



# BK BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS  
SENIOR SECONDARY CO-ED DAY CUM BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL



## MID-TERM EXAMINATION 2023-24

### ENGLISH (184) Marking Scheme

Class :IX  
Date :09.10.23  
Admission No.:

Duration : 3 Hrs  
Max. Marks : 80  
Roll No.:

#### Q1. Answers: 10 m

- (i) b. one at the steering 1
- (ii) c. taken by the head of the family 1
- (iii) d. allowed 1
- (iv) Today every member of the family has a say in every decision which also promotes a sense of togetherness and bonding. 2
- (v) b. perfect bonding 1
- (vi) injured 1
- (vii) b. cuisine 1
- (viii) Parents should: 2

1. give children some space & listen to each need of theirs  
2. let them solve their problems by helping them from the back

#### Q2. Answers: 10 m

- (i) Two examples of tourist facilities as referred to, in Paragraph 3 are: (Any two) 2
1. Accommodation- hotels, hostels, camps
  2. Recreation- Parks, Gardens, Museums, Shopping areas
  3. Essential- eating outlets, toilets, water points, kiosks for maps/currency exchange (if needed), certified travel guide availability
  4. Transport- dedicated shuttle service, sight-seeing buses, cards or passes, car hiring stations
  5. Digital upgrades- Wi-Fi availability, websites, ticketing, forums

#### (Any other relevant)

- (ii) a. i & iii 1
- (iii) hues and shades 1
- (iv) b. a wholesome experience within the budget they have planned for. 1
- (v) b. Option 2 1
- (vi) observed/ recorded/ showed/ displayed (Any other similar relevant) 1

(vii) Two reasons why the researchers recommend that the formulation of a tourism strategy in the North-Eastern States of India be sustainable: 2

- 1. To create socio-economic benefits for the local community
  - 2. To reduce the negative impacts caused on the destination/s
- (Any other relevant)**

(viii) b. (1) Winds of Change, (2) Numbers Don't Lie, (3) Time for Action 1

**SECTION B : WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 marks)**

**GRAMMAR**

**Q3 Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed. 10 m**

Answers;

b) have

2. (c) provides

3.b) Could

4. Option no.    Error                      Correction  
                  A            was                                      were

5. a) don't need / crows

6. Measles is the only childhood disease I haven't had.

7.

Error	correction
has	have

8. a) might

9. **He does his work with diligence.**

10. Present perfect continuous

11. d. had to

12. Each of the boys is honest.

**WRITING 10**

**Q4. Sample Answer: Format:1 Content:2 Organisation:1 Accuracy:1 5 m**

**Annual Day Celebration**

The annual day of our school was held on 6th december. The director of education was the chief guest. He presided over the function and gave away the prizes. Preparation for the annual function were made a few days in advance. The school building was white-washed. The main hall was decorated. Those who were invited started coming for the function. The chief guest arrived. The principal read out the annual report. The chief guest gave away prizes to brilliant and sports students. He congratulated the principal and staff on progress made by the school. Students welcomed chief guest with welcome song and different dances. The principal thanked the chief guest and the function came to a close with the singing of national anthem.

OR

### A Trip to Thailand

We decided to go to Thailand last month. I was too excited to think of what it would be like. We booked the tickets and when the time came, packed our things. When we landed at Thailand airport after a journey of about five hours, I had jet legs but soon forgot it seeing the beauty all around. We checked in the hotel and rested for some time. It was a wonderful day and we enjoyed coconut milk. We hired bikes and toured half of the island relishing the local life that was so lively and full of activity.

On our way, we tasted delicacies of the local cuisine. Mostly it was spicy food. We visited tropical jungles and witness the beauty and splendour of nature. We were overwhelmed by the serenity and beauty of the place. Soon the time to go back arrived. It was a sad feeling to think of leaving this extraordinary calmness. It was the best journey of my life.

