



**INDIAN SCHOOL SOHAR**  
**TERM I EXAMINATION (2023 – 24)**  
**ENGLISH**

**CLASS: VIII**  
**DATE: 21/09/2023**

**MAX. MARKS: 80**  
**TIME: 3 HOURS**

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

- This paper consists of three sections.
  - Section A Reading (18 marks)
  - Section B Grammar & Writing (22 marks)
  - Section C Literature (40 marks)
- All sections are compulsory.
- Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

**SECTION A: READING (18 marks)**

**1. Read the passage given below.**

**(10)**

1. Artificial intelligence (AI), sometimes called machine intelligence, is intelligence demonstrated by machines, in contrast to the natural intelligence displayed by humans and other animals. Computer Science defines AI research as the study of "intelligent agents"- any device that perceives its environment and takes actions that maximize its chance of successfully achieving its goals.
2. Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a transformative force in various industries, and the field of education is no exception. AI technologies are increasingly being integrated into educational systems to enhance learning experiences, streamline administrative processes, and provide personalized educational pathways. AI-powered tools are revolutionizing how students learn by catering to individual learning styles and paces. Adaptive learning platforms use data analytics and machine learning algorithms to assess students' strengths and weaknesses, enabling the creation of personalized learning plans. This approach ensures that students receive targeted instruction and support, ultimately improving their comprehension and retention of the material.
3. Chatbots and virtual teaching assistants powered by AI have also gained prominence. These virtual assistants provide instant responses to students' queries, assist in homework, and offer guidance on various subjects. They are available 24/7, enhancing accessibility and providing continuous learning support.
4. In conclusion, AI's role in the education field is a dynamic and evolving one. As technology continues to advance, it holds the potential to democratize education, making high-quality learning experiences more accessible to a broader range of students. By augmenting teaching practices, empowering educators, and offering tailored learning pathways, AI is reshaping education into a more adaptive, engaging, and effective endeavour.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer ANY TEN of the following questions given below.**

- i. How does AI technology help students learn better?
 

A. By using machines in the classroom.	B. By making all students learn in the same way.
B. By giving students more homework.	D. By catering to individual learning styles and paces.
- ii. What is the main advantage of adaptive learning platforms?
 

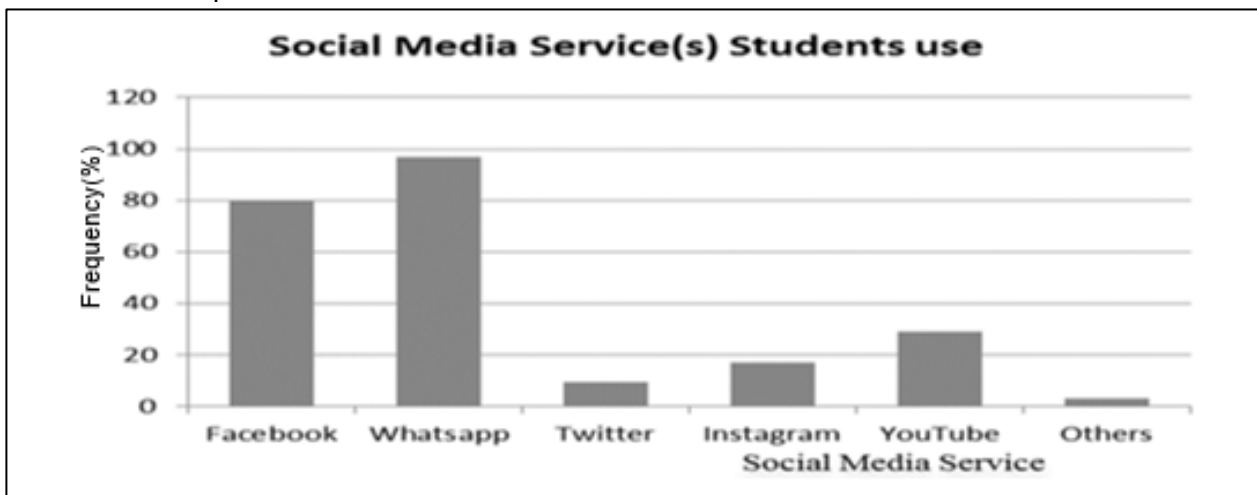
A. Standardized learning plans	B. Reduced learning opportunities
C. Personalized learning plans	D. Limited data analytics

- iii. Select the option that displays what the passage projects, with reference to the following:  
It holds the potential to democratize education.  
It suggests that:
- A. AI can help students to know about technology and use them.
  - B. AI provides instant responses to students' questions and offer guidance.
  - C. AI can help more students access high-quality education.
  - D. AI allows students to know about new games and tools.
- iv. How is AI changing education?
- A. By using robots
  - B. By integrating AI into educational systems
  - C. By banning the use of technology in schools
  - D. By making learning experiences difficult
- v. The synonym of 'incorporated' as given in paragraph 2 is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. targeted
  - B. retention
  - C. emerged
  - D. integrated
- vi. What is the difference between artificial intelligence and natural intelligence?
- vii. Name one interactive platform which is powered by AI.
- viii. Based on your reading of the text, list **two** benefits of virtual assistants being available 24/7.
- ix. Complete the sentence appropriately.  
AI's contribution in reshaping education has made it \_\_\_\_\_.
- x. What do adaptive learning platforms use to assess students' strengths and weaknesses?
- xi. Why is AI mentioned as 'machine intelligence'?

