



**B K BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION
SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS
SENIOR SECONDARY CO-ED DAY CUM BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL
ANNUAL EXAMINATION 2024-25**



ENGLISH MS

**Class: VIII
Date: 19.03.25
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)

The human body is a complex and fascinating system made up of several interrelated parts that work together to maintain life and health. One of the most important systems in the body is the circulatory system, which includes the heart, blood, and blood vessels. The heart pumps blood throughout the body, supplying oxygen and nutrients to cells and removing waste products. The circulatory system also helps regulate body temperature and maintain a stable environment for cells to function.

Another essential system is the respiratory system, which includes the lungs and airways. This system is responsible for taking in oxygen from the air and expelling carbon dioxide, a waste product of metabolism. Breathing is controlled by the brain, which sends signals to the muscles involved in inhalation and exhalation.

The digestive system is another key part of the human body. It breaks down the food we eat, extracting nutrients that are used by the body for energy, growth, and repair. The digestive process starts in the mouth and continues through the stomach and intestines. The system includes organs such as the stomach, liver, pancreas, and intestines, which work together to process food and absorb nutrients.

The nervous system is responsible for controlling all activities in the body. It includes the brain, spinal cord, and nerves, which communicate with each other and coordinate the body's responses to both internal and external stimuli. The nervous system helps us move, feel, think, and react to the environment around us.

Finally, the musculoskeletal system is made up of the bones, muscles, and joints that support the body and enable movement. This system provides structure and protects vital organs like the heart and lungs. Muscles work with bones to allow movement, while joints provide flexibility and mobility.

Each of these systems relies on the others to function properly. The body is an incredible example of how different systems cooperate to keep us alive and healthy, constantly adapting to changes in our environment and maintaining balance.

Answer the following questions:

1. Multiple Choice (2 marks)

What is the main function of the circulatory system?

- a) To control body movement
- b) To break down food into nutrients
- c) To pump blood and transport oxygen and nutrients**
- d) To regulate body temperature

2. What is the primary function of the nervous system?

- a) To regulate body temperature
- b) To process food for nutrients
- c) To control and coordinate body activities**
- d) To provide structural support to the body

3. True or False (1 mark)

The respiratory system is responsible for breaking down food. (True/**False**)

4. Fill in the Blanks (3 marks)

- a) The heart is an important organ in the ___ **circulatory** ___ system.
- b) The ___ **respiratory** ___ system helps us breathe in oxygen and expel carbon dioxide.
- c) The ___ **nervous** ___ system controls the body's responses to stimuli.

5. Short Answer (4 marks)

a) How does the circulatory system help maintain the body's balance?

Answer: The circulatory system maintains balance by regulating body temperature and ensuring that oxygen and nutrients are delivered to cells while waste products are removed.

b) Why is the digestive system essential for the human body?

Answer: The digestive system is essential because it breaks down food, extracts nutrients, and provides energy, growth, and repair for the body.

c) What role do muscles play in the musculoskeletal system?

Answer: Muscles work with bones to allow movement and provide flexibility in the musculoskeletal system.

d) Name two organs involved in the nervous system.

Answer: Brain and spinal cord

II. Read the passage and answer the questions.

(1x10=10)

Storytelling is an ancient and timeless art form that has played a crucial role in human culture throughout history. From the earliest oral traditions to modern books, movies, and television shows, storytelling has evolved but remains a central part of our lives. It is not just about entertainment; storytelling is a powerful tool for communication, education, and preserving cultural heritage. Through stories, we explore different aspects of human nature, experience diverse cultures, and gain insights into history and society.

One of the fundamental elements of any story is the plot, the sequence of events that drives the narrative forward. The plot typically includes an introduction, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution. It is through the plot that the author creates conflict, suspense, and

emotional engagement. Conflict in a story can take many forms: internal (a character's struggle with their own emotions or decisions) or external (a character facing obstacles from other people or forces). The resolution of the plot provides closure to the audience, addressing the questions and problems raised throughout the story.

Another critical element is characters. Characters are the heart of any story. The protagonist, often the hero or main character, is the one with whom the audience identifies the most. The antagonist, on the other hand, provides obstacles for the protagonist, creating tension and conflict. However, great stories often include complex, multidimensional characters, both protagonists and antagonists, who evolve throughout the narrative. Supporting characters also play an important role in shaping the story, adding depth to the plot, and providing perspective.

The setting is equally important, as it establishes the time and place of the story, influencing the mood and atmosphere. Whether a fantasy world, a historical period, or a contemporary setting, the environment can significantly impact the direction and tone of the narrative. Stories are also enriched by their theme, the underlying message or moral that the author conveys. Themes can vary widely, from love, friendship, and heroism to more profound reflections on life, death, or the human condition.

The beauty of storytelling is that it transcends boundaries. It connects people across time and space, providing a shared experience that resonates with audiences, no matter their background or culture. Whether conveyed orally by elders around a fire, through written words in books, or by modern filmmakers and playwrights, storytelling continues to be one of the most significant and impactful ways of sharing ideas, experiences, and emotions.