**Q5. Sample Answers: Format:1 Content:2 Organisation:1 Accuracy:1 5 m**

20th July, 20XX

Friday, 8:00 pm

Dear Diary,

Indian summers can be really unbearable. And who can live in peace and comfort when the heat waves start blowing over the plains of north India. It was the 20th of July, 20XX, the most miserable day of my life. It was certainly the hottest day of the season. By noon the heat became unbearable. To avoid dehydration, we had already had several litres of cold water. I had to go to the market. I forgot to wear a cap. By the time I reached home, I was very miserable and started vomiting. To make things still worse, there was a breakdown of electric power during most part of the night. Without the working of fans and air-conditioners, we felt miserable. We spent a sleepless and miserable night.

Swaragini

OR

**B. sample answer: Honesty is the Best Policy**

Honesty Pays in the Long Run A woodcutter was chopping down trees on the bank of a river. His hands were so much wet with his sweat that he lost his grip over the axe. It slipped away from his hands and fell down ; into the river. The poor man couldn't even swim. He thought that his axe was lost forever. He was very sad at his misfortune and started sobbing and weeping. Suddenly there was a flash of light. The god of the Forests appeared before him. The woodcutter explained what had happened. The god consoled him, "Don't you worry. I'll get back your axe for you." Having said these words, he dived into the river. After a few moments he came out with an axe. It was made of gold. "Is this yours?" he asked. The woodcutter only said "No!" A few seconds later he came out of the river with another axe. It was made of silver. "No, no, sir, this is not mine," said the woodcutter. He dived again and came out with the third axe. The woodcutter cried loudly looking at the axe "Yes, yes, it's mine—the woodcutter's axe with an iron blade." The god of Forests was impressed with the woodcutter's honesty. "Keep all three of these axes as a present from me." The god uttered these words and disappeared. So the moral is Honesty is the best policy.

### SECTION D : LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 marks)

**Q6. Answers: 5 m**

**A. Read the text carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

1. When and for what did Einstein gain international fame? 1

Ans: Einstein gained international fame when his paper on General Theory of Relativity was found to be accurate in 1919.

2. Albert Einstein finally secured a job in the patent office in Bern as a \_\_\_\_\_. Ans: a) Technical expert 1

3. What is Einstein's Special Theory of Relativity? 2

Ans: Special relativity is an explanation of how speed affects mass, time and space. The theory includes a way for the speed of light to define the relationship between energy and matter — small amounts of mass (m) can be interchangeable with enormous amounts of energy (E), as defined by the classic equation  $E = mc^2$ .

4. What did Einstein call his desk drawer at the patent office? Why 1

Ans: Einstein described his desk drawer at the patent office the 'bureau of theoretical physics' because he was working as a technical expert in the patent office in Bern where he was supposed to be assessing other peoples' inventions, but here Einstein was developing his idea secretly. He called his desk drawer at work the 'bureau of theoretical physics'.

**OR**

**B. Answers:**

1. Why was playing Pungi in Aurangzeb's palace banned? 1

Ans: d) all of these

2. What kind of family did Bismillah Khan hail from? 1

Ans: Bismillah Khan hailed from a family of musicians in Bihar. His grandfather Rasool Bux Khan was the shehnai player in the royal court of the king of Bhojpur. His father, Paigambar Bux, and many paternal and maternal uncles were also 'shehnai vaadaks' (players)

3. How is a 'shehnai' different from a pungi? 2

Ans: shehnai is different from a pungi as the former has a better tone quality than the latter. It is a pipe with a natural hollow stem with seven holes on the body of the pipe which is much longer and broader than the pungi. The shehnai was thus an advancement of the existing musical instrument of pungi.

