



B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS
A CBSE DAY-CUM-BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

PERIODIC TEST-1 2025-26

ENGLISH

Class: VIII

Date: 13.06.26

Admission no:

Time: 1hr

Max Marks: 25

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.

(7 marks)

I. Read the passage and answer the questions

In a remote village nestled between two hills, there lived a boy named Arjun who was known for his curiosity and determination. Unlike the other children, who were content with their daily routines, Arjun often questioned the world around him. He would spend hours observing the sky, wondering why the colours changed at sunset, or sitting by the river, trying to understand the movement of water.

One day, a travelling scholar arrived in the village. The villagers gathered around him, eager to hear stories of distant lands. The scholar spoke of great cities, advanced machines, and people who could predict the weather and measure the stars. Arjun listened intently, his mind filled with wonder. After the gathering, he approached the scholar and asked, "How can I learn all these things?"

The scholar smiled and replied, "Knowledge is not limited to cities or books alone. It begins with curiosity, but it grows with effort and patience." He handed Arjun a small notebook and advised him to write down his observations and questions every day.

Inspired, Arjun began to document everything he noticed—the behaviour of birds, the pattern of rainfall, and the changing phases of the moon. Over time, he started finding answers to some of his own questions. He realized that learning was not about memorizing facts but about understanding the world through careful observation and continuous questioning.

Years passed, and Arjun became a respected figure in the village. People would come to him for advice on farming, weather, and even resolving disputes. Though he never left his village, his knowledge and wisdom made him as learned as those who had travelled far and wide.

Arjun's journey shows that true education does not depend on where you are, but on how willing you are to learn.

1. What made Arjun different from other children?

Arjun was different because he was very curious and always questioned the world around him, unlike other children who were satisfied with their daily routines.

2. How did Arjun begin his journey of learning?

Arjun began his learning by writing down his observations and questions daily in a notebook, as advised by the scholar.

3. How did Arjun help the villagers later in life?

He helped the villagers by giving advice on farming, weather, and resolving disputes

4. Find a word from the passage that means

a) Strong will to do something - **Determination**

b) Watched carefully- **Observing**

5. What did the travelling scholar talk about?

a) Farming techniques

b) Village life

c) Distant lands and knowledge

d) Games and sports

6. What did the scholar give Arjun?

a) A book

b) A pen

c) A notebook

d) A map

7. What lesson did Arjun learn?

a) Learning requires travelling

b) Learning comes from observation and questioning

c) Books are not important

d) Only scholars are intelligent

SECTION B: GRAMMAR

(4 marks)

II. Read the following questions and fill in the correct verb form (1×2=2)

a. If she **had left** earlier, she would have caught the train. (leave)

b. Each of the players **was** given a medal. (be)

**III. Make 2 words using the prefix “dis” and frame the sentences on the same words.
(1 × 2= 2)**

Dislike – I dislike waking up early on Sundays.

Disconnect – Please disconnect the charger after use.

SECTION C: WRITING SKILL

(4 marks)

IV. Write any of the following:

- a. Write an email to a librarian requesting the issue of a library card and access to digital resources.

From:

To:

Date:

Subject: Request for Issue of Library Card and Access to Digital Resources

Respected Sir/Ma'am

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to request the issuance of a library card so that I can make full use of the library facilities. I have a keen interest in reading and would like to borrow books regularly for my academic and personal development.

I would also like to request access to the library's digital resources, such as e-books, online journals, and educational databases. These resources will be extremely helpful for my studies and research work.

Kindly let me know the procedure for obtaining the library card and accessing the digital services. I will be happy to complete any required formalities.

Thank you for your time and assistance. I look forward to your positive response.

Yours sincerely,

Name

OR

- b. You are Nisha/Vikram. Write an email to the librarian requesting a new library card as you have lost your old one.

From:

To:

Date:

Subject: Request for Issuance of a Duplicate Library Card

Respected Sir/Ma'am

I hope you are doing well. I am writing to inform you that I have misplaced my library card and have been unable to find it despite careful searching. I sincerely apologize for any inconvenience caused.

I kindly request you to issue me a duplicate library card so that I can continue to use the library facilities without disruption. I assure you that I will take proper care of the new card.

Please let me know if there are any formalities to complete or charges to be paid for the issuance of the duplicate card.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Name

SECTION D: LITERATURE

(10 marks)

V. Answer the following questions in brief.

(1×3=3)

a. What kind of challenges do bakers face?

Bakers face challenges such as working under strict time limits, maintaining taste and presentation, handling pressure, managing competition, and dealing with unexpected tasks or ingredients.

b. What qualities of the elder brother are highlighted in the story?

The elder brother is shown as strict, disciplined, hardworking, responsible, and caring. He values education and tries to guide his younger brother.

c. Write the name of the author of My Elder Brother.

The author of My Elder Brother is Munshi Premchand.

VI. Answer any two of the following questions in about 40 -50 words. (2×2=4)

a. Do you think talent alone is enough to succeed in competitions like “Baking Big”? Justify your answer with reasons from the chapter.

No, talent alone is not enough. The chapter shows that contestants also need hard work, practice, creativity, and good time management. They must work under pressure, handle strict deadlines, and present their dishes well. Teamwork and the ability to learn from mistakes are also important for success.

b. The elder brother is strict but caring. Do you agree? Explain with examples from the chapter to support your answer.

Yes, I agree. The elder brother is strict because he scolds the younger brother for wasting time and not studying. However, his strictness comes from care and concern. He wants his brother to succeed and guides him by explaining the importance of discipline and hard work.

c. Describe the role of judge in a reality show like Baking Big.

The judge plays an important role by evaluating the contestants' dishes based on taste, presentation, creativity, and technique. Judges give feedback, guide contestants to improve, and ensure fairness in the competition. They also decide who moves forward and who gets eliminated.

VII. Answer any one question from the following in about 60-80 words.

(1×3=3)

a. Describe the baking competition in the chapter “Baking Big”. How are the contestants selected, what challenges do they face, and what qualities are required to succeed in such competitions?

The baking competition in Baking Big is a challenging reality show where contestants are selected through auditions based on their baking skills, creativity, and presentation. After selection, they face tasks like preparing different dishes within strict time limits and sometimes using unusual ingredients. They must maintain taste, quality, and presentation while working under pressure. To succeed, contestants need talent, hard work, creativity, time management, confidence, and the ability to handle stress and learn from mistake

OR

b. Explain how the attitude of the younger brother changes throughout the chapter and what important life lesson he learns from his elder brother.

In My Elder Brother, the younger brother is initially carefree and more interested in playing than studying. He feels irritated by his elder brother's strictness. However, as time passes, he begins to understand the value of hard work and discipline.

He realizes that his elder brother's strictness comes from care and concern. He learns that success requires effort, patience, and respect for guidance.

