

**ENGLISH
SMART SKILLS**

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Monthwise Syllabus- Class 9**2017-2018****April-May**

1. How I Taught My Grandmother To Read
2. A Dog Named Duke
3. The Brook
4. Diary Writing
5. Comprehension Passage and Poem
6. Integrated Grammar(Editing, Omission, Tenses))
7. MCB- The Radio Show and Environment

July

1. The Road Not taken
2. Lord Ullin's Daughter
3. Article Writing
4. Comprehension Passage and Poem
5. Integrated Grammar(Re ordering Sentences and Reported Speech)
6. MCB- Adventure

August

1. The Solitary Reaper
2. Villa for Sale
3. Short Story Writing
4. Comprehension Passage and Poem
5. Integrated Grammar(Active-Passive Voice and Subject Verb Agreement)
6. MCB- People

September

Revision

(The Supplementary Reader- Three Men in a Boat: Chapters 1-10 will be covered in Term 1 Comprehension passages and Poems to be done from Smart Skills.)

October

1. Oh, I wish I Had Looked After Me Teeth
2. Article Writing
3. Comprehension Passage and Poem
4. Integrated Grammar
5. MCB- Sports and Games

November

1. The Seven Ages
2. Keeping It From Harold
3. Short Story
4. Comprehension Passage and Poem
5. Integrated Grammar
6. Mystery

December

1. The Man Who Knew Too Much
2. Song Of the Rain

3. Comprehension Passage and Poem
4. Integrated Grammar
5. MCB- Children

January

1. Best Seller
2. Bishop's Candlesticks
3. Integrated Grammar
4. Comprehension Passage and Poem

February

Revision

Three Men in a Boat

Prescribed Books/ Materials

1. Interact in English - IX Main Course Book Revised edition
2. Interact in English - IX Literature Reader Revised edition Published by CBSE
3. Interact in English - IX Workbook Revised edition Delhi-110092
4. Supplementary Reader: Three Men in a Boat

Resources for Writing Stories and Articles

<http://www.onestopenglish.com/community/lesson-share/pdf-content/exam/exams-article-writing-cae-and-cpe-lesson-plan/147546,article>

<http://www.freeindia.org/biographies/greatleaders/>

<http://www.adn.com/article/top-10-true-life-adventure-stories>

<http://www.wildlywise.com/cbt.exp1.htm>

Resources for Grammar and Reading Comprehension

www.englishforeveryone.com

CLASS IX ASSESSMENT**2017-18**

TERM 1	ASSESSMENT	MARKS	TOTAL
	Term Examination	80	80
	Unit Test 1	40	10
	Group/ Individual Activity	5	5
	Homework/Assignments/Regularity/Class Response etc.	5	5
TERM 2	ASSESSMENT	MARKS	TOTAL
	Term Examination	80	80
	Unit Test 2	40	10
	Listening & Speaking Skills Assessment: Answering questions based on an audio & speaking on a chosen topic (January-February 2018)	5	5
	Homework/Assignments/Regularity/Class Response etc.	5	5

100& More Books To Be Read Before You Leave School

1. Pride and Prejudice – Jane Austen
2. Sense and Sensibility- Jane Austen
3. Emma- Jane Austen
5. Jane Eyre- Charlotte Bronte
6. Mill on the Floss- George Eliot
7. Gone With The Wind – Margaret Mitchell.
8. The Count of Monte Cristo – Alexandre Dumas
9. Treasure Island – Robert Louis Stevenson
10. The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn – Mark Twain
11. The Complete Sherlock Holmes – Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
12. Murder on the Orient Express – Agatha Christie
13. The Murder of Roger Ackroyd- Agatha Christie
14. Atlas Shrugged – Ayn Rand
15. Les Miserables – Victor Hugo
16. The Mysteries of Udolpho – Ann Radcliffe
17. Little Women – Louisa May Alcott
18. Wuthering Heights – Emily Bronte`
19. The Chronicles of Narnia – The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe – C. S. Lewis
20. The Harry Potter Series – J. K. Rowling
21. The DaVinci Code – Dan Brown
22. The Lost Symbol- Dan Brown
23. Inferno- Dan Brown
24. Gulliver’s Travels – Jonathan Swift
25. The Kite Runner – Khaled Hosseini
26. Robinson Crusoe – Daniel Defoe
27. Don Quixote – Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra
28. Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea – Jules Verne
29. The Godfather – Mario Puzo
30. Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl – Anne Frank
31. Aesop’s Fables
32. The Three Musketeers – Alexandre Dumas
33. War and Peace – Leo Tolstoy
34. Rebecca – Daphne Du Maurier
35. The Evening News – Arthur Hailey
36. Three Men in A Boat – Jerome K Jerome
37. The Hobbit – J. R. Tolkien
38. The Great Gatsby – F. Scott Fitzgerald
39. The House of The Seven Gables – Nathaniel Hawthorne
40. The Invisible Man – H. G. Wells.
41. Great Expectations – Charles Dickens.
42. Middlemarch – George Eliot

43. Sea of Poppies - Amitav Ghosh
44. Anna Karenina - Leo Tolstoy
45. The Old Man and the Sea - Ernest Hemingway
46. The Alchemist - Paulo Coelho
47. Jungle Book - Rudyard Kipling
48. The Shining - Stephen King
49. Around the World in Eighty Days - Jules Verne
50. Disclosure - Michael Crichton
51. The Exorcist - William Peter Blatty
52. Confessions of a Shopaholic - Sophie Kinsella
53. The Eagle Has Landed - Jack Higgins
54. The Wonderful Wizard of Oz - L. Frank Baum
55. Doctor Zhivago - Boris Pasternak.
56. The Day of the Jackal - Frederick Forsyth
57. Crime and Punishment - Fyodor Dostoyevsky
58. The Bourne Identity - Robert Ludlum
59. The Murders in the Rue Morgue - Edgar Allan Poe
60. The India Fan - Victoria Holt
61. Love Story - Erich Segal
62. The Hotel New Hampshire - John Irving.
63. Joy in the Morning - P G Wodehouse
64. The Adventures of Robin Hood - Howard Pyle
65. Dracula - Bram Stoker
66. A Passage to India - E M Forster
67. A House for Mr. Biswas - V. S. Naipaul.
68. Brideshead Revisited - Evelyn Waugh.
69. The Turn of the Screw - Henry James
70. To Kill A Mocking Bird - Harper Lee
71. The Catcher in the Rye - J D Salinger
72. 1984 - George Orwell
73. The Age of Innocence - Edith Wharton
74. The Wind in the Willows - Kenneth Grahame
75. The Book Thief - Markus Zusak
76. The Handmaid's Tale - Margaret Atwood
77. Catch-22 - Joseph Heller
78. Diary of a Wimpy Kid - Jeff Kinney
79. Tess of the D'Urbervilles - Thomas Hardy
80. The Help - Kathryn Stockett
81. Non Stop India - Mark Tully
82. City of Djinns - William Darlymple
83. The Shadow of the Wind - Carlos Ruiz Zafon
84. And the Mountains Echoed - Khaled Hosseini
85. Mahabharat - Devdutt Pattanaik
86. Ramayana - Devdutt Pattanaik

87. The Krishna Key- Ashwin Sanghi
88. Chanakaya's Chant- Ashwin Sanghi
89. Helen of Troy- Margaret George
90. The Song of Achilles- Madeline Miller
91. Henry VIII- Margaret George
92. The Tenant of Wildfell Hall- Anne Bronte
93. Tristram Shandy- Laurence Sterne
94. Midnight's Children- Salman Rushdie
95. The Moonstone- Wilkie Collins
96. Palace of Illusions- Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni
97. The Twentieth Wife (A trilogy)- Indu Sundareshan
98. Mountain Of Light- Indu Sundareshan
99. Empire of the Moghul series- Alex Rutherford
100. A Fine Balance- Rohinton Mistry
101. A Case of Exploding Mangoes- Mohammed Hanif
102. Not Without My Daughter- Betty Mahmood
103. The Colour of Water- James McBride
104. Blood Brothers- M.J. Akbar
105. Luka and the Fire of Life- Salman Rushdie
106. Haroun and the Sea of Stories- Salman Rushdie