4. The film ' \_\_\_\_\_ Shehnai ' was made by Vijay Matt after hearing Bismillah's Shehnai.  
1 Gunj Uthi Shehnai

**Q7. Answers: 5 m**

1. c) Peter was a physician 1

2. preaching means giving moral, religious advice. 1

3. Saint Peter reaches the cottage of the little woman after travelling around the world. He was very tired and hungry. He pleaded to the woman to give him a piece of cake. 2

4. a) Phoebe Cary 1

**OR**

1. a) making a choice 1

2. The word 'diverged' means : **to move apart or be separate** 1

3. The poet was in the forest. He had to choose one of the two roads that diverged in a small forest. He felt sorry because he could not take both the roads. He looked at one road as far as he could see up to the point where the road was bent. 2

4. D) abaab 1

**Q8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words.**

**4x3=12 m**

(i) Narrate two incidents from Kalam's childhood that show how differences can be created, and also how they can be resolved.

**Ans:** The first incident to show that how differences can be created is that when the new young teacher found a Muslim student sitting beside a Hindu student, he asked Kalam to sit in the last row. His friend Ramanadha Sastry was heartbroken. Their parents were strictly against this step and summoned the teacher, conveying their discontent towards same.

People changed their behaviour towards an individual when they observed their eating style, drinking water, and other minor activities since it was different for both Hindus and Muslims. His science teacher, Sivasubramania Iyer was a very conservative and orthodox Brahmin but he tried to bridge the differences between them in every possible way.

(ii) What are the similarities between the doctor and the snake?

**Ans:** The doctor and the snake had striking similarities. Both were victims of self-adoration. This is clearly visible in two decisions of the doctor-to shave daily and grow thin moustache and also to wear an attractive smile on his face to look handsome. While the snake enjoyed looking at his reflection at closer quarters. It did move from the doctor's arm and later crept onto the table and moved towards the mirror.

(iii) When and how does Kezia's view of her father undergo a change?

**Ans:** Kezia's view of her father underwent a change for the better when her father came to her rescue when she had a nightmare. He carried her to his room, carefully tucked her up and slept beside her. Kezia felt reassured and safe and snuggled up to him.

(iv) How can you say that friendship with the strong wind is good? Explain with reference to the poem 'Wind'.

**Ans:** When we have friendship with the strong, we learn several new things. We learn that we may become strong when we fight with difficulties. The people say that if we are strong, the wind may be our friend. Because the wind likes to befriend the strong. So, if we desire to have the strong to be our friends, we have to show courage ourselves. This is the main reason that the poet talks about the steadfast heart in the poem.

(v) What three things does the poet want to do when he goes back to Innisfree?

1. He wants to build a small cabin of clay and wattles.
2. He wants to plant nine rows of beans.
3. He wants to have a hive of honey bees.

**Q9. Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.**

**2x3=6 m**

(i) Who were the people questioned during the course of the trial, and what was each person's defence?

**Ans:** First, the owner of the house was summoned. But he said that the bricklayer who had constructed the wall was responsible. The bricklayer said that when he was making a wall, a dancing girl distracted his attention. The dancing girl said that a goldsmith did not make jewellery in time. So she had to pass through the street several times. The goldsmith said that he had to make ornaments for a wedding in the rich man's house. So he could not finish the jewellery of the dancing girl in time. He was the same owner who had been summoned first of all.

(ii) Give a brief character-sketch of the Happy Prince.

**Ans:** The Happy Prince was a statue of a prince who used to be known as Happy Prince when he was alive. He had been decorated with thin gold leaves all over his body and had sapphires as its eyes. A red ruby shone on his sword hilt. The Happy Prince became sad after his death because he could see the sorrow of the city from the place where his statue had been mounted. He was fastened to his pedestal which made him immobile.

Feeling helpless, he wept and wished to help those in need. He humbly pleaded with the swallow to be his messenger. He had pity in his heart and he was generous as he gave away every bit of wealth that he had. He truly

loved the swallow and could not bear to be separated from it. When the bird died, the leaden heart of the prince broke into two.

(iii) What incident led to Grandfather's decision of not keeping Toto as a pet?

