



# B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

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

## ENGLISH MS

Class: VIII

Date: 10.09.25

Admission no:

Time: 3hrs

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

(22 Marks)

#### 1. Read the passage and answers the questions.

(12 marks)

1. There are various beliefs in the society as to what should be eaten and what should not be eaten to keep healthy. If one has high one is told to cut down on or stop consuming sodium. A new study from Boston University reveals that low sodium does not actually cause low blood pressure. A little salt is part of a healthy food plan. The study has shown that the people with the lowest intake of sodium along with the ones who have the highest intake of sodium have a greater risk of heart disease than the people in the middle.
2. There is a theory that drinking post infancy is unnatural. It is true that humans are the only species to drink milk as adults. Research shows that we have genetically evolved to adapt to it. Milk products actually play an important role in keeping us healthy. Dairy products are rich in whey, protein, linoleic acid and calcium.
3. Fat in general is not a bad thing. The community is still debating the benefits of saturated fats. The other types of fats taken in moderation are good for us. Plant-based fats such as mono-saturated fats found in foods like almonds, avocado and omega-3 fatty acids found in fish offer many health benefits. These fats may reduce inflammation and improve the quality of blood.
4. It may seem that diet products such as light salad dressing are healthier choices to eat but often they are really not. Healthy food like this used to be popular, but many of these products remove the fat and replace it with added sugar. Large amounts of added sugar in the diet may be even more damaging to health than excessive dietary fat. A major study from CDC showed that people who consumed a lot of sugar were more than twice likely to die from heart disease. If you opt for a higher food, check the ingredients and food label to make sure that the fats have not been replaced with added sugar. We must study the reports of various researches before adopting any new mode of eating or food habit otherwise the result of the food plan may be opposite of what is expected.

#### I. The reason why we should consume dairy products, is:

(1)

(a) they are rich in protein and calcium.

(b) they are tasty and tempting.

(c) they are good for heart.

(d) they are not very expensive.

**II. The phrase 'added sugar' in the last paragraph refers to sugars added during the:**

(1)

(a) cooking of food.

(b) eating of food.

(c) processing of food.

(d) production of sucrose.

**III Plant-based fats are good because they:**

(1)

(a) improve the quality of blood.

(b) improve appetite.

(c) strengthen mind and body.

(d) improve heart beats.

**IV. What does a new study of Boston University reveal?**

(1)

**Ans:- A new study from Boston University reveals that low sodium does not actually cause low blood pressure.**

**V. What should we do before adapting any new eating method?**

(1)

**Ans:- Before adopting any new eating method, we should study the reports of various researches; otherwise, the result of the food plan may be opposite of what is expected**

**VI. What does the word 'reveal' in first paragraph mean?**

(1)

**Ans:- disclose/tell /divulge etc**

**VII. What does a major study of CDC show? If we adopt for higher food what should be check? (2)**

**Ans:- A major study from CDC showed that people who consumed a lot of sugar were more than twice likely to die from heart disease. If you opt for a higher food, check the ingredients and food label to make sure that the fats have not been replaced with added sugar**

**VIII. What does research say about humans drinking milk after infancy? (2)**

(2)

**Ans:-Research shows that humans have genetically evolved to drink milk after infancy, and dairy products play an important role in keeping us healthy.**

**IX. Which plant-based fats are considered beneficial for health, and why? (2)**

(2)

**Ans:- Plant-based fats such as mono-saturated fats in almonds and avocados, and omega-3 fatty acids in fish, are beneficial as they reduce inflammation and improve blood quality.**

## **2. Read the passage and answer the questions.**

**(10 marks)**

1. It is an indisputable fact that the world has gone too far with the innovation of new technologies such as mobile phones, the internet and so on, due to which people are able to tour the cosmos virtually sitting at one place using their smart devices or other technological gadgets. Though mobile internet access is oftentimes hurried and short, it can still provide common internet features like alerts, weather data, emails, search engines, instant messages, and game and music downloading.

2. Due to the easy access of smartphones, communication has been very effective and instant. People are able to convey their message all around the globe to their loved ones without spending hefty sums of money. Adults are always fond of such gadgets and they always welcome and adopt such new technology readily.

Further, young people have been able to broaden their minds and improve their skills by doing research on the Internet. For instance, they use smart phones to look up any new word they come across. As we know that most of the universities have online teaching provision and smartphones assist the students to complete their assignments on time.

3. The mobile phone has been a lifesaver for a lot of people in case of an emergency. Likewise, use of smartphones can be of vital importance in preventing crimes in the society by providing information to the security forces in time.

4. Nonetheless, for the young the use of mobile phone can be like an addiction and they can misuse it. Young people are also prone to getting involved in undesirable activities on the Internet. This might have

adverse effect on their academic performance. Therefore, young people should always be monitored and made aware of its bad outcomes.