READING**I. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:**

1. It is rare to find someone with good technical and communication skills. You can get far ahead of your colleagues if you combine the two early in your career. People will judge, evaluate, promote or block you based on your communication skills. Since habits form by repeating both good and bad forms of communication, learn to observe great communicators and adopt their styles and traits – in written and verbal forms. The art of listening and learning from each and every interaction, is another secret recipe. Develop the subconscious habit of listening to yourself as you speak and know when to pause.
2. Learning what not to say is probably more important than learning what to say. As your career develops, you will realise that the wise speak less. Speak when you have value to add, else refrain. Poorly constructed emails with grammatical errors are acceptable between friends, but they should be seriously avoided while communicating formally with your seniors. Avoid any communication in an emotional state when you might say things you will regret later. One unnecessary word uttered at the wrong time or place can ruin a relationship, career or even your life. Such is the power of words. If such a thing happens, you should immediately apologise, else it may haunt you for life.
3. Another problem to overcome is speaking too fast. Since our minds are working faster than our speech, we are inclined to speak fast. This does not necessarily mean that the person hearing it will get it any faster. On the contrary, it is always the reverse. So slow down, and think before you speak. “When I get ready to speak to people.” Abraham Lincoln said, “I spend two-thirds of the time thinking what they want to hear and one-third thinking what I want to say.” Adding humour and wit is also essential. But realise that not all jokes are funny and observe certain boundaries. Never say anything that could offend. Remember you are not a comedian who must offend as many people as you can to be witty.

On the basis of your reading of the above passage answer the following questions briefly:

Q.1 Why is it necessary to have good communication skills?

Q.2 How can communication skills be developed?

Q.3 What according to the writer, should be avoided while communicating?

Q.4 Why should you be careful when you tend to be humorous?

Choose the most appropriate meanings of the given words from the options provided:

- (a) evaluate (para 1)
 (i) estimate (ii) assume (iii) punish (iv) evolve
- (b) trait (para 1)
 (i) treaty (ii) trail (iii) quality (iv) liberty
- (c) utter (para 2)
 (i) flatter (ii) speak (iii) rot (iv) unique
- (d) haunt (para 2)
 (i) hunt (ii) chant (iii) trouble (iv) avoid

2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow : (1x8)

Chess is called the game of kings. It has been around for a long time. People have been playing it for over 500 years. The chess we play today is from Europe. Chess is a two - player game. One player uses the white pieces. The other uses the black pieces. Each piece moves in a special way. One piece is called the king. Each player has one. The players take turns moving their pieces. If a player lands on a piece, he or she takes it. The game ends when a player loses his or her king. There are a few more rules, but these are the basics.

Some people think that chess is more than a game. They think that it makes the mind stronger. Good chess players use their brains. They take their time. They think about what will happen next. These skills are useful in life and in chess. Chess is like a workout for the brain.

You don't always have lots of time to think when playing chess. There is a type of chess with short time limits. It's called blitz chess. In blitz chess, each player gets ten minutes to use for the whole game. Your clock runs during your turn. You hit the time clock after your move. This stops your clock. It also starts the other player's clock. If you run out of time, you lose. Games of blitz chess are fast - paced.

Chess is not just for people. Computers have been playing chess since the 1970s. At first they did not play well. They made mistakes. As time went on they grew stronger. In 1997, a computer beat the best player in the world for the first time. It was a computer called Deep Blue. Deep Blue was big. It took up a whole room. By 2006 a cell phone could beat the best players in the world. Chess sure has come a long way. Don't you think so?

(1x8)

(a) How does a game of chess end?

(b) How is playing chess good for people?

(c) How is chess more than a game?

(d) How is blitz chess different from regular chess?

(e) If it's your turn in blitz chess, what happens when you hit the clock?

(f) What is the main idea of the fourth paragraph?

(g) When did a computer first beat a strong human player in chess?

(h) How have computer chess programs changed over time?

3. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

Like all bad news and the common cold, allergies can pop up when you least expect them. I've been there, having suddenly developed an allergy to crocin (paracetamol) some years ago after having had it all my life to treat everything from headaches to fever and toothache. A seafood-loving friend found himself unable to breathe after having Thai food for dinner. A battery of expensive tests later, he was told that the tightness was not caused by a heart attack but by an allergy to shellfish something he ate once a week and had never reacted to before.

A stuffed or drippy nose, frequent sneezing, an itchy throat, rash, sinus, ear pain, difficulty in breathing, stomach cramps, and itchy, red or watery eyes are some of the common symptoms of an allergic reaction. Pollen dust, polluted outdoor air and indoor pollutants such as dust mites, animal dander, cigarette smoke and mould are among the common environmental pollutants, while other triggers include medicines, paints and chemicals in cleaners and cosmetics such as hair color and skin creams. Among foods, eight allergens amount to 90% of food allergies: milk, soy, wheat, egg, peanut, tree nuts, fish and shellfish.

Most of us wrongly believe that people with allergies are either born with the condition or develop identifiable symptoms in early childhood. You couldn't be more wrong. An allergy can occur at any time in your life and experts say its prevalence among adults is rising. While most people who develop allergies as adults have experienced some allergic reaction- either to the same or an unrelated trigger- before, a few have no history of sensitivity. In an acute immune reaction, the allergy trigger may be one but the symptoms are usually caused by a combination of factors. Stress, a sterile environment that prevents the body from developing a robust natural immunity and lifestyle-induced changes in the body's hormonal balance are thought to be some triggers. This is borne out by clinical evidence that shows that women are more likely to develop allergies at puberty, after pregnancy and at menopause, all of which point to hormonal causes.

Of course, avoiding the allergy trigger and taking an anti- allergy as soon as you can after exposure to an allergen is the best possible protection. Since pollen levels peak in the morning, people with breathing airway sensitivity or asthma should postpone outdoor exercises to later in the day or stick to exercising indoors as deeper and more rapid breathing

induced by aerobic exercise causes more pollen and dust being inhaled which can wreck your airways and lungs. Since air pollutants tend to stick to clothes and hair, changing your clothes and washing your hair before going to bed lowers exposure.

Allergies in adults can be treated by using anti-allergy medicines. For those who do not respond to standard treatment, there's always the option of a series of allergy shots to help the immune system to build up a tolerance to the allergy. In most cases, though identifying and avoiding the allergen is enough to stay free of trouble.

Based on your reading of the passage , answer the following questions:

1. What are the common symptoms of an allergy?

2. What all can trigger an allergy? Mention triggers of all given categories.

3. What is an acute immune reaction?

4. How can you prevent yourself from getting allergies?

Answer the following by choosing the most appropriate option:

1. The opposite of '**expensive**': (para 1)

(a) Costly (b) cheap (c) rare (d) less

2. What do understand by '**trigger**' in para 3:

(a) Set off (b) set from (c) set to (d) set up

3. The word '**prevalence**' in para 3 means:

(a)Avalanche (b) occurrence (c) unexpected (d) unfulfilling

4. The word '**wreck**' in para 4 means :

(a) Save (b) sink (c) ruin (d)rack

4. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

Yet, the whole incident is ironical. I must thank Mr Tarapore for making me twice as determined to be a fast bowler. I have never forgotten that taunting tone of his, 'There are no fast bowlers in India. Ha!'

The problem of choosing the right diet was to come up again soon in my life. And how differently my family handled it! My first coach , Mr Desh Prem Azad , had come home once and informed my parents that I had the potential to be a pace bowler and that more care should be paid towards my diet. He recommended that I should drink a lot of milk and eat a

lot of butter and other dairy products in order to gain physical strength. My father went out the next day and bought a buffalo!