**Ans:** Toto was once caught stuffing 'pullao' during lunch-time. On being screamed at by Grandmother and the narrator's aunt, Toto hurled a plate and a glass of water at them. After that, he picked up the dish and escaped through the window in the branches of the jackfruit tree. He threw down and broke the dish after finishing the last grain of rice. This led Grandfather to decide against keeping him as a pet any longer.

**Q10. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.**

**1x6=6 m**

**( Credit has to be given for any relevant answer)**

(A) Write a short note on the school system in "The Fun They Had".

Content 3

Expression 2

Accuracy 1

**Answer:** Margie and Tommy are young school going children in the year 2157. Schools and teachers in the twenty- second century are entirely different from the ones in present day. Margie and Tommy's school is not in a separate special building but a room in their respective houses where the television or the mechanical teacher is placed. Each student has to sit and study alone with the help of mechanical teacher, a large and black and ugly machine, with a big screen on which all the lessons are shown and the questions are asked.

The 'teacher' assigns tests to the students and assesses their progress. The speed of the different subject sectors is fixed according to the age level of each student. There is a special slot in the tele-teacher where students have to insert their homework or tests. If the mechanical teacher develops any fault, there are engineers to repair it.

Sometimes the fault may be a major one and it takes long to repair it, as was the case when Tommy's history teacher developed a snag and it took a month to repair it. Thus, the mechanical teachers and schoolrooms of Margie and Tommy are fully computerised and are completely different from the present day schools.

**OR**

(B) Suppose you are the poet, Coates Kinney. You lie in your bed-chamber listening to the 'patter' of the rain. Many memories of your childhood occupy your mind. Write a diary entry in about 100-150 words about the most important experience that you recollect.

Format 1

Content 2

Expression 2

Accuracy 1

**Ans:**

26 August, 1840

Saturday

Time: 10:10pm

Dear Diary

As I lie here comfortably in my bed enjoying the melodious music of the soft rain falling on the roof, I feel that my bond with the past is strengthened further. Some experiences, buried in my unconscious mind have surfaced today. I recall the day from my childhood when it was raining at night and I was in bed along with my brothers and sisters. Mother walked in our room and looked upon us with affection and warmth in her eyes. I can never forget the love with which her face glowed as she bent over us one by one to put us to sleep. We were like her prized treasures and dreaming darlings.

The rain on that night was almost like the one falling today. Not a heavy shower, but a soft and gentle one pattering rhythmically on the roof. It is a bliss to recall Mother's angelic eyes and smiling face amidst the gentle sound of the rain.

Miss you mom.

Coates Kinney

**Q11. Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.**

**1x6=6 m**

(A) You are taken to a fair by your parents. How will you behave with your parents? Explain with reference to the lesson 'The Lost Child'.

Content 3

Expression 2

Accuracy 1

**Ans:** When our parents take us to a fair, we should always try to follow their instructions. We should walk along with them so that we may not get lost in the fair. Besides, we must keep the mobile number and address of our house in the pocket. If we are lost in the fair, we should not eat things or sweets offered by other people because they might be kidnappers and criminals. If we are lost in the fair, we should take help from the police. Our parents have immense love for us. In the fair, we should not pressurise our parents to buy unnecessary things. Our act may humiliate our parents. It is our duty to keep them happy. We should not become a burden on our parents. We should always keep in mind the hard work they do for us.

**OR**

(B) Storytelling is an art. Comment with reference to the story 'Iswaran the Storyteller'.

Content 3

Expression 2

Accuracy 1

**Answer:** Story-telling is an art. The story-teller must have a grim tone, suitable expression of face and dramatic gestures of hands and body to leave a long-lasting impact on listeners. Stories can be made vivid by telling them in a unique style. Though stories are a figment of the imagination a perfect storyteller presents the facts. A good story has suspense in small things and has a surprise ending. Iswaran is a good storyteller. He used to read Tamil thrillers; it affected his behaviour. He used to narrate a small incident in a detailed way. He created suspense in small things and gave surprise endings. He was an expert in narrating stories in an elaborate way.