



B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

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

PERIODIC TEST 1 2025-26

ENGLISH

SET - 1

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.

The retired Colonel living next to my house is well past 80 but still fit as a fiddle. He is known for his stingy habits, a keen sense of humour and love for Urdu poetry. Once, I cheekily asked him why he was so frugal despite being affluent. Instead of being offended, he replied with a mischievous wink, "I have to save for my old age, shouldn't I?" I wondered when his old age would set in!

With his six-foot, lean physique, squarely unstylish haircut and puckered eyes, he resembles the ageing Tom Hanks in A Man Called Otto. He is as cynical, fussy and fastidious as Otto but not as grumpy as him. On the contrary, he is cordial to a fault and a deeply religious soul. A daily visit to Kali Bari Temple in the morning is one of his unflinching rituals. I often accompany him to relish his anecdotes sprinkled with Urdu couplets.

Last week, while passing through the Mall Road on our way to the temple, we saw a little girl sitting on the steps of Town Hall, crying silently. She had a charming, dimpled face that glistened with tears. She was wearing a school uniform which was slightly shabby. The Colonel sat beside her and, putting an arm consolingly around her shoulders, asked why she was distressed. Still sobbing, the girl related her tale of woe between gasps. She was the daughter of a poor widow working as a housemaid, whose sole ambition was to provide her only child with the best possible education. The woman saved money from her meagre earnings and secured the girl's admission to a good public school. However, she was not left with enough money to buy a new uniform for her. The girl was asked to manage with a second-hand one received from the house where her mother worked. Today was her first day at school, but she was not allowed to attend classes as her uniform was not up to the school standard. She was apprehensive about facing her mother on returning home without attending school.

1. How did author describe about the Colonel?
2. What similarities and differences does author find in Colonel with Tom Hanks character in movie?
3. Why was the little girl crying and what she was worried about?
4. The Colonel was known for his _____ habits.
5. Visit to _____ in the morning is one of his unflinching ritual.

6. Little girl was wearing a school uniform which was slightly.
7. The girl was daughter of a poor window working as a_____.

SECTION B: GRAMMAR

(4 marks)

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

- a. They _____ (already/eat) dinner when we reached.
- b. My father _____ (work) in this company since 2010.

III. Make 2 words using the prefix “un” and frame the sentences on the same words.

(1 × 2= 2)

SECTION C: WRITING SKILL

(4 marks)

IV. Write any of the following:

- a. Write an email to your school principal requesting permission to organize a sports event.

OR

- b. Write an e-mail to a bookstore inquiring about the availability of a book.

SECTION D: LITERATURE

(10 marks)

V. Answer in one word or sentence:

(1×3=3)

- a. How a reality show is not completely real?
- b. What did the elder brother say about the importance of discipline?
- c. What is the real name of **Premchand**?

VI. Answer any two of the following questions in about 40 -50 words.

(2×2=4)

- a. How did the younger brother feel about his elder brother’s strictness?
- b. What lesson does the younger brother learn from his elder brother’s guidance?
- c. How are the contestants chosen for a reality show?

VII. Answer any one question from the following in about 60-80 words. (1×3=3)

- a. How do different crew members work together to produce an effect baking reality show?

OR

- b. What are the factors on which a well rounded personality depends? Discuss