



# 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)



Class :IX  
Date :09.10.2023  
Admission No.:

Duration : 3 Hrs  
Max. Marks : 80  
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 SKILLS (20 marks)

#### Reading Comprehension through Unseen Passages

#### 1. Read the following text.

10m

1. As the family finally sets off from home after many arguments, there is a moment of lull as the car takes off. "Alright, so where are we going for dinner now?" asks the one at the driving wheel. What follows is a chaos, as multiple voices make as many suggestions. By the time, order is restored and a decision is arrived at, tempers have risen, feelings injured and there is at least one person grumbling.
2. Twenty years ago, you would step out of home, decision of meal and venue already made with no arguments or opposition and everybody looked forward to the meal with equal enthusiasm. The decision was made by the head of the family and the others fell in line. Today every member of the family has a say in every decision which also promotes a sense of togetherness and bonding.
3. We empower our kids to take their own decisions from a very early age. We ask them the cuisine they prefer, the movie they want to see, the holiday they wish to go on and the subjects they wish to study. It's a closely connected world out there, where children consult and guide each other. A parent's well-meaning advice can sound like nothing more than unnecessary preaching. How then do we reach our children through all the conflicting views and make the voice of reason be heard? Children today question choices and prefer to go with the flow.
4. What then is the best path to take? I would say the most important thing one can do is to listen. Listen to your children and their silences. Ensure that you keep some time aside for them, insist that they share their stories with you. Step into their world. It is not as complicated as it sounds; just a daily half an hour of the quality time would do the trick.

#### Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- (i) According to the passage, who said, "so, where are we going for dinner now?" 1
- a. Narrator c. one of the passengers  
b. one at the steering d. one of the guests
- (ii) Twenty years ago, according to the passage, decisions were \_\_\_\_\_. 1
- a. unanimous, with no argument  
b. made by the children  
c. taken by the head of the family  
d. not taken by elders

(iii) Choose the antonym as given in para 4 of this passage. 1

Word      Antonym

Simple      \_\_\_\_\_

(iv) Twenty years ago, the decision was made by the head of the family and the others fell in line. How the decision are taken now a days? 2

(v) In modern times, the say each family member in decision making points towards \_\_\_\_\_ in the family. 1

a.Grudges    b. perfect bonding    c. individual opinions    d. none of these

(vi) The writer used word "hurt" in para 1. What is the synonyms of hurt as used in this paragraph. 1

(vii) The word which means the same as a style or method of cooking in para 3 is \_\_\_\_\_. 1

a. Gourmet    b. cuisine    c. gastric    d. science

(viii) What is the message conveyed by this passage? Write any two points. 2

Parents should: 1. \_\_\_\_\_. 2. \_\_\_\_\_.

**Q2. Read the following text.**

**10 m**

1. The North-East of India is a melting pot of variegated cultural mosaic of people and races, an ethnic tapestry of many hues and shades. Yet, these states are lesser explored as compared to the rest of the country. The new generations of travellers who are 'money rich and time poor' are increasingly looking for unique experiences – a phenomenon being called the emergence of the 'experience economy'. For this new and growing breed of tourists, the North-East with its variety and uniqueness holds immense attraction.
2. A study conducted in 2020 by Dr. Sherap Bhutia, revealed that the foreign tourist arrival in the North-East increased from 37,380 persons in 2005 to 118,552 in 2014. The overall growth rate of tourist (both domestic and foreign) in the North-East was as high as 26.44% during 2005-06. A high and positive growth of 12.53% was registered in foreign tourist visits to North-East States of India during 2012 from 2011, which further rose to register a growth of 27.93% during 2013 from 2012. Foreign tourist arrivals in the North-East witnessed a growth of 39.77% during 2014 from 2013, according to data provided from the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India.
3. The study recommendations for tourism planners included the need to concentrate on some key areas like enhancement of tourist facilities, tourism financing, focus on community involvement and others for the formulation of a sustainable tourism strategy in the North-East States of India.

**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.**

(i) List any 2 examples of tourist facilities as referred to, in Paragraph 3. 2

(ii) Select the appropriate option to fill in the blanks. 1

From paragraph 1, we can infer that the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of the North-Eastern states aid attracting the 'money rich and time poor' tourists.