Answer the following questions:

1. **What is the main purpose of storytelling?**
 - a) **To entertain, educate, and connect people**
 - b) To confuse the audience
 - c) To present facts only
 - d) To provide scientific explanations

2. **What type of character usually presents challenges for the protagonist?**
 - a) Supporting character
 - b) **Antagonist**
 - c) Protagonist
 - d) Narrator

3. **What element of a story makes it memorable by evoking emotions?**
 - a) Plot
 - b) Setting
 - c) **Characters**
 - d) Theme

4. **Which of the following is NOT an element of a good story?**
 - a) Characters
 - b) Setting
 - c) Theme
 - d) **Plotting facts**

5. In which forms can storytelling be presented?

- a) Only in books
- b) Only in films
- c) In books, films, and plays**
- d) Only in oral traditions

2. Short Answer Questions

(1 mark each)

1. What are the two main types of characters in a story?
Answer: Protagonists and antagonists.
2. Why are supporting characters important in a story?
Answer: They add depth and richness to the narrative.
3. What role does the setting play in a story?
Answer: The setting helps create the environment and context in which the story takes place.
4. How does storytelling allow us to explore new ideas?
Answer: Storytelling presents new worlds and ideas, broadening our understanding and imagination.
5. Why is character development crucial in storytelling?
Answer: Well-developed characters evoke strong emotions and make the story memorable.

SECTION B- GRAMMAR (15 marks)

III. Do as directed

(1x15= 15marks)

1. Rewrite the sentence by replacing the noun with the correct pronoun:

"Sarah and I went to the library to study."

We went to the library to study.

2. Pick out the adjective(s) in the sentence and write them:

The small, fluffy cat jumped over the tall fence."

small, fluffy, tall

3. Fill in the blanks with a suitable determiner:

" ____ books on the shelf are mine."

- a) A
- b) **The**

4. Convert the following adjective into an adverb:

"She sings beautiful." **She sings beautifully.**

5. Fill in the correct preposition:

"The cat is hiding _____ the table."

- a) in
- b) under**
- c) over
- d) on

6. Combine the following two sentences using a suitable conjunction:

"I want to play. I have to finish my homework."

Answer: I want to play, but I have to finish my homework.

7. **Identify main clause and subordinate clause and rewrite the sentence:**
"Although she was tired, she finished her work." "Although she was tired (S.CL), she finished her work." (M.CL)
8. **Change the sentence into indirect speech:**
"He said, 'I will visit you tomorrow.'"
Answer: He said that he **would** visit me tomorrow.
9. **Change the sentence to passive voice:**
"The manager praised the team for their hard work."
Answer: The team **was praised** by the manager for their hard work.
10. **Fill in the correct homophone of 'where':**
"Please wear your coat before leaving."
11. **Make two sentences using the word "well." It is a homonym, so use it in two different contexts.**
"After the long hike, he was feeling well and ready to continue." (meaning in good health)
"The workers dug a deep well to access fresh water for the village." (meaning a source of water)
12. **Fill in the blank using correct idiom.**
To celebrate the victory, the team's supporters _____ (caught him red handed / painted the town red)
13. **Fill in the blank with the correct proverb:**
"A _____ saved is a penny earned."
a) penny
b) dollar
14. **Use a reflexive pronoun to complete the sentence:**
"She looked at herself in the mirror."
15. **Rewrite the sentence using the superlative form of the adjective:**
"This test is harder than the last one."
Answer: This test is **the hardest** of all.

SECTION C-WRITING SKILL (20 marks)

IV. Write any one of the following:

(1x4=4)

Your friend Aman couldn't attend the class assembly where the results of the inter-school quiz competition were announced. Write a message to Aman informing him about the results, the winner, and any upcoming events.

Content: 2 marks

Language: 1 mark

Presentation: 1 mark

OR

Your school is organizing a charity event to raise funds for underprivileged children. Write a notice informing all students about the event, the date, venue, and the importance of participation. Mention that Ravi, the student council president, is the writer.

Content: 2 marks

Language: 1 mark

Format: 1 mark

V. Write a short story titled “The Hidden Treasure.” Neha and Ishaan find an old map in the school library, which leads them on a surprising adventure. The story should have an unexpected twist at the end, and the characters should overcome challenges along the way.

(1x5=5)

Content: 2 marks

Creativity: 1 mark

Structure: 1 mark

Language: 1 mark

VI. Write a letter to the principal of your school suggesting ways to improve the school's library facilities. Mention specific books, technologies, or spaces that should be introduced to make the library more accessible and interesting for students.

(1X5=5)

Content: 2 marks

Language: 1 mark

Format: 1 mark

Presentation: 1 mark

VII. Write any one of the following: (1x6=6)

Your school is launching a new eco-friendly stationery line made from recycled materials. Write an advertisement for this new line of stationery, highlighting its environmental benefits and how students can purchase the items.

