



# B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS  
A CBSE DAY-CUM-BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL  
PERIODIC TEST I 2025-26

## ENGLISH MS

Class: VIII

Date: 03.07.25

Admission no:

Time: 1hr

Max Marks: 25

Roll no:

### General Instructions:

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

### SECTION - A READING (7 Marks)

I. Read the following comprehension and answer the questions briefly:

1x7=7

A 92 year -old lady, who is fully dressed each morning by eight o'clock with perfect make-up, even though she is blind, moved to an old age home. Her husband recently passed away. She didn't even have children too. After many hours of waiting patiently in the lobby she smiled sweetly when she was ready. She was provided a visual description of her tiny room.

"I love it," stated with the enthusiasm of an eight-year-old having just been presented with a new puppy.

"But.....but Mrs. Jones, you haven't seen the room, " said the attendant. "That doesn't have anything to do with it," she replied. "Happiness is something you decide, I have already decided to love it. It is a decision I make every morning I wake up. I can spend the day in bed, recounting the difficulty I have with the parts of my body that don't work. , or get out of bed and be thankful for the ones that do. Each day is a gift, and as long as I am alive I'll focus on the new day and all the happy memories I've stored away, just for this time in my life. 'The attendant was touched by the elderly woman's sense of cheer and boundless enthusiasm.

On the basis of the reading of the passage, answer the questions:

1. Why did the old woman move to an old age home?
2. How did she react when the attendant gave a description of the room she had to live in?
3. What resolution did she make when she woke up every morning?
4. What does the story tell about the old woman?

5. What metaphor did Mrs. Jones use to describe aging, and what advice did she give tied to that metaphor?
6. From the passage, find out the one-word substitute for the following explanations: Give an account of
7. Find the antonym of the following words from the passage: **dead**

### ANSWERS:

1. She moved because her husband had recently passed away and she had no children to care for her
2. She reacted with excitement and said “I love it,” like an eight-year-old with a new puppy
3. Every morning, she decided to choose happiness—grateful for what worked in her body, focusing on the gift of a new day and her fond memories
4. The story shows she is optimistic, resilient, cheerful, and full of boundless enthusiasm despite her age, blindness, and loss.
5. “Mrs. Jones used the metaphor ‘**Each day is a gift,**’ advising that we should deposit happiness into our memory bank every morning by choosing gratitude over complaint.
6. **Recounting** (give an account of)
7. Antonym of **dead** (from the passage): **alive**

### SECTION B- WRITING & GRAMMAR (8 Marks)

**II.** Write an **email** to your friend describing an unexpected adventure or mishap you encountered during your summer break. 1x4=4

### ANS:

From: riya123@gmail.com

To: aarav567@gmail.com

Date: 11 June 2025

Subject: My Trek Mishap in the Western Ghats

Hey Aarav,

How are you? Hope you're enjoying your break—I've got a story to share!

Last week, my family and I went on a short trek in the Western Ghats. On the second day, we wandered off the marked trail trying to take a shortcut back to the campsite. Suddenly, I slipped on a mossy rock and twisted my ankle! I couldn't walk properly and panicked a bit.

Luckily, our guide, Mr. Deshpande, stayed calm. He fashioned a simple splint using a sturdy stick and cloth, then helped me hobble back. It took a whole hour, and I felt like I was carrying a ton of stones! But seeing my family's worried faces made me realize how much they cared.

By evening, I could walk with a limp, so we sat by the campfire and I told them, “Next time, I'll stick to the path!” We roasted marshmallows and laughed at my dramatic fall. I learned two things: always stay on the trail, and how wonderful it feels to have support when things go wrong.

Can't wait to hear your summer adventure—or mishap! Write soon and tell me everything.

Take care,

Riya

**OR**

**Essay:** “Imagine waking up one morning with the ability to read minds. Describe how this new power changes your day—and whether it turns out to be more of a blessing or a burden. 1x4=4

**ANS:**

One morning, I woke up with the ability to read minds and quickly realized the power—and responsibility—it brought. At breakfast, I heard my little sister thinking, “I hope he doesn’t forget my birthday,” which helped me surprise her with a card she hadn’t mentioned out loud. That moment made me feel like a blessing, using my gift to support others.

At school, reading classmates’ thoughts became more challenging. I overheard someone silently criticizing my presentation, thinking, “He’s not prepared.” The harsh judgment stung—I realized mind-reading could turn cruel, revealing thoughts that are better left unspoken. My mood darkened, and I struggled to focus.

By the afternoon, I understood the true impact of this power. I decided to use it positively—helping my shy friend before she felt too scared to speak up—and I chose to ignore unkind thoughts about me. In doing so, my ability became more of a blessing than a burden, because I could harness it to act with empathy rather than hurt.

**III.** The following paragraphs have not been edited. There is one error in each line. Identify and write the error and its correction against the correct blank number.

1x4=4

	Error	Correction
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Last summer, I go to my cousin’s village and helped in the harvest.	a)
The fields were golden and seem even more beautiful than I remembered.	b)
I hear the distant songs of farmers as we worked under the hot sun.	c)
It was a wonder experience that I will never forget.	d)

**ANS:**

- A) go → went
- B) seem → seemed
- C) hear → heard
- D) wonder → wonderful

### **SECTION C – LITERATURE (10 marks)**

**IV.** Choose the correct answer to the following questions:

1x3=3

1. The elder brother would be really annoyed with the narrator because....

- a. he wasted his time playing all the time.
- b. he would fly paper butterflies and kites.
- c. he would throw pebbles in the air.
- d. all of the above.**

2. According to the elder brother, English is not a child's play because ...

- a. it needs practice.**
- b. one has to focus a lot on the language.
- c. one need not give up on fun
- d. One has to be away from all pleasure

3. Which of the following is NOT TRUE?

- a. The elder brother loved to sketch.
- b. The elder brother was fond of calligraphy.

c. The younger brother had no interest in sports.

d. The younger brother had no interest in studies.

V. Attempt **ANY TWO** of the four questions given below, within 30-43 words each.

2x2 = 4

1. Give Character sketch of the narrator's elder brother.

**Ans:** The elder brother was mean and inconsiderate towards the younger brother's feelings. He used to think that only studies are important and not play. He has a change of heart at the end of the story. He cares about the well-being of his younger brother but doesn't know how to show it.

2. Why is the role of a judge on reality TV difficult?

**Ans:** The role of a judge can get difficult because it is often hard to deliver disappointing news to someone. Also, they need to taste a lot of dishes in a single day which can get to be a lot.

3. How do different crew members work together to produce an effective baking reality show?

**Ans:** Producers oversee the entire production, directors guide the creative vision, cinematographers capture the details, audio technicians ensure quality sound, editors piece together the story, and judges provide expert feedback.

VI. Attempt **ANY ONE** of the questions given below.

1x3=3

a. How are reality shows not totally real? How is a reality show defined?

**Ans:** Reality shows aim to capture real-life situations and behaviours, but they are not entirely real due to editing, staging, and the potential for manipulation. A reality show is defined as a type of television program that features ordinary people in unscripted situations, often created or manipulated by the producers, to be presented as real-life events.

b. After the elder brother failed the exam, what insight did he share with the younger brother?

**Ans:** The elder brother shares a realisation with the younger brother that many successful leaders and editors have only studied up to class eight. He acknowledges the younger brother's intelligence and potential but reminds him that the five-year age difference between them will always remain, regardless of academic achievements.

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