This was encouragement of the highest order. That buffalo was tied in the courtyard of our timber shop and there was not a day in my early life when an extra glass of milk was not available when I needed it. Such a gesture, coming from a man who knew nothing of sports, was indeed touching. The more I think of my father these days the more I admire him and respect him for what he did for me and how readily he did it. For a reasonably wealthy man, one buffalo might not have meant much but to take the trouble to go and buy one and 'park' it needed nobility of character and I am proud to say my father had that quality.

My brothers encouraged me a great deal too. They knew what cricket was. Romesh had studied only up to Matriculation before joining the family business. He had played some sports in his life but his heroes had been wrestlers. I don't mean it as a disrespect for him but I mention it only to bring out what Chandigarh was like in those days. It was still only a little more than a village.

It was Bhushan who represented the University in football and cricket and, in fact, led the cricket team too. He believed in giving the ball a whack or two and in our area he was a hero-the batsman who loved to hit the ball. And I can tell you he was fairly consistent too. He had much to do towards shaping my attitudes towards cricket and particularly towards batting. Bhushan too went into the family business after getting a degree in law.

What I appreciated most in my brothers was the selfless way in which they encouraged me to pursue my goals in cricket. They always said to me-'You go ahead and play as long as you want to and we will look after the family business.' That was really nice of them. And we have always been a close knit family. After all, to both of them I was not Kapil Dev, the cricket super star but just Kapil, their kid brother.

Based on your reading of the passage, answer the following questions:

1. To whom is the author grateful and why?

2. What is ironical about the whole incident?

3. What influence did Kapil Dev's coach have on his diet?

4. What was the 'encouragement of the highest order'?

5. What does the author acknowledge about his father's character?

6. Why does the author say that 'I don't mean it as a disrespect' while mentioning that Romesh idolized wrestling?

7. What sporting talent did Bhushan have to his credit?

8. What does the author appreciate about his brothers?

5. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

The habit of reading is one of the greatest resources of mankind; and we enjoy reading books that belong to us much more than if they are borrowed. A borrowed book is a guest in the house; it must be treated with punctiliousness, with certain considerate formality. You must see that it sustains no damage; it must not suffer while under your roof. You cannot turn down the pages, you cannot use it familiarly. And then, someday, although this is seldom done, you really ought to return it.

But your own books belong to you; you treat them with that affectionate intimacy that annihilates formality. Books are for use, not for show; you should own no book that you are afraid to mark up, or afraid to place on the table, wide open, and face down. A good reason for marking favorite passages in books is that this practice enables you to remember more easily the significant sayings, to refer to them quickly, and then in later years, it is like visiting a forest where you once blazed a trail. You have the pleasure of going over old ground, and recalling both the intellectual scenery and your own earlier self.

Everyone should begin collecting a private library in youth; the instinct of private property, which is fundamental in human beings, can be cultivated with every advantage and no evils. One should have one's own bookshelves, which should not have doors, glass windows, or keys; they should be free and accessible to the hand as well as to the eye. The best of mural decorations are in books; they are more varied in colour and appearance than any wallpaper, they are more attractive in design, and they have the prime advantage of being separate personalities so that if you sit alone in the room containing six thousand books; and I have a stock answer to the invariable question that comes from strangers. "Have you read all of these books?" "Some of them twice." This reply is both true and unexpected.

There are of course no friends like living, breathing, corporeal men and women; my devotion to reading has never made me a recluse. How could it? Books are of the people, by the people, for the people. Literature is the immortal part of history; it is the best and more enduring part of personality. But book-friends have this advantage over living friends; you can enjoy the most

truly aristocratic society in the world whenever you want it. The great dead are beyond our physical reach and the great living are usually almost as inaccessible; as for our personal friends and acquaintances, we cannot always see them. Perchance they are asleep, or away on a journey. But in a private library, you can at any moment converse with Socrates or Shakespeare or Carlyle or Dumas or Dickens or Shaw or Barrie or Galsworthy. And there is no doubt that in these books you see these men at their best. They wrote for you. They "laid themselves out", they did their ultimately their best to entertain you, to make a favourable impression. You are necessary to them as an audience to an actor; only instead of seeing them masked, you look into their innermost heart of hearts.

1. On the basis of the reading of the above passage, answer the following questions:

(a) Why are borrowed books considered as guests?

(b) What are the markings in books compared to?

(c) What are the two advantages of a private library?

(d) What are the advantages that book-friends have over living friends?

(e) Explain the line 'Laid themselves out.'

2 Find words in the passage that mean the same as:

a) particular about following rules (para 1) _____

- b) destroy(para 2) _____
 c) basic (para 3)_____
 d) lasting (para 4) _____

6. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

My grandmother and I were good friends. My parents left me with her when they went to live in the city and we were constantly together. She used to wake me up in the morning and get me ready for school. She said her morning prayer in a monotonous sing-song while she bathed and dressed me in the hope that I would listen and get to know it by heart; I listened because I loved her voice but never bothered to learn it. Then she would fetch my wooden slate which she had already washed and plastered with yellow chalk, a tiny earthen ink-pot and a red pen, tie them all in a bundle and hand it to me. After a breakfast of a thick, stale chapatti with a little butter and sugar spread on it, we went to school. She carried several stale chapattis with her for the village dogs.

My grandmother always went to school with me because the school was attached to the temple. The priest taught us the alphabet and the morning prayers. While the children sat in rows on either side of the verandah singing the alphabet or the prayer in a chorus, my grandmother sat inside reading the scriptures. When we had both finished, we would walk back together. This time the village dogs would meet us at the temple door. They followed us to our home growling and fighting with each other for the chapattis we threw to them.

When my parents were comfortably settled in the city, they sent for us. That was a turning point in our friendship. Although we shared the same room, my grandmother no longer came to school with me. I used to go to an English school in a motor bus. There were no dogs in the streets and she took to feeding sparrows in the courtyard of our city house.

As the years rolled by we saw less of each other. For some time she continued to wake me up and get me ready for school. When I came back she would ask me what the teacher had taught me. I would tell her English words and little things of western science and learning the law of gravity, Archimedes' Principle; the world being round, etc. This made her unhappy. She could not help me with my lessons. She did not believe in the things they taught at the English school and was distressed that there was no teaching about God and the scriptures. One day I announced that we were being given music lessons. She was very disturbed. To her music had lewd associations. It was the monopoly of harlots and beggars and not meant for gentlefolk. She said nothing but her silence meant disapproval. She rarely talked to me after that.

Extract: from *The Portrait of a Lady* by Khushwant Singh

I. On the basis of your reading of the above passage answer the following questions briefly:

Q1. What did the author's grandmother do for him?

Q2. Why did she go to school with him? Mention two qualities of hers which have been reflected in paragraph 2.

Q3. The author and his grandmother were good friends. When did a turning point come in their friendship? What happened after that?

Q4. What were the various things that made the author's grandmother unhappy?

II. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate options given below:

1 'Sing-song' in the first paragraph means _____

- (a) Sing a song
- (b) Sweet song
- (c) A child's sweet voice
- (d) With a monotonous rise and fall of the voice.

2 The opposite of 'monotonous' is _____

- (a) Interesting
- (b) boring
- (c) dull
- (d) bright

3 Closest in meaning to 'turning point' is _____

- (a) a place where a road leads away from the one you are travelling on
- (b) the time when an important change takes place
- (c) happening by chance
- (d) turning something around.

4 Monopoly means _____

- (a) repetition
- (b) complete control
- (c) freedom
- (d) association

7. Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow:

Lochinvar

- Sir Walter Scott

This poem is a ballad. It is a story in the form of a poem, a simple song, especially a popular love song.

O young Lochinvar is come out of the west,
Through all the wide border his steed was the best;
And save his good broadsword he weapons had none;
He rode all unarmed, and he rode all alone.
So faithful in love, and so dauntless in war,
There never was a knight like the young Lochinvar.

