

**INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR**  
**FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT 4 :2014-15**

SET 2

Class :VIII  
 Date: 05-02-2015

ENGLISH

Time: 40mins.  
 Marks : 20

**SECTION A: READING****(5 Marks)****I. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow:****The Caves of Ajanta**

The brilliant history of Indian paintings starts from the wall paintings of Ajanta-the frescoes. Scholars believe that during that period, nowhere in the world were such fascinating and amazing paintings created as in the thirty caves of Ajanta. The paintings represent the golden period of Indian art. These temples of Ajanta are situated in the district of Aurangabad in Maharashtra. twenty -nine of these thirty caves are complete. The thirtieth cave is very small and incomplete – some scenes of Buddha’s life are inscribed here and some statues of Buddha have been found in this cave.

The subjects of these paintings are varied. Different aspects of life have been captured in colour. Lonely village life, the life of luxury and comfort of the cities, as also the lives of beggars, fishermen, soldiers in action , hunters and many other subjects constitute their specialities. Scenes of religious and philosophical life have been depicted in the background of these figures. Human emotions like love, shyness, fear, anger and beauty have been nicely illustrated. The roofs of the Ajanta caves are artistically adorned with paintings of animals, birds, gods and goddesses. In spite of their limited means, the artists worked with such skill and perfection that even today we are fascinated by the rhythm and balance of the ornamentation.

**Answer the questions briefly:****(1x5=5)**

1. What are some of the themes of the Ajanta paintings?
2. What can be seen on the roofs of the caves?
3. The Ajanta caves are situated in.....
4. The thirtieth cave is different from the other twenty-nine because.....
5. Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following words:  
 a) Engrave    b) Decorated

**SECTION B: WRITING AND GRAMMAR****(8 Marks)**

**II. Write a letter to your friend telling him about your participation and experience in your school’s recently concluded Annual Sports Day celebrations.** **(4)**

**III. Do as directed:****1. Change the following into indirect speech:****(1/2X2=1)**

- a) Nisha said to me, "Are you coming to the gym with me?"
- b) She said to Kyra, "What is the time by your watch?"

**2. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate tense of the word given in brackets:** (1/2x2=1)

- a) Baldev ..... in the village school until they moved to the city.(study)
- b) The train.....by the time we reach the station.(arrive)

**3. Fill in the blanks with the infinitive or gerund form of the verb given in the brackets:** (1/2x2=1)

- a) Rajnish is very clever.....excuses.(make)
- b) Gargi needs ..... for longer hours before she can participate in the contest.(practice)

**4. Complete the following conditional sentence with the correct form of the verb given:** (1/2)

- a) I.....good use of it if you give it to me.(make)

**5. Add question tag to the statement:** (1/2)

- a) Gayatri will not oblige you.

**SECTION C: LITERATURE**

**(7 Marks)**

**IV. Read the given extract and answer the questions that follow:**

It's had tacks in it,  
And splinters,  
And boards torn up,  
And places with no carpet on the floor-----  
Bare.

- a) What kind of life has the mother had, as described in these lines? (1)
- b) Pick the line that shows that she has faced moments of deprivation in her life. (1/2)
- c) Name the poet and the poem. (1/2)

**V. Answer the following questions:** (1 1/2 x2=3)

- a) Why was the purchase of a gift for the boys' mother an occasion for excitement?
- b) What happened to the bird when he was put into the cage?

**VI. Give the meanings of the following words and frame meaningful sentences of your own:**

- a) Trudged
  - b) Discarded
- ( 1 x 2=2)

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