- i. distinctiveness
- ii. conventionality
- iii. diversity
- iv. uniformity
- v. modernity

a. i & iii

b. ii & iv

c. ii & v

d. I &iv

(iii) Complete the following analogy correctly with a word/ phrase from paragraph 1: 1

aroma : cooking :: \_\_\_\_\_ : painting

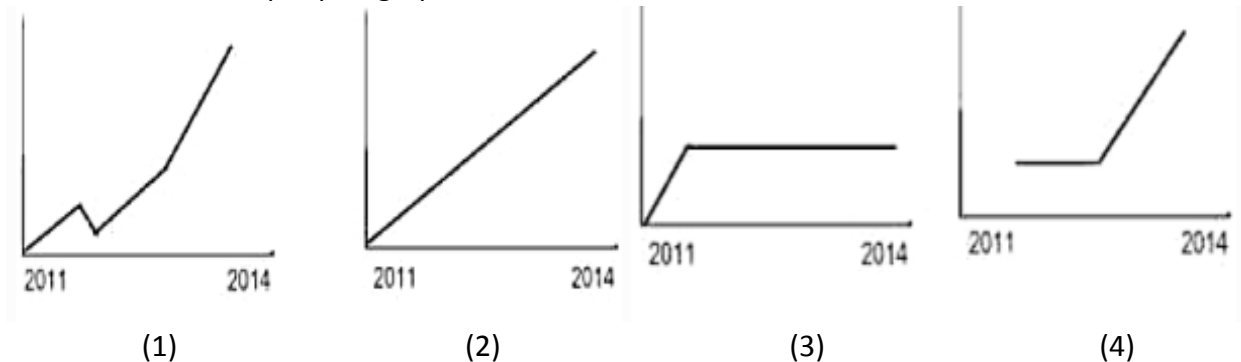
(Clue: Just like aroma is integral to cooking, similarly \_\_\_\_\_ is/are integral to painting)

(iv) Select the correct option to complete the following sentence: 1

Travellers advocating the 'experience economy' seek a holiday package with (Paragraph 1)

- a. grand facilities, expensive hotels and excellent services to pamper them.
- b. a wholesome experience within the budget they have planned for.
- c. places and cities to buy things from and opportunities spend money.
- d. cost-effective services, affordable accommodation and many days of touring.

(v) Select the chart that appropriately represents the trend of foreign tourist travels in the North-East, from 2011-2014, as per paragraph 2. 1



- a. Option 1
- b. Option 2
- c. Option 3
- d. Option 4

(vi) Substitute the word 'witnessed' with ONE WORD similar in meaning, in the following, sentence from paragraph 2: 1

**Foreign tourist arrivals in the North-East witnessed a growth of.....**

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

(viii) Select the option that titles paragraphs 1-3 appropriately, with reference to information in the text. 1

- A. (1) Full Speed Ahead!, (2) Ups and Downs, (3) Cause for Concern
- B. (1) Winds of Change, (2) Numbers Don't Lie, (3) Time for Action
- C. (1) Inspecting Trends, (2) Statistically Speaking, (3) Let's Investigate
- D. (1) Cause & Effect, (2) Dynamic Data, (3) Dependable Facts

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

### GRAMMAR

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

1. According to the NASA astronaut Neil Armstrong, the aliens \_\_\_\_\_ a base on the Moon.

- a) is having
- b) have
- c) has
- d) are having

2. Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct option.

Education is very important because it \_\_\_\_\_ us with the knowledge and skills

- (a) provide      (b) has provided      (c) provides      (d) providing

3. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the conversation between Jim to Della.

\_\_\_\_\_ you prepare a cup of tea for me, please?

- a) Will                      b) could                      c) can                      d) would

4. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, from a news report:

The roof and the backside of the bus was blown away by the blast that occurred on Thursday, but no one was injured.

Option no.	Error	Correction
A	was	were
B	away	off
C	occurred	occur
D	but	yet

5. On my friend’s farm, they \_\_\_\_\_ an alarm clock because the cockerel \_\_\_\_\_ at five o’clock every morning without fail.

- a) don’t need / crows
- b) haven’t needed / was crowing
- c) wont need / is crowing
- d) didn’t need / will crow

6. Measles \_\_\_\_\_ (is/are) the only childhood disease I haven’t had.

7. Identify the error and supply the correction, for the following statement:

**Most of us has experienced prejudice in some way in our life.**

Use the given format for your response.

