



INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR
Term - II: 2017-18
ENGLISH

STD: VIII**Date: 13-03-2018****Marks: 80****Time: 3 hrs****GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

- *This paper consists of three sections:*

Section A – Reading

(20 Marks)

Section B – Writing & Grammar

(30 Marks)

Section C -Literature

(30 Marks)

All sections are compulsory.

- *Separate instructions are given for each section and question wherever necessary. Read the instructions carefully and follow them.*

SECTION A: READING**(12 Marks)****1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:****LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL**

My childhood had always been a sheltered one. My parents along with my teachers, tried to instil good ethics in me. But 'sharing' was one moral value which I was never comfortable with. "Why should I give?" was my question.

During one vacation to my hometown, I was at the railway station with my parents. As we were waiting for a train, something caught my attention. Two small children, perhaps siblings, were seeking alms nearby. Though they appeared at ease, I was shocked by their overall untidiness.

When they approached us, my father promptly gave the older one, a girl, some money. Those were the days when I was constantly reminded of the virtues of 'sharing' things with others. So, when my mother nudged me, I knew why and the look my mother gave me, confirmed. I had a pack of my favourite chocolates in my pocket and, even though I pretended to have forgotten about it, she remembered them. I was devastated. With a heavy heart I fished out one and placed reluctantly on the outstretched hand of the girl. She flashed a smile and the duo moved on. But my gaze never left them as I wanted to know about the fate of my chocolate.

After a while I saw her unwrap it. She then did something which moved me. Without a moment's hesitation, she put the chocolate in her brother's mouth and watched his face brighten up as he savoured it. Her action puzzled me. Why did she not eat it herself? Regret and shame overcame me when I realized that I had deliberately given only one chocolate. I quickly decided to give her one more chocolate voluntarily. Strangely my action made me feel better than I had thought.

As our train approached the station, the girl rushed to give me something. It was a small paper doll which she had made with the wrapper of the chocolates. I was speechless. Was she trying to convey a 'Thank you'? That little girl taught me the joy of sharing and also answered one big question: Why should I give? I now ask 'Why not', as sharing is all about loving. Happiness abounds when shared. Years have rolled by and I still cherish that valuable lesson I learnt during that vacation. Sometimes life teaches us things we fail to learn from classrooms. I still think of that girl and her brother and wonder where they would be now..... those sparkling eyes and beautiful smile.

1.1 Answer the following questions by selecting the most appropriate option:**(4)**

a) As a child, the author learnt moral values from _____.

- i) her parents and teachers ii) friends iii) school iv) relatives

b) The author saw two siblings begging when she was _____.

- i) to school ii) to home iii) on the station to her home town iv) to her village

- c) Before parting the girl presented _____ to the author.
i) a doll ii) a chocolate iii) wrapper iv) paper doll
- d) The author interpreted the little girl's act as a way to _____.
i) friendship ii) sadness iii) convey a 'Thank you' iv) hello

1.2 Answer the following questions briefly:

(6)

- a) What did the author's mother instruct her to do?
b) What made the author feel ashamed?
c) What valuable lesson did the author learn? And from whom?
d) What did the author's teachers and parents try to instill in her?
e) What did the girl do without a moment's hesitation?
f) What did the author's father give to the girl?

1.3 Find a word from the passage which conveys the same meaning as the words given below:

(2)

- a) clumsy and unclean (para 2)
c) keep alive in memory (para 5)

2. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

(8)

Evelyn Glennie was born in 1965 and grew up on a farm near Aberdeen in Scotland. She loved playing music, and her ambition was to become a solo percussionist. She started having problems with her ears and began to lose her hearing. By the time she was twelve, she was deaf. She couldn't hear at all. Evelyn became very angry. It seemed to her that she would never fulfill her dream of being a great musician.

After a while Evelyn stopped being angry and instead found ways of adapting her playing to suit her deafness. At the age of sixteen she became the first deaf student at the Royal Academy in London. She went on to make lots of CDs and is now famous for being the world's only full time solo percussionist. Evelyn likes to play unusual instruments and has over a thousand, some of which she had made herself. She likes to play with musicians from all over the world, and requests composers to create music especially for her. An example of this is a piece which was composed for her by the jazz composer Diango Bates, who uses kitchen pots and pans as instruments.

When Evelyn performs she doesn't wear shoes or socks. This is to enable her to feel the music through the floor and her body. Usually, percussionists play at the back of the Orchestra. Evelyn plays at the front so that she can lip – read signals from the conductor. Glennie has said that she doesn't want an operation to cure her deafness; she likes being who she is and doesn't want to change the way she works. Like many other courageous people, she tries hard to help others. She has helped many deaf children by giving them an opportunity to learn a musical instruments.

2.1 Answer the following questions briefly:

(4)

- a) What was Gennie's ambition?
b) Why did she become very angry?
c) What is she now famous for?
d) Why does she not wear shoes or socks when she performs?

