



# B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

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

PRE MID TERM 2025-26

ENGLISH

Class: VIII  
Date: 05.08.25  
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.

(1x7=7)

The old banyan tree stood as a silent guardian of the village, its sprawling branches providing shade and shelter to all who sought refuge beneath it. Its massive trunk, scarred with the passage of time, was a testament to its enduring presence. Children played in its cool shade, their laughter echoing through the leaves, while elders gathered to share stories and news under its watchful gaze. The tree was more than just a landmark; it was a part of the village's identity, a symbol of its history and heritage.

One day, a fierce storm swept through the village, lashing the banyan tree with relentless rain and wind. The villagers watched in concern as branches swayed precariously, fearing the tree's mighty structure would succumb to the storm's fury. But the banyan tree, with its deep roots firmly anchored in the earth, stood its ground. It creaked and groaned under the strain, but it did not fall.

When the storm finally subsided, the villagers emerged from their homes, their faces etched with relief and gratitude. They gathered around the banyan tree, their hearts filled with admiration for its resilience. The tree, though scarred and weathered, remained a symbol of strength and hope for the community. It had weathered the storm and emerged victorious, just like the village itself.

### Questions: Choose the correct answer:

1. What does the banyan tree mainly symbolize for the village?  
A) A source of food  
B) A symbol of strength and hope  
C) A place to hang decorations  
D) A new addition to the village
2. How did the banyan tree respond to the fierce storm?  
A) It was uprooted and fell down  
B) It lost all its leaves and branches  
C) It withstood the storm with its deep roots  
D) It was cut down by the villagers

**Answer the following questions:**

3. What is the main characteristic of the banyan tree?
4. How did the children use the banyan tree?
5. How did the villagers feel after the storm?
6. How would you feel if there was a big, old tree like the banyan tree in your city or school? Why do you think such trees are important?
7. Find one word from the passage that means the following: **A person or thing that protects or defends something –**

**SECTION B- GRAMMAR**

**(4 marks)**

**II. Choose the correct determiners and fill in the blanks.**

**(1x2=2)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ student needs to submit the assignment by Friday. (Each/Every/All)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ countries want to be self-reliant. (Much/ All /All of)

**III. Choose the right collocation.**

**(1x2=2)**

1. She gave a \_\_\_\_\_ speech at the ceremony.  
A) Strong      B) Powerful      C) Loud      D) Heavy
2. Choose the correct collocation.  
A) Catch a cold      B) Take a cold      C) Make a cold      D) Do a cold

**SECTION C-WRITING SKILL**

**(4 marks)**

**IV. Write any one of the following:**

Your school is organizing an **Annual Sports Day** next month. As the school head boy/girl, write a notice informing students about the date, venue, and important instructions for participation. Write the notice in about 60-80 words.

**OR**

Write a diary entry in about 80-100 words describing your thoughts on a rainy day.

**SECTION D – LITERATURE**

**(10 marks)**

**V. Choose the correct answer:**

**(1x3=3)**

**1. Tippi's parents were**

- A. environmental conservationist's    B. wildlife photographers'    C. news reporters'    d. travellers

**2. Where does the "thing with feathers" reside?**

- A) In a cage.    B) In the sea.    C) In the soul.    D) In the sky.

**3. Tippi Degré, is not afraid of the wild animals because**

- A. she spent her entire life amidst the wild all alone.    B. she spent the first decade of her life in the jungles.

C. she knew the art of taming and caging animals. D. she was brave and could kill an animal for her safety.

**VI. Answer any 2 of the following questions in about 40-50 words.**

**(2x2=4)**

1. What is Salieri's plan? Does it work?
2. What happened to Tippi when she was 10 years old?
3. What is Anaphora? Explain with an example.

**VII. Answer any 1 of the following questions in about 60-80 words:**

**(1x3=3)**

1. Elaborate the 'rare bond' that Tippi had with the wild.
2. What is the central metaphor of the poem "Hope Is the Thing with Feathers"?

\*\*\*\*\*ALL THE BEST\*\*\*\*\*