He staid not for brake, and he stopped not for stone,
He swam the Eskeriver where ford there was none;
But ere he alighted at Netherby gate,
The bride had consented, the gallant came late;
For a laggard in love, and a dastard in war,
Was to wed the fair Ellen of brave Lochinvar.

So boldly he entered the Netherby Hall,
Among bride's-men and kinsmen and brothers and all;
Then spoke the bride's father, his hand on his sword,
(for the poor craven bridegroom said never a word)
"O come ye in peace here, or come ye in war,
Or to dance at our bridal, young Lochinvar?"

"I long wooed your daughter, my suit you denied;
Love swells like the Solway, but ebbs like its tide;
And now am I come, with this lost love of mine,
To lead but one measure, drink one cup of wine.
There are maidens in Scotland more lovely by far,
That would gladly be bride to the young Lochinvar."

The bride kissed the goblet; the knight took it up,
 He quaffed off the wine, and he threw down the cup,
 She looked down to blush, and she looked up to sigh,
 With a smile on her lips, and a tear in her eye.
 He took her soft hand, ere her mother could bar -
 "Now tread we a measure!" said young Lochinvar.

So stately his from, and so lovely her face,
 That never a hall such a galliard did grace;
 While her mother did fret, and her father did fume,
 And the bridegroom stood dangling his bonnet and plume;
 And the bride-maidens whispered, "Twere better by far,
 To have matched our fair cousin with young Lochinvar."
 One touch to her hand, and one word in her ear,
 When they reached the hall-door, and the charger stood near;
 So light to the croupe the fair lady he swung,
 So light to the saddle before her he sprung!
 "She is won! We are gone, over bank, bush, and scaur;
 They'll have fleet steeds that follow," quoth young Lochinvar.
 There was mounting 'mong Graemes of the Netherby clan;
 Forsters, Fenwicks, and Musgraves, they rode and the ran;
 There was racing and chasing on Cannobie Lee,
 But the lost bride of Netherby ne'er did they see.
 So daring in love, and so dauntless in war,
 Have ye e'er heard of gallant like young Lochinvar?

On the basis of the reading of the above poem, answer the following questions:

1) Why does the poet say that there never was a knight like the young lochinvar?

2) How does the father react to the bold entry of Lochinvar?

3) How did the bride react when Lochinvar entered the hall? Pick out the relevant lines/expressions from the poem.

4) Why do you think Lochinvar acted swiftly in taking Ellen away?

5) What was the result of 'the racing' and 'the chasing' on Cannobie Lee?

WRITING SKILLS

Diary Writing

Guidelines

1. A good diary writing contains the day, the date, place and even the time of writing. For example: Friday, 20th July, 2017
22:00
New Delhi
2. The style and tone is generally informal and personal. However, it depends on the subject. Sometimes the tone can be philosophical and reflective too. You can freely express your viewpoints and feelings.
3. As the diary is a writer's personal document, the diary entry doesn't need any signature. It is optional.

Q1. You have always suffered from 'stage fright'. Describe how you overcame this weakness of yours and ultimately won a prize in an Inter-School Debate Competition. Record your feelings in a diary.

Q2. While going home you came across many children on the roads with begging bowls in their hands. You are disgusted at this unflattering picture of a country which boasts of being a major economy in the world. Record your experience in your diary in about 80 words.

Q3. You had visited Antarctica as a part of the Young Explorers Programme and had an opportunity to see the polar ice caps melting and realised that the threat of global warming is very real. Write a diary in about 80-100 words on what a student can do to preserve the environment.

Formal Letter

Word limit: 120 words

Marks: 8

Purpose of a letter to an Editor:

- To express one's opinion on a wide range of social issues
- To express and share one's observations and views in a public forum, namely, a magazine or a newspaper

Body of the letter:

- The presentation should be concise
- It should clearly establish the reason for writing that letter

Language of the letter:

- Formal language must be used
- Avoid repetition
- Avoid long complicated sentences
- Divide the letter into paragraphs

Format:

- Block- style should be followed
1. Sender's address
 2. Leave a line -Date: April 10...
 3. Receiver's designation, name of the paper and address
 4. Salutation-Sir
 5. Subject (to be short and precise)
 6. Content in at least three paragraphs

*Introduce yourself, state that you are writing to draw the attention of the concerned authorities towards the problem.

*State the problem in detail, its causes and effects

*Offer suggestions and solutions

7. Complimentary close-Yours sincerely
8. Signature of the sender followed by name and designation

Sender's address

Date

Address of addressee

Subject:

Dear Sir/ Madam

1) Statement of the problem

- Through the columns of your newspaper.....
- I was..... to read.....
- With reference to the news report dated..... , I was..... to read.....

2) Causes of the problem

- It is alleged.....
- Is due largely to

3) Results of the problem

- has led to.....
- As a result.....

4) Suggestions

- I feel.....
- In my opinion.....
- I suggest.....

Yours sincerely

Name

Solved example

ABC School

Raj Nagar

Delhi

April 10, 2015

The Editor

The Hindustan Times

Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg

New Delhi

Sir

Subject: Poaching of wildlife

This is with reference to a newspaper report recently published in your esteemed newspaper regarding tuskers being on the verge of extinction at Sariska National Park.

It was horrifying to read that the wildlife mafia has succeeded in penetrating the very heart of the park. The killing of one more tusker brings the death toll to five tuskers in less than two months, and it is possible that combing operations by the forests and police departments could reveal more carcasses. All indications point to the possibility that the police is either hand in glove with the poachers or is doing little to trace them.

The reasons of the gruesome killings are not far to seek. Spiralling prices of ivory in the international market and the fact that the Indian ivory, being softer, fetches higher price in the international market, have made the Indian tusker a rapidly dwindling species. The demand for ivory comes in from China and Japan.

The government needs to launch a major drive to increase awareness among buyers. I also suggest poaching be equated with murder, and poachers, when caught, should be imprisoned for life. Only harsh steps and awareness drives will help check this problem.

Yours sincerely
XYZ
(Full name in capitals)

Partially solved

You are Satish/Seema a resident of 10 Fleming Street, New Delhi. Recently you read newspaper reports about the death of a young couple due to the collision of their car with another car. The accident resulted due to reckless driving. As a responsible citizen, write a letter to the editor of a local daily on the dangers of rash driving in the city.

10 Fleming Street
New Delhi
10th November, 2011

The Editor
The Hindustan Times
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg
New Delhi

Sir

Subject: Reckless Driving in the City

This is with reference to a newspaper report recently published in The Hindustan Times about the tragic accident on _____ in which a young couple _____ when their car _____.

There has been an increase in the number of deaths due _____. Last year alone, a record _____ took place on the roads of Delhi.

Aren't we heading towards a chaotic and unsafe existence? More and more flyovers _____ but there has also been an increase in the number of vehicles _____. Traffic jams are now a _____ especially around festivals.

Traffic policemen man a number of crossings but it brings little relief _____. Highways prove fatal because _____.

The government will have to impose _____

I hope that the concerned authorities _____ so that the roads can be made safe for all to drive.

Yours sincerely

_____ (Signature)

_____ (Name)

Article

Word limit: 150 words

Marks: 8

Purpose of writing an article:

The purpose of writing an article is to present information and opinions on a variety of themes in a sustained piece of writing, namely,

- Describing a place, person, his life and actions
- Narrating or describing an event
- Expressing views on some issue of social interest
- Expressing arguments in favour or against a stated hypothesis or event

Format:

- Give the title at the top. The heading should be eye-catching, and should encapsulate the central theme. Byline – by whom the article is written follows immediately.
- Introduction – the opening paragraph must
 - Ø Tell what the article is about
 - Ø Catch interest
 - Ø Have clear and precise language; may even use a definition or quotation
- Developing cause-effect relationship:
 - Ø Use facts to support your claims
 - Ø Give examples to support your views
 - Ø Present arguments in a coherent, logical and convincing manner
- Conclusion:
 - Ø Summing up including a consolidation of ideas
 - Ø Offering suggestions/ measures to improve the situation
 - Ø Personal observations and predictions

Remember:

- Use simple, coherent sentences
- Systematic presentation of ideas
- Make your article interesting by adding a touch of humour to it!
- Stick to the word limit (150 words)

Solved example:**Chaos on the Roads!**

-By Anmol Anand IX A

The BRT Corridor...the increasing traffic...stray cattle....there is chaos everywhere on the roads of Delhi. Traffic jams, honking, and, more importantly, accidents have become a menace for Delhites. The traffic situation is becoming worse day by day. School buses, office goers, DTC buses-all these congest the roads as soon as the sun rises. According to a recent report, Delhi today has as many numbers of cars as there were people in 1985 in Delhi.