Content: 3 marks

Creativity: 1 mark

Language: 1 mark

Format: 1 mark

OR

Imagine you are the head girl/head boy, Priya/Priyan, delivering a speech at the school's annual day celebration. Write a speech on “The Power of Perseverance,” focusing on how never giving up leads to success, especially in school and life.

Content: 3 marks

Structure: 1 mark

Language: 1 mark

Delivery: 1 mark

SECTION D – LITERATURE (25 marks)

VIII. Choose the correct answer:

(1x4=4)

1. What is the central theme of Walt Whitman's poem "O Captain! My Captain!"?

- a) The joy of victory
- b) The sorrow of losing a leader
- c) The struggle for independence
- d) The celebration of leadership

2. What is Patol Babu's reaction when he first receives the film role?

- a) Excited but confused
- b) Angry and disappointed
- c) Reluctant but accepting
- d) Happy and confident

3. Who is referred to as "Satchmo" in the story "Music Finds Satchmo"?

- a) Louis Armstrong
- b) Michael Jackson
- c) John Lennon
- d) Beethoven

4. How does the poet view his mother's influence on his life?

- a) He views her as a source of inspiration and guidance.
- b) He sees her as a barrier to his freedom.
- c) He feels neglected and misunderstood by her.
- d) He is indifferent to her influence.

IX. Answer any 4 of the following questions in about 60-100 words:

(2x4=8)

1. How did Mr Davis begin to appreciate Louis Armstrong?

Mr Davis must have noticed the good behaviour and sincerity of Armstrong. Armstrong listened to music keenly. All this made Mr Davis like and appreciate Armstrong.

2. Describe the relationship between Danilka and Terenty.

Danilka looks up to Terenty and laps up whatever he tells him about anything about Nature. He wants to be like him.

3. Why do you think grandmother's footsteps echo?

The echo is mentioned here because the house is empty. But, the grandmother (Amma) is not alive and therefore it is in the poet's memory that the echo occurs.

4. How was life regulated at the Waif's Home by bugle calls?

The bugle sound meant different things in different times. Each time the bugle sounded to indicate time for like- waking up, eating, going to bed etc

5. What does 'watch their last setting suns' mean?

The Phrase 'watch their last setting suns' means that humans are taking over the animal's habitat and they are facing extinction. If nothing is done, they may not exist to see the near future.

X. Answer any 3 of the following questions in about 100-140 words:

(3x3=9)

1. Money and satisfaction are like parallel banks of a stream. How does this statement correspond to Patol Babu's emotions, after the shot was over?

Personal satisfaction is more important than financial rewards, as depicted in Satyajit Ray's short story, Patol Babu, Film Star. The main character Patol Babu realized that personal satisfaction could not be measured and weighed by money, and so he acted in the film out of passion. He felt towards the job more than the money he would make from the job.

2. Briefly describe the life at the Waif's Home?

The waif's home was meant for reforming the young children. Their life was regulated by the bugle sound meaning differently at different time. During the day the children were given different task and taught and given vocational trainings like carpentry and music.

3. Who was Claribel and how did the narrator come across her?

Claribel was a small yellow canary and astronaut Sven Olsen's pet. One day when the narrator was sitting in his cubbyhole, he heard a musical whistle beside his ear. At first, he thought it was the sound of the intercom before an announcement but a long pattern of melody made him look up with a start and there he saw Claribel for the first time.

4. Do you agree that Terenty is completely in tune with Nature? Give examples from the text.

Yes, Terenty is completely in tune with nature as he answers all the questions asked by Danilka mostly about nature. He explains the reason behind the thunder, tells as why the bees were sitting huddled together on the tree, gives a lesson to Danilka through the flooded ant heap and proves his knowledge of medicinal plants when he tells as how the plant leaves could cure the bleeding nose.

XI. Answer any 1 of the following questions in about 160-200 words: (1x4=4)

1. How did the presence of Claribel prove to be a blessing for the crew?

Claribel revived when she was administered a shot of oxygen. It was then that an idea came to the narrator. He asked the duty engineer, Jim if there was a gas leakage somewhere. He suddenly remembered that a one-time miners would carry down canaries to check for gas. Though Jim answered in the negative, his assistant reminded him that the second independent alarm circuit had not been connected. This shook up the engineer and he went to investigate. Soon, he returned to say that the single alarm had not gone off. Had it not been Claribel everyone would probably have passed out because of the obnoxious gases.

2. Trace Louis Armstrong's journey from the day he entered the Waif's Home to the time he became the leader of the band. Emphasise the qualities that helped him in his journey.

Louis Armstrong was fond of vegetation there but in the beginning he did not like the food served there. Mr Davis ignored him but later on he gave him chances to learn playing musical instruments. He became a bugler and then went on to become leader of the band. All other inmates started liking him. He succeeded because of his passion for and devotion to music with patience and perseverance.