**2. Read the passage given below.**

**(8)**

1. In today's digital age, the pervasive impact of social media on students is undeniable. The rise of platforms like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and so on has brought about significant changes in the way students communicate, interact, and perceive the world around them.
2. Social media's influence on students is multifaceted. On the positive side, it offers an avenue for networking and connecting with peers globally, fostering friendships and cultural exchanges. It can also serve as a platform for sharing ideas and raising awareness about various issues, enabling students to be well prepared for their future.
3. However, the darker side of social media cannot be overlooked. Academically, the influence of social media on students is mixed. While it offers access to a wealth of information, it can also be a source of distraction, impacting concentration and study habits. The boundary between leisure and study time becomes blurred, potentially hampering academic performance. Furthermore, concerns about cyberbullying, privacy issues, and the spread of misinformation are heightened in the context of social media's impact on students.



4. In conclusion, social media's influence on students is a double-edged sword. While it can enhance connectivity, awareness, and learning opportunities, it also poses risks to mental well-being, academic focus, and critical thinking. It is crucial for students, educators, and parents to foster digital literacy, responsible usage, and open communication to mitigate the potential negative impacts while harnessing the benefits of social media in the modern educational landscape.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, ANY EIGHT of the following questions given below.**

- i. How can social media be a tool for raising awareness?
  - A. By sharing irrelevant content.
  - B. By connecting with fewer people.
  - C. By ignoring important issues.
  - D. By sharing ideas about various issues.
- ii. What does "cyberbullying" mean?
  - A. Making new friends online.
  - B. Using the internet for school projects.
  - C. Being mean to others using social media.
  - D. Posting only positive things on social media.
- iii. Which of the following is not a social media platform?
  - A. Facebook
  - B. Instagram
  - C. Google
  - D. Twitter
- iv. Which of the following is an appropriate title for the passage?
  - A. The Beneficial Social Media
  - B. Importance of Staying Connected
  - C. Social Media - A Necessity
  - D. The Impact of Social Media
- iv. Based on the data given, which social media platform stands third in its usage.
- vi. Substitute the word 'ignored' with ONE WORD similar in meaning from Paragraph 3.
- vii. List any **two** ways to mitigate the potential negative impact of social media.
- viii. Based on the data given, what is the frequency (%) of Facebook users?
- viii. What hampers the academic performance of a student?

### **SECTION B: GRAMMAR & CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (22 MARKS)**

**3. Do as directed. Attempt ANY FOURTEEN of the following questions. (14)**

- i. Identify the underlined part as a phrase or clause.

On the way to New York, we caught sight of the famous Niagara Falls.
- ii. Find the relative clause from the given sentence.

The child who won the spelling bee received a trophy.
- iii. Fill in the blank to make appropriate use of adverb clause of condition from the options given:

If it had rained last week, the river \_\_\_\_\_ then.

  - A. will rise
  - B. would rise
  - C. would have rose
  - D. would have risen
- iv. Find the sentence which is properly punctuated.
  - A. What a splendid match?
  - B. What, a splendid match
  - C. What a splendid match!
  - D. What a splendid match.
- v. Combine the following sentences with a relative clause by adding a relative pronoun.

The girl solved the puzzle. She was praised by the teacher.
- vi. Transform the given sentence into negative.

This tea is too hot for me to drink.
- vii. Fill in the blank using the appropriate form of conditional clause.

He would buy a car if he \_\_\_\_\_ the promotion. (get)

viii. Identify the clause of the underlined part in the sentence given.

Please choose which flavor of ice cream you want.

- A. Main clause
- B. Non-defining relative clause
- C. Noun clause
- D. Conditional clause

ix. Combine these sentences using infinitive.

You must help your brother. It is your duty.

x. Identify the option that is an example of a declarative sentence.

- A. The judge ordered the prisoner to tell the truth.
- B. Bring the book that you gave me on the train, please.
- C. Did you get time to clean the house?
- D. What a beautiful building it is!

xi. Find the finite verb and non-finite verb in the given sentence.

The hawkers shouted at the top of their voices to attract buyers.

xii. Identify the main clause and subordinate clause in the given sentence.

While the flowers bloom, I will plant more trees.

xiii. Combine the sentences with an appropriate conjunction to form a compound sentence.

I looked for Danny everywhere. I could not find him.

xiv. Fill in the blank by completing the conversation with the appropriate idiom from the options given.