The main cause of this ever increasing traffic is the rapidly increasing population and its demands. More people...more cars...more traffic....more jams. These traffic jams, road rage incidents have become a commonplace thing now days. People become agitated on account of constant honking and this in turn, leads to mental imbalance. Moreover, the emissions from the vehicles cause air pollution .The Delhi Metro and other construction projects have worsened the scenario because they hamper the traffic and lead to jams. As the route become complex, the traffic snarls become even more prominent.

The only solution that may help to control this menace would be proper regulation of traffic, separate roads for buses and trucks, one way movement in crowded areas and awareness among the masses. If we are ready to adhere to these things we can definitely reduce the traffic chaos on the roads of Delhi and make it a more peaceful place to live in.

Partially solved:

Write an article on 'Is Today's Education Relevant to Students' Needs?'

Paragraph 1

Every year thousands of students pass out from numerous schools in India .How many of them are really sure about what they want to after class XII. Most of them are completely directionless. Their future is uncertain.....

Para2

There is a dire need.....

Para3

The real thing which is of prime importance is preparing them for real life situations.....

Para4

What is needed is a change in the attitude of parents and teachers.....

Para 5

Though some steps have been taken in this direction by the schools in the form of counselling sessions.....

Questions:

- 1) You are Nandini/Nalin, a social worker. You have observed that young boys and girls go on increasing their academic qualifications without proper direction. Most of them opt for a profession they are overqualified for while some of them drift into unsocial activities. Write an article on how this problem can be solved.
- 2) You are Rohini/Raghav. You have been asked to write an article on whether the gender roles in India are really changing. Talk about how women have entered every sphere of life now and are now holding top positions in top firms in almost every country. They are good at multi-tasking and have been successful in handling their homes and work places, all at the same time.
- 3) Reality shows on television are extremely popular amongst all sections of society and all age groups. Write an article for your school magazine on this topic in about 150 words. Discuss how these shows have helped the common man in coming to the fore and have provided a platform to the 'have- not' of the society in earning name and fame.
- 4) You are Amit / Anita. Head Boy / Head Girl of your school. You have been asked by your Principal to talk about 'The Importance of Punctuality in a Student's Life'. Write an article and use the following points to write your answer.

Punctuality ... an important quality in life
Developed early in life
A valued trait
Parents and teachers should act as role models for their children
A Punctual man is given highest regard

Practice it in everyday life...complete homework, class work on time
Procrastination is an evil

Questions

1) While reading a magazine you came across the following article

There is a growing lack of sensitivity and respect for our fellow creatures. There is talk about the food web and the energy cycles and ecological balance and how removal of any element disrupts the whole system, and how this can affect human beings too. What this approach lacks is the essential interaction with Nature and with other human beings. Indeed, in many environmental activities the opposite takes place.

You are an educationist and feel that Environmental Education imparted in schools, need reorientation. The stress should not be on preserving Nature for human use, but for protecting animals and plants for their own sake. Based on the information given above and ideas from the Unit Environment, write a letter to the editor of a national daily in about 120 words.

2) The number of road accidents is increasing and so is the number of deaths. This is primarily because of the increase in traffic, and non-adherence to traffic rules. Write a letter to the editor about this problem. Some points:

- Increase in traffic
- Flouting traffic rules
- Bad roads
- Impatient nature
- Punitive action should be taken against offenders

3) We often complain that the government is not doing enough to solve the varying problems of our country. All of us expect the politicians to work for us. Do we ever ask the question: 'what have I done for my country?' Write a letter to the editor of a daily newspaper taking hint from the following highlighting the statement: 'Ask **not what the country can do for you; ask what you can do for the country**'.

Hints : Developing – responsibility not of government alone –incapable of handling emergency by itself –indomitable spirit of people – face the challenge – all must come forward – future in the hands of people

4) Rohit, Radhika Sharma read the following news item in the Daily Times about the increasing number of crimes committed by teenagers. He/ she writes a letter to the editor of the newspaper expressing his/ her views.

Teen Crime Stuns City!

The last few months have witnessed a spate of crimes committed by school children, including thefts and kidnappings.

The recent cases have revealed that it's either greed or uncontrollable anger that has led to crimes. The driving thought that many youngsters have today is, "If he has it, why can't I?" Adds Nihal Nair of Victoria High School, "For some it's a lifestyle or just to show off." There is a lot of frustration among teenagers because of peer pressure, unrealistic parental expectations and societal demands.

Now, Switch Off Your Cellphone at Petrol Stations

HT Correspondent
New Delhi, June 21

The government on Thursday banned the use of cellular phones at petrol stations as they could ignite the inflammable vapours present in the air.

Don't use mobiles...

- While driving
- Inside an aircraft
- When in an ICU
- If you are near a heart patient or someone who has a pacemaker
- In a cinema hall.....

Speech**Word limit: 150 words****Marks: 8****Purpose of making a speech:**

- To convey information orally to a large gathering of people, forcefully and convincingly, to convert the listener to the speaker's point of view
- To orally pass on a wide range of information to a wide range of audience
- To express an opinion, share a point of view, experience, observation, etc

Format:

- Salutation – the speaker greets all those present in the audience
- Key sentence carries the central theme or issue of the speech
- The speaker expresses his/ her views on the topic
- Summing up and concluding, and thanking the audience

Points to remember:

- A speech must begin with a catchy introduction which could be an anecdote, quotation, statistical data or a thought-provoking question
- The topic should be clearly stated.
- Don't forget the **salutation**: "Good morning to all of you. Today I, XYZ of ABC school stand before you to express my views on the topic....."
- It must reflect the speaker's clarity of thought, accuracy of facts, and balanced view
- Summing up or consolidation of ideas, suggestions/ measures to improve the situation, personal observations and predictions must be made
- **Clarity** of thought, **organization** and systematic presentation of ideas are important. Make sure that the audience is aware of the transition of ideas.
- Adequate **supporting data** is important to make the speech interesting and convincing/ believable. If possible use humour.
- The **conclusion** should be brief and **sum up the ideas** presented. You should leave the audience thinking about what you have spoken.
- Divide the speech into **3-4 paragraphs**. One paragraph should contain one idea only. To change the paragraph, leave a line.
- Write '**Thank you**' at the extreme end on the left.
- Marks will be given for **original ideas, creative use of language**. Avoid spelling and grammatical errors.

Solved example:

You are really disturbed after reading a survey which revealed the lack of interest many students have towards their academics. Write a speech to be delivered at a students' meeting.

Good morning to all my esteemed student members gathered here today. Friends, a very disturbing trend has been noticed in the past few years. The percentage of children who are losing interest in academics is increasing day by day.

The reasons for this decline are growing parental and peer pressure, distraction due to computers and television. Children waste unlimited time sitting and chatting on the net. They

are glued to the television watching programs which are not meant for their. To top it all the latest time wasters are play stations and PSII. Children spend innumerable hours which could be otherwise used productively to prepare for their exams.

Another crucial reason for this decline is parental pressure on kids to excel beyond their capability. The expectation level of parents has crossed all limits-none of the parents wants less than 90 percent from their child. Children tend to become rebellious under such pressure. Not only this, the immensely competitive environment builds the pressure on them which leads to frustration and irritation thereby lowering their concentration level.