5. Also a major contributor to its popularity is the availability of prepaid or pay as you go services from a phone shop or an online store. This allows subscribers to load text or airtime credits to their handsets by the use of their credit cards, debit cards or by buying a prepaid card from the network they subscribe to.

This plan also doesn't commit a particular customer to a contract. If prepaid card is not that appealing to you, then you can opt to subscribe using the pay by month plan.

**I. The reason why communication today has become very effective and instant, is because of the (1)**

- |                              |                                   |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| (a) improved mobility system | (b) easy access of smartphones    |
| (c) growing organisation     | (d) increasing number of vehicles |

**II. What does the phrase 'hefty sums of money' mean in the passage? (1)**

- |                  |                           |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) little money | (b) large amount of money |
| (c) penniless    | (d) treasury              |

**III. What is the central idea of the passage? (1)**

**Ans:- Smartphones have enabled us to research on the internet.**

**IV. What does word 'adverse' in paragraph 4 mean? (1)**

**Ans:- negative**

**V. When is a mobile phone considered as a lifesaver? (1)**

**Ans:-At the time of an emergency**

**VI Find a phrase in para 2 which means 'search for information using book, computer, etc'. (1)**

**Ans:- look up. Example**

**VII. How have smartphones helped young people in their studies and skill development? (2)**

**Ans: Smartphones help young people learn new words, do research, and complete their assignments on time.**

**VIII .Explain the major contributor for the popularity of a mobile phone. (2)**

**Ans:- Also a major contributor to its popularity is the availability of prepaid or pay as you go services from a phone shop or an online store**

## **SECTION B-WRITING SKILL**

**(22 marks)**

**3. You participated in your school's annual sports day and won a medal. Write a diary entry expressing your feelings and experience of the day. (1x3 = 3)**

**Format (1)**

**Content (1)**

**Language (1)**

**4. You are the Head boy/girl of your school. Write a notice informing students about a tree plantation drive being organized on campus next week. (1x 4 = 4)**

**Format (1)**

**Content & Information (2)**

**Spelling & Grammar(1)**

**5. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in 120 words.**

**(1x 7 = 7)**

**A.** Describe a visit to a hill station that you recently went on with your family. Mention the scenery, weather, and your experiences.

**OR**

**B.** Describe your best friend's personality and appearance.

Format (1.5)

Content & Information (2)

Organisation & Coherence (2)

Accuracy & Expression (1.5)

**6. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in 150 words**

**(1x 8 = 8)**

A Memorable Day I Spent with My Family

**OR**

**B.** The Benefits of Reading Books Regularly

Introduction & Conclusion – 1 mark

Content & Development – 3 marks

Organization & Flow – 2 marks

Language & Expression – 2 marks

### **SECTION C- GRAMMAR**

**(10 marks)**

**7. Fill in the blanks with the most suitable option.**

**(1×3 = 3).**

There were \_\_\_\_\_ (i) (a) **much** (b) **many** (c) little (d) **each** students waiting outside the hall.

Riya entered \_\_\_\_\_ (ii) (a) **quickly** (b) **book** (c) **this** (d) **few** and greeted her friends.

The teacher reminded them that they had \_\_\_\_\_ (iii) (a) **little** (b) **many** (c) **some** (d) **each** time left for the rehearsal.

**8. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs given in brackets.**

**(1x4=4)**

Riya: Where is Aarav?

Meera: He (i) \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to the library a few minutes ago. **went**

Teacher: Why are you late today?

Student: I (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ (miss) the bus in the morning. **missed**

Father: What are you doing?

Son: I (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ (complete) my homework right now. **am completing**

Friend A: Will you come to the party tomorrow?

Friend B: Yes, I (iv) \_\_\_\_\_ (join) you for sure. **will join**

**9. Answer the following questions.**

**(1×3 =3)**

1. Identify whether the underlined clause is **restrictive** or **non-restrictive**:

The book **that I borrowed from the library** is very interesting. **restrictive**

2. Add a suitable suffix to complete the word:

She danced \_\_\_\_\_ (beauty). **beautifully** with great grace.

3. Fill in the blank with the correct phrasal verb:

The teacher asked the students to \_\_\_\_\_ the difficult words in the dictionary.