2.2 Answer the following questions by selecting the most appropriate option:

(2)

- a) At the age of sixteen she became the _____ at the Royal Academy in London.
i) first musician ii) first deaf student iii) solo percussionist iv) singer
- b) By the time Evelyn was _____ she was deaf.
i) sixteen ii) eleven iii) courageous iv) twelve

2.3 Find a word from the passage which conveys the same meaning as the words given below: (2)

- a) desire to distinguish one's self from other people (para 1)
- b) differing in some way from the norm (para 2)

SECTION B: WRITING AND GRAMMAR

(30 Marks)

3. The Hindu, Young World is organizing an Inter-School Painting Contest for the students from Std. VI – XII on the occasion of World Environmental Day. You are, Ramesh Ronald / Rita Raj, Cultural Secretary of Hilltop International School, Mumbai. Draft a notice for your School Notice Board requesting students to participate in the contest. Include details like venue, date, timings, materials required, entry fee, prizes and so on. Do not exceed 50 words. (4)

4. You are Asha / Ashwin. You are keenly interested in reading books and magazines. Your town does not have a proper public library. Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper, urging the concerned authorities to set up a public library so that the general public can benefit from it. (80 words) (6)

5. Write a story in about 80-100 words beginning with the hint given below. Also give a suitable title. Hint: A long power cut. I went up to the terrace. I froze with terror. There was... (8)

6. Do as directed:

6.1 Fill in the blanks with suitable compound words: (1)

- a) The long trip made us _____ (home).
- b) She always _____ in class. (dream).

6.2 Combine the sentences using appropriate Conjunctions: (1)

- a) We decided not to go out. It was raining
- b) He is rich. He is not happy.

6.3 Complete the sentences using too/enough (1)

- a) Nobody bought my bike, because it is _____. (old)
- b) That cheese is very expensive. I haven't got _____ to buy it. (money)

6.4 Complete the conditional sentences: (1)

- a) If it doesn't rain, we _____ for a swim.
- b) If we go on a holiday next week, I _____ tennis with you.

6.5 Complete the sentences using correct question tags: (1)

- a) You always have your lunch at 1 O'clock, _____
- b) Let's go to the park, _____

6.6 Fill in the blanks with the correct form of verbs given in the brackets: (1)

- a) He had _____ cricket for two hours. (play)
- b) They will _____ the room, before Miss Mary arrives. (clean)

6.7 Change the following sentences into Indirect Speech: (2)

- a) She said to me, "Are you going to college?"
- b) He said to me, "Why are you happy?"

6.8 Join the pair of sentences to make Defining or non-defining adjective clauses. Use comma wherever necessary: (2)

- a) Everyone likes to visit the Pink City. It is a popular tourist destination.
- b) Shankar Mahadevan's songs are popular globally. He is a versatile singer.

6.9 Rewrite the underlined parts of the following sentence by using a clause beginning with suitable conjunction given in the bracket: (1)

a) The rain has stopped, so we can go for a swim. (Since/ that)

6.10 Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences. (1)

a) has/India/a national flag/too/which/a great history/has/attached/to it.

b) neither/dreams/real/reliable/are/nor

SECTION C: LITERATURE

(30Marks)

7. a) Read the given extract and answer the questions that follow: (4)

‘Sir Mosquito, flap your wings.

Leave at once, this bed’s the King’s.

‘Who may you be, Lady Louse?’

‘I’m the guardian of this house.’

‘House?’ ‘The quilt. It’s mine,’ said Creep;

a) Who are the two characters mentioned in these lines?

b) Mention the poetic device that the poet has used in the poem?

c) Who is the guardian of the house?

d) Identify the rhyming words.

Or

b) ‘It’s contrary to etiquette to yawn in the presence of a king,’ said the monarch, ‘I forbid it.’
‘I cannot help it,’ replied the little prince in confusion. ‘I have come on a long journey and I haven’t slept at all...’

a) Who do you think had said this? And to whom?

b) What reason did the little prince give for yawning?

c) Who is ‘I’ in the phrase ‘I forbid it?’

d) Write the name of the lesson.

8. Write the meaning for the given words and frame meaningful sentences of your own: (3)

a) Mystify

b) thrashing

9. Answer the following questions in about 20-30 words: (12)

a) The story ‘After Twenty Years’ is about an appointment between two friends. What is special about this appointment?

b) What is the ‘logic of geography’ that the poet is talking about in the poem?

c) What do the words ‘landing’ and ‘stairs’ stand for in the poem?

d) The story ‘Cricket for the Crocodile’, is wonderfully humorous. Which incident do you think is the most humorous?

e) In the lesson ‘Half a Gift’ list out the load of work that the narrator’s mother do every day?

f) When the paper plague struck the whole world, who lost the valuable Library and what did he say in his interview?

10. How important is paper in your life? Suggest ways to reduce paper waste. Write your answer with reference to the lesson in about 40-50 words. (3)

11. Answer the following questions in about 60-80 words each: (8)

a) Sketch the character traits of Portia and Antonio. Explain what qualities you can imbibe from them.

b) In what ways did the plague affect academics, scientists, journalists, teachers and writers? Why?