



BK BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION
SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS
SENIOR SECONDARY CO-ED DAY CUM BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL
POST MID TERM 2024-25
ENGLISH



Class: VIII

Date: 10.01.25

Admission no.:

General Instructions:

Duration: 1 hr

Max Marks: 25

Roll no. :

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 SKILLS (7 marks)

I. Read the passage and answer the following questions:

Coral reefs are fascinating underwater structures formed by colonies of tiny coral animals, which secrete calcium carbonate to create large and complex formations over many years. These reefs are typically found in shallow ocean waters, where they provide a rich and diverse ecosystem that supports a vast array of marine life. Often referred to as the "rainforests of the sea" due to their exceptional biodiversity, coral reefs serve as vital habitats for numerous species, including various fish, invertebrates, and marine plants. The reefs not only provide shelter and food but also play a crucial role in maintaining the overall health of the ocean environment. Additionally, coral reefs act as natural barriers that protect coastlines from the destructive forces of erosion and storm surges, reducing the impact of severe weather on coastal communities. However, these delicate ecosystems face growing threats from human activities, including climate change, pollution, and overfishing. Rising ocean temperatures, ocean acidification, and the depletion of fish stocks are putting immense pressure on coral reefs, endangering their survival and the biodiversity they support. These challenges highlight the urgent need for conservation efforts to protect coral reefs and ensure their role in the marine environment is preserved for future generations.

1. What substance do coral animals secrete to form coral reefs?

- a) Oxygen b) Calcium carbonate c) Phytoplankton d) Sand

2. How are reefs most commonly described, based on their biodiversity?

- a) As underwater forests b) As rainforests of the sea
c) As deep-sea habitats d) As barren ocean floors

3. What do coral reefs provide to marine life?

- a) A place to hide b) Food and oxygen
c) A habitat for numerous species d) Only oxygen

4. Which of the following is NOT a threat to coral reefs mentioned in the passage?

- a) Climate change b) Pollution c) Overfishing d) Rising sea levels

5. What role do coral reefs play in protecting coastlines?

- a) They act as food sources for marine life b) They create new landforms
c) They protect from erosion and storm surges d) They prevent pollution

6. What is the main reason coral reefs are considered vital for marine life?

- a) They help regulate the temperature of the ocean
b) They create large underwater structures
c) They provide food for all marine organisms
d) They provide a habitat for many species of fish, invertebrates, and plants

7. What can potentially damage coral reefs?

- a) Sunlight and warm temperatures b) Climate change, pollution, and overfishing
c) Ocean currents d) The movement of ships

SECTION B: WRITING SKILL and GRAMMAR (4+4 marks)

II. Descriptive writing ANY ONE of the following. 1x4 =4marks

"You are standing on the edge of a cliff, looking out over the ocean at sunset. Describe the scene in front of you, focusing on the colors, sounds, and atmosphere."

OR

"You are exploring a dark cave. Describe what you see and feel as you move through the cave, including the texture of the walls, the sounds, and any other details you notice."

III. Do as directed: 4x1=4

1. Use appropriate conjunction to fill in the blanks:

- a) He is _____ a villain _____ a saint.
b) She must rest, _____ she will faint.

2 Punctuate the following sentences:

- a) Ramesh said may I come in
b) Sania asked why did Ankita call Mohan a joker

SECTION C – LITERATURE (10 marks)

IV. Answer the following. 3x1 =3marks

Down the stairs of this house where plaster flakes and falls,

1. Whose 'house' is it?
2. Why does the plaster 'flake and fall'?
3. What does the speaker remember?

V. Attempt the questions given below, within 30-43 words each. 2x2=4 marks

1. What is the immediate reaction of Danilka when he sees Terenty?
2. What is the effect of rain on the ant heap?

VI. Attempt ANY ONE of the questions given below: 3x1=3 marks

1. Discuss the role of the grandmother in the poem. How does the poet convey her presence and significance in the house despite her physical absence? Use specific details from the text to support your answer.
2. Write character sketch of Terenty:

THE END