In order to counter this undesirable trend, schools must employ suitable strategies like counselling. It is imperative that parents should also have separate counselling sessions in order to make them less anxious about the performance of their children. Schools should also conduct workshops on stress and time management. Teachers should also guide the students on the productive use of time. Friends, as educators it is our responsibility to curb this distressing trend.

Thank you

Questions:

1. You have to speak in the morning assembly on the importance of Internet with the help of the points given below:

- Internet- a source of information
- Has great educational and professional value
- Reduced the distance of places
- Cheap and convenient
- Everything at a click
- Easy and fast way of communication
- Availability of E- Book, etc.
- Video conferencing etc.
- Use in every walk of life
- Need to be used wisely as it is a source of computer virus too

2. 'Down to Earth' an environmental awareness magazine has launched a marathon 'Clean your City Campaign'. As an active participant, write a speech to be read out in the morning assembly urging students to participate in the campaign.

3. You are Rahul/Reeta. Write a speech to be delivered in the morning assembly of your school about the increase in violence and social unrest in your city. Also give suggestions to curb the violence.

4. More and more schools are sending their students on adventure trips and camps where children feel close to nature and try their hand at rock climbing, white water rafting, bungee jumping, paragliding and other adventure sports. You have been on one such trip and decide to deliver a speech in the morning assembly to motivate other children to participate in such activities. Write the speech in not more than 120 words.

Debate**Word limit: 150 words****Marks: 8****Purpose of a debate:**

- To convey information orally to a large gathering of people, forcefully and convincingly, to convert the listener to the speaker's point of view
- To orally pass on a wide range of information to a wide range of audience
- To express an opinion, share a point of view, experience, observation, etc

Points to remember:

- Begin with the salutation" Honourable judges, teachers and my dear friends....
- State the topic and whether you wish to speak for/against the motion.
- Your viewpoint should be expressed forcefully and clearly. Polite sarcasm and humour can be used.
- Use argumentative style and logical reasoning
- Refer to your opponent's view
- Try to counter attack your opponents without ridiculing them or using indecorous language
- Conclude by thanking the audience
- Use the following phrases helpful in expressing points of view:
 --- Opinions and preferences –I think/ I'd rather/ The way I see it/ I suspect that/ It is fairly certain that/ I'm convinced that/ I strongly believe that/ Without a doubt...
 --- Disagreeing –I don't think/ Don't you think it would be better/ Shouldn't we consider/ the truth of the matter is/ The problem with my opponent's point of view is/ I'm afraid I don't agree....
 --- Giving reasons and offering explanations –To start with/ The reason why/ For this reason/Many people think/Considering the fact/ Allowing for the fact that....

Solved Example:

'Old Age Homes are the ideal refuge for the old people of any society.' Write a debate in favour of or against the motion.

FOR

- Good company
- Proper Medical aid and attention
- Self-respect and dignity retained
- Independent

AGAINST

- Loneliness
- Feelings of betrayal by their own near ones
- Old age homes are not that self sufficient
- Facilities not as good as home

Basic steps to follow while writing your debate:

- Decide and define your position as per your beliefs.
- Explain, illustrate, and argue.
- Think of arguments the opponents may have and how you can counter them.
- Review your speech and edit it if necessary.

Questions:

1. You are Arush/ Arushi. Write a debate for or against on the topic of which is, 'Watching TV is harmful for children'.
2. You are Rohit/ Ritu of Class IX C. Write a debate for the motion or against on the topic 'Only English- Speaking Nation Can Move Ahead.'
3. In spite of the advancement in technology, luxuries and freedom, the new generation is a worried lot. Write a debate for /against the above thought.
4. You are Kapil/ Ketki of Class IX B. Write a debate on 'The Internet Has Transformed Our Way of Living.'

Story Writing**Word limit: 150 words****Marks: 8**

A short story focuses on only one incident, has a single plot, a single setting, a small number of characters, and covers a short period of time.

Plot: Select a situation. Define the time and place.

Main character: Define your protagonist and set your focus right about what he or she wants

Conflict: Suggest basic outlines of the conflict what all the trouble is going to be about. The complication describes all the troubles and incidents of action dramatized into scenes.

Dramatic intensity: After a crisis, a climax is reached. Then comes the turning point and the beginning of the end.

Resolution: Make clear the consequences of the action. There must be a clear connection to the narrative.

Twists in the plot make the story interesting. Innovative use of language and structure fused with humour, vivid descriptions and style, add flavour.

Questions:

1) Read the outline of a story given below. Write a short story using the outline and your own ideas. Assign a suitable title to it.

Three friends find a bag of money- agree to divide the money- all very hungry- one sent to buy food in village- wants all the money himself- so poisons the food- in his absence the other two plan to murder him- so when he comes back they murder him- then they eat the poisoned food- then they eat the poisoned food- they die-

- 2) Write a story in 150 words beginning “The plane was about to land when suddenly there was an announcement.....”
- 3) Write a story in a minimum of 150 words developing the following idea further:
‘The garden gate creaked open. She looked up and saw....’
- 4) Given below is the beginning of a story. Complete it.
She sat on the edge of the well looking down into the deep water below.....
- 5) It was their favourite time of the day. The children huddled around the old figure holding the book and smiled at her endearingly.....
- 6) Write a short story in 150-200 words on the basis of the hints provided:

Summer holidays had begun. Mohit was excited. His father had made arrangements for a trip to...

- 7) Using the hints given below develop a story in about 150-200 words:

We were on a school excursion to The National Arts gallery. We were busy watching the various art forms and the colours used. My friends were there with me, but all of a sudden I found myself all alone and the little boy in the portrait asking me....

GRAMMAR**I. ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE**

Examine the following sentences:

1 Anu has broken the window. (active)

The window was broken by Anu. (passive)

2 The company is launching a new car this year. (active)

A new car is being launched by the company. (passive)

In the above sentences, there are two major changes to be noted. Primarily, the subject and the object have exchanged their places and secondly the verbs have undergone a change. In an active voice sentence, the subject is active and in a passive voice sentence the subject is passive or inactive.

If the subject in the active voice sentence is unknown or unimportant or obvious, 'by+object' is omitted from the sentence in the passive voice.

We make milk from butter.

Butter is made from milk.

When a sentence has two objects, only one of the objects is taken to the subject position. The sentence can be changed into the passive in two ways:

Prakash told me a story. (active)

I was told a story by Prakash. (passive)

A story was told to me by Prakash.(passive)

When the verb in a sentence is intransitive, it cannot be changed into the passive form:

Snow falls in winter.

He left for Mumbai yesterday.

The children are enjoying themselves.

II SUBJECT VERB AGREEMENT

The verb always agrees with the subject in number or person

Lisa **loves** eating mangoes

They **love** playing chess

Here are some rules to remember:

- When the subject of a sentence is singular, the verb must also be singular. When the subject is plural, the verb must be plural.

Eg :Henry likes Deepak. (singular)

Henry and Deepak like Mary. (Plural)

- When the subject is of the phrase one of, followed by a plural noun, the verb is singular and agrees with one, which is singular.

Eg: one of the students in our class was praised by the teacher.

Priya is one of my best friends.

- When a sentence has two singular subjects joined by the conjunction and the verb must be plural.

Eg: Bishakha and Suman go to the same school

- When two or more nouns represent a compound name of one person or thing, then the compound is thought of as singular and takes a singular verb.

Eg: the horse and carriage is waiting at the door.

Slow and steady wins the race.

- When the subject is the introductory there , the verb agrees with the real subject that follows it.

Eg : there was a cruel king.

There are six teachers in our department.

- 'A lot of' and 'plenty of' take a plural verb when they denote number, they take a singular verb when they denote quantity or amount.

Eg : There is a lot of oil in Assam.

There are a lot of hill stations in our country.

Where are plenty of roses found?

There is plenty of water in the well.

- 'Both' always takes a plural.

Eg : both the hill stations were simply great.

- 'A number of' means 'several' or 'many' and is therefore always followed by a plural verb.

Eg : There have been a number of important incidents this year.