Error	correction

8. He \_\_\_\_\_ be tired after working all day.

- a) might      b) can      c) will      d) should

9. Rewrite the following sentence in Simple present tense.

**He will do his work with diligence.**

10. Identify the tense used in the following statement:

**The teacher has been teaching me a new lesson for one week.**

- a. Present continuous
- b. Past continuous
- c. Present perfect
- d. Present perfect continuous

11. The villagers..... use kerosene lamps a few years ago.

- a. will      b. can      c. must      d. had to

12. Each of the boys ..... honest. (is/are)

### WRITING 10

**Note : All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose .**

**Q4. A. Write a descriptive paragraph on ‘The Annual Day of Your School’/‘The Prize Distribution’ in about the following cues: 5 m**

Input: preparations – on the Annual Day – arrangements – who was chief guest – welcome of guests – annual report by Principal – cultural prog. – prize distribution – speech by chief guest – a light refreshment – your feeling about function.

**OR**

**B. Write a paragraph describing a journey, imaginary, or you have undertaken. You can follow the steps given below:**

Prepare an itinerary.

You can make use of the following expressions, phrases and proverbs frequently used by the travellers. (Jet lag, itchy feet, hit the road, time table, on the home stretch, call it a day, book in advance, travel over, travel through, travel light, any port in a storm, stopover, etc.)

**Q5. A. Indian summers are really unbearable. One day the maximum temperature shot up to 47°C. It was the most miserable day of the year for you. Record the experience in your diary, write a diary entry. 5 m**

**OR**

**B. Mohit wrote only a few lines and couldn’t complete the story he wanted to write for his school magazine. Taking help from the given input, and basing it on the beginning Mahesh made, write a complete story. Give a suitable title to the story.**

**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.....**

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

**Q6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. 5 m**

**A.** In 1900, at the age of 21, Albert Einstein was a university graduate and unemployed. He worked as a teaching assistant, gave private lessons and finally secured a job in 1902 as a technical expert in the patent office in Bern. While he was supposed to be assessing other people’s inventions, Einstein was actually developing his own ideas in secret. He is said to have jokingly called his desk drawer at work the “Bureau of theoretical physics”.

1. When and for what did Einstein gain international fame? 1
2. Albert Einstein finally secured a job in the patent office in Bern as a \_\_\_\_\_. 1  
a) Technical expert      b) secretary      c) accountant      d) Typist
3. What is Einstein’s Special Theory of Relativity? 2
4. What did Einstein call his desk drawer at the patent office? Why 1

**OR**

**B. EMPEROR Aurangzeb** banned the playing of a musical instrument called **pungi** in the royal residence for it had a shrill unpleasant sound. Pungi became the generic name for reeded noisemakers. Few had thought that it would one day be revived. A barber of a family of professional musicians, who had access to the royal palace, decided to improve the tonal quality of the pungi. He chose a pipe with a natural hollow stem that was longer and broader than the pungi and made seven holes on the body of the pipe. When he played on it, closing, and opening some of these holes, soft and melodious sounds were produced. He played the instrument before royalty and everyone was impressed. The instrument so different from the pungi had to be given a new name. As the story goes, since it was first played in the Shah's chambers and was played by a nai (barber), the instrument was named the 'shehnai'.

1. Why was playing pungi in Aurangzeb's palace banned? 1  
 a) it wasn't good                      b) it had a sharp sound              c) it was unpleasant                      d) all of these
2. What kind of family did Bismillah Khan hail from? 1
3. How is a 'shehnai' different from a pungi? 2
4. The film '\_\_\_\_\_ Shehnai' was made by Vijay Matt after hearing Bismillah's Shehnai. 1

**Q7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given. 5 m**

**A.**

**Once, when the good Saint Peter  
Lived in the world below,  
And walked about it, preaching,  
Just as he did, you know,**

1. Which of these statement is **NOT true**? 1  
 a) Peter was a saint  
 b) Peter was a preacher.  
 c) Peter was a physician  
 d) Peter was a holy man.
2. What does the poet mean by 'preaching'? 1
3. Where did Saint Peter reach? And what did he ask for? Why? 2
4. Name the poet of the given stanza. 1  
 a) Phoebe Cary                      b) Robert Frost                      c) Stephen Spender                      d) William Shakespeare

**OR**

**B.**

**'Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveller, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;'**

1. What does Poet's long stare at the path signify? 1  
 a) making a choice  
 b) poet loves nature  
 c) idling away of time  
 d) relaxation hours

2. The word 'diverged' means : \_\_\_\_\_

1

3. 'And looked down one as far as I could.' Where was the poet standing? Why did he feel sorry? Why did he look down?

2

4. What is the rhyme scheme of the above stanza ?

1

A) aabbc

B) ababb

C) abaac

D) abaab

**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.

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

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

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

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

**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?  
(Kingdom of Fools)

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

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

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

**1x6=6 m**

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

**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.

**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'.

**OR**

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