy strain. How does it affect the poet?
The poet was spellbound by the sweetness of the song of the Solitary Reaper. Though, he could not understand the language of the song, he stood there motionless and captivated enjoying the melodious song.
- f) How did Private Quelch earn the nickname 'The Professor'?
Private Quelch was known as a professor because of his lean lanky, stooping appearance. He wore spectacles and kept frowning like a scholar. The image with his knowledge earned him the nickname 'professor'.
- g) Why did the speaker choose the road 'less travelled by'?
The speaker choose the less travelled road which was grassy and many people not used that road. He choose the less travelled road because he wanted to judge himself and check his capability about being different from others and that has made all the difference.
- h) What had caused Hooper, a favoured young man to be confined to bed?
Hooper arrived in the hospital due to the problem of subdural hemorrhage occurring in the motor section of the brain. Hooper was paralyzed and had to be confined to bed.

X. Answer any ONE of the following in about 150-200 words (1x6=6)

In both "*How I Taught My Grandmother to Read*" and "*A Dog Named Duke*," the themes of perseverance and determination play a central role in overcoming challenges. Compare and contrast the ways in which the grandmother and Chuck's relationship with Duke highlight the importance of willpower and support in achieving personal goals. How do these relationships reflect the transformative power of perseverance?

In "*How I Taught My Grandmother to Read*," the grandmother's determination to learn literacy, supported by her granddaughter, showcases how perseverance can lead to personal growth and empowerment. In contrast, "*A Dog Named Duke*" illustrates Chuck's perseverance in training Duke to assist him, with Duke's support significantly enhancing Chuck's independence and life quality. Both narratives highlight how willpower and mutual support can overcome obstacles and achieve transformative results, demonstrating the profound impact of perseverance on personal goals and life improvements.

OR

In both "*The Road Not Taken*" and "*Keeping It from Harold*," the characters face decisions that significantly impact their lives. Compare and contrast the choices made by the speaker in *The Road Not Taken* and Harold's parents in *Keeping It from Harold*. How do their decisions reflect on the themes of choices, consequences, and responsibility?

In "*The Road Not Taken*," the speaker's choice between two paths reflects the profound, long-term impact of personal decisions, highlighting their philosophical and future-oriented consequences. In "*Keeping It from Harold*," Harold's parents' decision to fight a boxing match shows the immediate, practical effects of choices and their responsibility in addressing Harold's social predicament. Both works illustrate how decisions shape lives, with Frost focusing on deep, reflective impacts and Wodehouse emphasizing practical, immediate outcomes.