A large number of people are waiting to meet the prime minister.

- A singular collective noun like 'a herd of cattle' , 'a team of players' , 'a fleet of ships' , 'a troop of soldiers' and 'a bunch of flowers' always takes a singular verb.

Eg: There was a herd of cattle in the middle of the road.

This is a lovely bunch of flowers.

A troop of soldiers is marching through the streets.

- A dozen takes a plural verb

Eg: there are a dozen shoes in the cupboard.

- A pair of when applies to things like scissors, shoes, trousers, where two components are always thought of together, takes a singular verb.

Eg : A pair of scissors is lying on the table.

- A plural word must take a plural verb.

Eg : The scissors are in the drawer.

His trousers were very fashionable.

- Class names such as clothing, footwear, scenery, crockery, fruit, hair, furniture, stationary are singular and must take a singular verb.

Eg : the furniture here is of the best quality.

Fruit is very good for health.

- News is always treated as singular so is advice, business and information.

Eg: the news is that the President will visit our school next week.

This is good advice.

- Names of certain diseases, sciences and branches of knowledge which end with s are also singular.

Eg : mumps is a painful disease.

Mathematics is my favourite subject.

- Some of or half of take a plural verb if the reference is to number but a singular verb if reference is to amount or quantity.

Eg: some of the boys are dishonest.

Half of the books were sold.

- Many refers to number is thus plural; much refers to amount so is singular.

Eg: many of the apples were rotten.

Much of the truth was not told.

- People, poultry, repairs, clergy, studies, and cattle are always in plural.

Eg: The people of our town are very educated.

The clergy have arrived.

The cattle were grazing in the field.

- When a plural number applies to distances, weights, heights or amounts of money, it is taken as a whole and is therefore treated as singular. Thus it takes a singular verb.

Eg : thousand miles is a long distance.

One lakh rupees is a lot of money.

- If the title of a book or the name of a house or a hotel is plural it takes a singular verb since it is only one title or one building.

Eg : the adventures of tom sawyer is an interesting book.

- If two or more singular subjects are preceded by either, either of, neither, neither of, each, each of, everyone, many a, none, none of, nobody or somebody, the verb is the singular.

Eg : either neetu or her brother has won the prize.

Everyone is equal in the eyes of god

Each of the boys has worked well.

Neither of them comes on time.

Somebody has stolen my aunt's purse.

Nobody is to be blamed.

III. Reported Speech

Remember:

Speaker's words Reported statement changes

present simple -----past simple

present continuous -----past continuous

past continuous-----past perfect continuous

present perfect/past simple-----past perfect

will-----would

shall -----should

is -----was

must -----had to

can -----could

tomorrow -----the next day/the following day

yesterday-----the day before

here -----there

this -----that

today -----that day

tonight ----- that night

last Tuesday -----the previous Tuesday

the day after tomorrow ----- in two days time

ago ----- before/previously

WORKSHEET - 1

1) Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate option given below.

Complete the following passage. Fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate alternative form from those given below:

Always (a) _____ to answer the questions briefly. Do not write (b) _____ understanding what you (c) _____. Examiners (d) _____ give you a mark if they do not follow what you (e) _____ to say. You (f) _____ penalized for the mistakes provided you show a good understanding of the unseen passage.

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) | i. trying | ii. tried |
| | iii. try | iv. have tried |
| (b) | i. by | ii. on |
| | iii. with | iv. without |
| (c) | i. are writing | ii. wrote |
| | iii. were writing | iv. have been writing |
| (d) | i. will | ii. may not |
| | iii. can not | iv. would |
| (e) | i. try | ii. is trying |
| | iii. have not tried | iv. are trying |
| (f) | i. can be | ii. will not be |
| | iii. will be | iv. would not |

2) Read the following conversation carefully and complete the following passage by making appropriate changes.

Dilip: I've been watching the sea and there hasn't been any trace of a ship.

Ralph: I told you yesterday too that we'll be rescued, so have patience.

Dilip: Why do you ask me to keep quiet whenever I say something?

Ralph: Have you ever said anything sensible?

Dilip said (a) _____ Ralph replied (b) _____ and so asked him to have patience. Dilip angrily asked Ralph (c) _____ to which Ralph wanted to know (d) _____.

3) Rearrange the following jumbled words to make meaningful sentences. The first one has been done as an example.

E.g. creatures/lack of/ is a/ there/growing/sensitivity/ for our/fellow/and respect

There is a growing lack of sensitivity and respect for our fellow creatures.

- a) is being/drilled/into/by social/this attitude/a child/forces

- b) by environmental/this/can/education/countered/only be

- c) this is/ sadly,/cases/not/done/yet/in most

4) In the passage below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it, along with the correct blank number. Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined.

How does a tree die? When it is cut down an axe. But sometimes we may end hurting or killing a tree without meaning. It may happen when we carve names or draw a heart a tree trunk by cutting at bark of a tree with knife. For, along with the bark we also cut the important tissue: the phloem, tissue carries the food made the leaves to the different parts the tree.

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____
- g) _____
- h) _____
- i) _____
- j) _____

5) The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each of the lines. Write the incorrect word and the correction, against the correct blank number.

One always think that caterpillars are lazy creatures who do anything but eat. Recently research shows that this is not truth. While munching, they also talk to every other and decide on where to went for their next feast. Like much other creatures of the animal world, caterpillars also lived in community and exchange information about enemy or source of food. They communicate by drumming by the leaves.

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____
- g) _____
- h) _____
- i) _____
- j) _____
- k) _____
- l) _____

Q 6 The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction. The first one has been done as an example: (4 marks)

The jungle was thick for dense. We had to hold on to the vines to avoiding slip on the mud paths. We had

eg. For and

- (a) _____
- (b) _____

walked for four hours but everyone were tired. The sun was shining brightly generating heat and vapour which will soon turn from rain. We were given some bread and cheese. After we had ate, the trip began again. Some of the weaker members were already feeling tiring.

- (c) _____
 (d) _____
 (e) _____
 (f) _____
 (g) _____
 (h) _____

**Q 7. Read the conversation between two friends and then complete the passage given below:
 (3 Marks)**

Ravi: Where were you yesterday?

Vinay: There is an exhibition of rare paintings at the Art Gallery. I had gone there.

Ravi: Why did you not take me along? You know I love visiting Exhibitions.

Vinay: I wish you had told me.

Ravi asked Vinay (a)_____. Vinay replied (b)_____

Ravi asked Vinay (c)_____. Vinay said that he wished he had told him.

Q 8. Read the following paragraph and fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions:

across	at	before	between	for
in	into	near	on	off
over	since	to	towards	

My friends and I decided to spend the day _____ an island _____ a lake _____ my parents' holiday cottage. They have owned the cottage _____ 2002, but don't use it very often. We had arranged to meet there _____ 10 o'clock. However, I was late and my friends arrived _____ me. "We have been waiting _____ nearly an hour," said Latha crossly "Sorry," I replied. We made our way _____ the lake and hired a rowing boat. Steppig _____ the jetty _____ the boat we discussed who should do the rowing. Tushar volunteered, and soon the boat was moving _____ the lake _____ the island. I put my arm _____ the side of the boat, letting the water run _____ my fingers. It was very cold. "I don't think we'll be able to swim today," I said.

WORKSHEET-2

1) In the passage below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it, along with the correct blank number. Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined.

In his book 'Pain: The Gift Nobody Wants', Dr Paul Brand explores the purpose and value physical pain. He is of opinion that pain is a very serious friend that warns us of some danger the body and thus protects us. If no warning in the form of pain, one would not even hesitate to stick one's hand the fire to retrieve a burning object. Our hand get singed and we wouldn't even know. Little pain saves us from a larger damage.

- a) _____
 b) _____
 c) _____
 d) _____
 e) _____
 f) _____
 g) _____

2) The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each of the lines. Write the incorrect word and the correction, against the correct blank number.