Sajal: Shall I open the window?

Ronan: No, I felt a little \_\_\_\_\_ when I opened the window in the morning.

- A. walk on air
- B. vanish into thin air
- C. nose in the air
- D. nip in the air

xv. Complete the sentence by adding the appropriate option in the blank.

Humankind possesses this \_\_\_\_\_ ability to survive in the face of adversity.

- A. uncanny
- B. elusive
- C. weird
- D. deadly

xvi. Fill in the blank by adding the appropriate prefix from the given options for the word given in brackets.

Nothing can be predicted from this data because these figures are very \_\_\_\_\_. (accurate)

- A. inaccuracy
- B. accuracy
- C. inaccurate
- D. unaccurate

**4. Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions in about 50 words. (3)**

i. Write an email to your friend telling him how the festival of Onam was celebrated in your school.

**OR**

ii. Design a poster to create awareness on the need to prevent cruelty to animals.

**5. Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions in 100 to 120 words. (5)**

i. Due to human activities and overuse of natural resources, global warming is taking place, which poses danger to humankind. Write an article to highlight the effects of global warming.

**OR**

ii. Given the recent increase in road accidents and mishappenings, you are concerned about road safety. Write a letter to the editor of a magazine to highlight the same.

**SECTION C: LITERATURE (40 MARKS)**

**6. Read the extract and answer ANY FOUR of the following questions.**

**(4)**

*And I went and looked at the number plate and of course it was. You see, I had been right in the first place. I mean, no wonder I could not spot my car on High Street. Because I had been in it. Well, I must say, the farmer took the whole thing rather well.*

- i. Where did he go to look for his car?
- ii. Why was he unable to find his car?
- iii. When was the confusion sorted out?
- iv. What was the number on the number plate?  
A. NMP 795                      B. NPM 675                      C. NMP 675                      D. NPM 765
- v. What does the narrator mean when he says the farmer was nice about it?

The narrator says that the farmer was nice about it because he \_\_\_\_\_

- a. was gracious enough to invite him in for coffee.
  - b. made fun of him and blamed him for the mistake.
  - c. told him to return the dog and the bag immediately.
  - d. asked him to wait for his wife till she arrives home.
- A. a & b  
B. b & d  
C. b & c  
D. a & d

**7. Read the extract and answer ANY FOUR of the following questions.**

**(4)**

*Then, a flash of turquoise  
In the pipal tree  
The slender neck arched away from you  
As he descends  
And as he darts away, a glimpse  
Of the very end of his tail.*

- i. What does the 'flash of turquoise' depict?
- ii. State whether the following statement is true or false.  
According to the speaker, there should be absolute stillness for the peacock to be seen around you.
- iii. Select the appropriate option to complete the sentence.  
The poem begins with a sense of \_\_\_\_\_ as the peacock seems to appear on the scene from 'nowhere'.  
A. humour                      B. happiness                      C. mystery                      D. discontent
- iv. Which poetic device is used in the fourth line?  
A. Simile                      B. Irony                      C. Alliteration                      D. Personification
- v. What does one see as the peacock moves away?  
A. A flash of turquoise                      B. The very end of its tail  
C. The slender neck                      D. The eyes of the peacock

**8. Answer ANY SIX of the following in about 30-40 words each. (12)**

- i. Why was the speaker's wife upset in the end of the lesson, 'A Slight Misunderstanding'?
- ii. Why did the teacher smile and leave the class? Explain the reasons. (The Passive Voice)
- iii. What is the speaker tempted to do and what stops him from doing so? (Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening)
- iv. In the lesson, 'A Helping Hand', why was the speaker surprised to see the new girl on the bus?
- v. How do you know that the station was a deserted place? (The Station)
- vi. How and why do humans make the whales 'dumb' in the poem 'The Song of the Whale'?
- vii. Why did the horse find the halt strange and how did it respond? (Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening)

**9. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 50 words each. (6)**

- i. The utilization of animals for human requirements is not considered ethical. Elucidate this perspective with reference to the poem, 'The Song of the Whale'.
- ii. Possessing presence of mind empowers an individual to maintain clear thinking and effectively execute suitable actions. Explain with reference to the lesson, 'The Station'.
- iii. It is imperative that we honour and embrace one another's diversities, striving to co-exist in harmony and foster bonds of friendship. Substantiate this with reference to the lesson 'A Helping Hand'.

**10. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 80-100 words each. (8)**

- i. Narrate Shankar's experience in the desolate African station. (The Station)
- ii. Despite an overdose of the passive voice, it was the very same grammar concept that saved the speaker from the teacher at the right time. Justify. (The Passive Voice)
- iii. When can one realise the presence of a peacock? How does the poet describe its beauty while it turns away? (The Peacock)

**11. Give the meaning of ANY THREE of the following words and use them to frame meaningful sentences: (6)**

- i. grieve
  - ii. startle
  - iii. pester
  - iv. scramble
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