**(a)** look up      (b) look after      (c) look into      (d) look for

## SECTION D – LITERATURE

(26 marks)

**10. Read the given extract and answer the questions briefly, for any two extracts, of the three, given.**

(2x4=8)

**A.** *Hope is the thing with feathers  
That perches in the soul,  
And sings the tune without the words,  
And never stops at all.* ”

**I. What is compared to a bird in this stanza?**

**Ans.** Hope is compared to a bird.

**II. Where does this ‘thing with feathers’ perch?**

**Ans.** It perches in the soul.

**III. What kind of song does it sing?**

**Ans.** It sings a tune without words.

**IV. Does the song of hope ever stop?**

**Ans.** No, it never stops at all.

**B.** *“Then come home, my children, the sun is gone down,  
And the dews of night arise;  
Come, come, leave off play, and let us away,  
Till the morning appears in the skies.”*

**I. Who is speaking in these lines?**

**Ans.** The nurse is speaking.

**II. To whom are these lines addressed?**

**Ans.** They are addressed to the children.

**III. Why does the nurse ask the children to stop playing?**

**Ans.** Because the sun has gone down and night is approaching.

**IV. When does the nurse suggest they can play again?**

**Ans.** She suggests they can play again in the morning.

**C.** All the homes in Coober Pedy are underground. A lot of these houses are quite luxurious with things like underground swimming pool and wine cellar.”“...the writer found the history of the place through the Umoona Opal Mine and Museum and by visiting its owner Yanni Athanasiadis.

**I. Where are all the homes in Coober Pedy located?**

**Ans.** All the homes in Coober Pedy are located underground.

**II. What are two luxury features mentioned that some underground homes have?**

**Ans.** They can have underground swimming pools and wine cellars.

**III. How did the writer learn about the history of Coober Pedy?**

Ans. The writer learned about the history by visiting the Umoona Opal Mine and Museum and meeting its owner, Yanni Athanasiadis.

**IV. Which museum helped the writer understand the place's past?**

Ans. The Umoona Opal Mine and Museum helped the writer understand its history.

**11. Answer any five of the following six questions in about 30-40 words each.**

**(2x5=10)**

1. What happens soon after the children give the musician a coin? Who are these children?

Ans:- The kids find themselves in a palace where they are welcomed by Emperor Joseph of Austria. They are Luke and Myla.

2. What made many to settle at Coober Pedy?

Ans:- The ground rich in opal- the holes dug out for mines gave shelter from the harsh weather- these later developed into homes.

3. Why Salieri think that Mazart will not be able to have the concert now?

Ans:- Salieri thought that Mozart will not be able to have the concert now as the music was with him that was stolen by the men he had appointed.

4. How are the contestants for the show chosen?

Ans:- 12 contestants are chosen out of 20,000 applications- the candidates should have personality or stories in the contestants- leading candidates get a telephone interview and audition- psychologists making sure the candidates can cope with the pressure

5. How would you describe the "Nurse's Song" poem's overall atmosphere?

Ans:- The poem creates an atmosphere of joy, playfulness, and freedom. It portrays the carefree and spirited nature of children at play.

6. Why is Coober Pedy known as a culturally diverse town?

Ans:- Because people from over 45 nationalities settled there for opal mining, creating a unique mix of cultures.

**12. Answer in 150-200 words any 1 of the following.**

**(1x8=8)**

1. Write a concise paragraph explaining how "Nurse's Song" portrays the relationship between childlike innocence and adult care, using examples from the poem.

Ans:- In "Nurse's Song," William Blake creates a gentle harmony between childhood freedom and adult care. The nurse listens to the children's laughter on the hillside and feels her "heart ... at rest," showing how their joy brings her peace. As evening falls, she invites them home because "the sun is gone down, and the dews of night arise," reflecting her sense of responsibility. The children argue that it's still day, pointing to birds flying and sheep grazing—simple observations that show their innocent connection with nature. Softened by their plea, the nurse says, "go and play till the light fades away," balancing her care with empathy for their wish to continue playing. This blend of protection and understanding beautifully portrays how adult love can respect and preserve the innocence of childhood.

2. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of Tippi Degre's childhood spent living among wild animals and indigenous tribes in Africa. Provide at least two points for each.

Ans:- **Advantages:**

1. Deep Connection with Nature: Tippi developed a profound understanding and appreciation for wildlife and natural ecosystems. She formed close bonds with various animals, including elephants, leopards, and cheetahs, fostering a unique relationship with the animal kingdom.

2. Cultural Enrichment: Living among indigenous tribes like the San Bushmen and Himba people, Tippi learned survival skills, traditional languages, and cultural practices, enriching her understanding of human diversity and resilience.

### **Disadvantages:**

1. Social Isolation: Spending her formative years in the wilderness, Tippi had limited interaction with other children, which may have impacted her social development and ability to relate to peers in urban settings.
2. Challenges in Adapting to Modern Society: Upon moving to France at age 10, Tippi faced difficulties adjusting to school life and urban culture, leading to feelings of alienation and a preference for home schooling.

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