Aesop prawns starts life as colourless, almost transparent who drift with the tide. On reaching maturity, they drift inshore, reached out to grasp the first passing seaweed and, once establish on it, they proceed to colouring themselves to blended with it. After a week, their colouring are complete and they are safe from the close scrutiny.

- a) _____
 b) _____
 c) _____
 d) _____
 e) _____
 f) _____
 g) _____

3) Rearrange the words and phrases given below to make meaningful sentences:

i) South-East Asia/ are found/ tigers/ of the/ and/ in India/ most/ countries of/

ii) forests/ live in/ plains/ they/ grassy/ and/

iii) are plenty/ for them/ to hunt/ animals/ here/ of other/ for food/ there/

iv) do not/ and/ and eat/ at / tigers/like/ great heat/ hunt / therefore/ night./

4) Change the following sentences from active voice to passive voice.

1. Someone had spilt ink on the rug.

2. Our teachers give us too much homework.

3. Everyone considered the woman a genius.

4. The council will hold a meeting in the town hall this evening.

5. People use this path as a shortcut to the station.

6. They did not tell me the truth.

7. The men are repairing the car.

8. The band was playing a lively dance tune.

9. Nobody is allowed to wear branded shoes at our school.

10. The girl said that some of the other students had gone to the auditorium.

WORKSHEET- 3**1) Fill in the blanks with suitable verb forms:****INDIAN-AMERICAN WINS DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY IN PHILADELPHIA**

Thu, May 20 Iraq war -veteran Indian -American doctor Manan Trivedi a) _____ the Democratic Party nomination to contest the November elections to the US House of Representatives from Pennsylvania Congressional district. A doctor-turned war-veteran, Trivedi, 35, (b)_____ Dough Pike, a former local journalist, (c)_____ margin of 672 votes; thus earning the right to challenge Republican incumbent Jim Gerlach in the November polls for Pennsylvania seat for the US House of Representatives. Conceding his defeat, Pike in a statement supported Trivedi. The elections (d)_____ Tuesday.

- (a) (I) won (II) had won (III) has won (IV) was won
 (b) (I) had defeated (II) been defeated (III) was defeated (IV) defeated
 (c) (I) through a narrow (II) with a narrow (III) to a narrow (IV) in a narrow
 (d) (I) was held on (II) were held on (III) been held on (IV) had been held on

3) In the passage below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it, along with the correct blank number. Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined.

Combat sports are sports based the skills used a) _____
 in fighting. In these sports, competitors b) _____
 may not unarmed as is the case with judo and c) _____
 boxing, or armed as fencing and archery. d) _____
 Fencing a combat sport using swords which e) _____
 is played on narrow platform 14m long. It is f) _____
 believed that fencing born out of the historical g) _____
 tradition swordsmanship. In fencing, the competitors h) _____
 to touch specific target areas on their opponent i) _____
 with their sword while avoiding touched themselves. j) _____

4) Rearrange the following jumbled words to make meaningful sentences. The first one has been done as an example.

E.g. is/it/that/attracts/so many/to it?/about prayers/people/what

What is it about prayers that attract so many people to it?

- a) offer/peace/of hope/and/of mind/a lot/ prayers

- b) anything/the faith/they give/to believe/can/that/happen/you

- c) an/ought/with/honest/heart/offered/prayers/to be

5) Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb given in brackets.

I _____ (looking) forward to next weekend. On Saturday my father and I _____ (go) to visit Hareton House, which _____ (be) a big old house on the edge of the town. It used to _____ (be) the home of a man called Joseph Fox. It has now _____ (be) turned into a kind of museum. Joseph Fox _____ (be) a wealthy businessman who _____ (travel) all over the world. He _____ (buy) interesting objects in each country he _____ and these _____ (be) now on display at the house. My mother and sister _____ (plan) to come with us but they have _____ (decide) to visit my grandmother instead. She _____ (fall) and _____ (break) her leg when she _____ (run) to catch a bus last week. _____ (be) an active woman, she _____ (feel) very frustrated at having to _____ (lie) in bed all day.

WORKSHEET- 4

1) Write the following sentences in reported speech:

- a) Mohan said, "I am going to meet a friend."

- b) Ken asked, "What are you going to do tonight?"

- c) I said, "I've been to Mexico."

- d) "Don't be late," the teacher said to the students.

- e) "Stop following me and go away" she shouted at him.

- f) He said, "I am waiting for my wife."

- g) She said, "We had been thinking of selling the house, but we have decided not to."

h) He said, "I have forgotten the combination of the safe."

_____.

i) "I'll do it tomorrow," he promised.

_____.

j) He said, "Where is the station?"

_____.

2) Complete the following passage by choosing the most appropriate options from the ones given below:

Like many Indian children, I grew up (a)_____ the vast, varied and fascinating tales of Mahabharata. Set (b)_____ the end of what the Hindu scriptures term Dvapara Yuga or the third age of the man a time (c)_____ the lives of the gods and the people still intersected, the epic weaves myth, history, religion, science and statecraft (d)_____ stories.

(a) (i) saying (ii) listening to (iii) questioning (iv) celebrating

(b) (i) by (ii) at (iii) from (iv) into

(c) (i) where (ii) from (iii) when (iv) before

(d) (i) as (ii) in (iii) through (iv) into

3) In the passage below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it, along with the correct blank number. Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined.

Henry Ford, the founder of mass car production not	a) _____	_____
the easiest person work for. He disliked chewing gum so	b) _____	_____
he banned it his factories. Any worker who disobeyed the rule	c) _____	_____
sent to chew in the street and his pay was deducted. Ford	d) _____	_____
also wanted complete silence and men forbidden to whistle,	e) _____	_____
sing or even talk working. One man was sacked because he	f) _____	_____
was caught talking a colleague and looking around.	g) _____	_____

4) The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Identify the error and write incorrect word and the correction in the blank given. The first one has been done as an example.

	Error	Correction
Next period they had History.		
The boys look forward to it eagerly.	(a) _____	_____

It was took by D. Pillai, who had earned a (b) _____
 Name in the school of kindness and good humour. (c) _____
 He is reputed to have never frowned (d) _____
 And sworn at the boys at any time. His method (e) _____
 of teaching History conformed at no (f) _____
 canon of education. He told a boys with a wealth of (g) _____
 detail the private histories of Vasco da Gama, Clive, Hastings and others.

5) Rearrange the words and phrases given below to make meaningful sentences:

i) of birds/ our planet/ by which/ millions/ have/ which/ some sort/ they communicate/ live on/ of language /

_____.

ii) sound/ as communication/ among birds/ plays/ an important/ is concerned/ role/ as far/

_____.

iii) of/ species/ one species/ birds/ also/ understand/ the language/ of other/

_____.

iv) also use/ to show/ love/ hatred/ each other/ birds/ body actions/ their/ or/ for/

_____.

6) Fill in the blanks using only one word in each blank:

History reveals that women enjoyed a privileged position in ancient India. We feel proud _____ the social order and culture that accorded respect _____ them. We hear of women sages and scholars _____ the Rigveda period. It was believed that gods lived in places where women were respected. Women were pushed _____ the background in the Brahmin age and as time passed, they completely lost their glory. Cut _____ from the mainstream of life, they became devitalized, secluded and sheltered. Their freedom was lost and they became fully dependent _____ the menfolk.

7) Read the conversation given below and then convert it into reported speech.

Rashmi : I have invited four friends for dinner tonight.

Renu: I will also call my friends.

Rashmi: What should we serve them for dinner?

Renu: We can serve them Chinese food.

Rashmi told Renu _____

Then Renu said _____

Rashmi _____ dinner

Renu _____ Chinese food.

WORKSHEET- 5

1) Fill in the blanks with one word only:

Child marriages _____ rampant in North India. The curse _____ to blight the lives of people _____ as the country stands _____ the threshold of the 21st century. Children bound _____ marriages are victims of blind customs and superstitions prevalent in rural areas and in certain urban concentrations as well. _____ seems to stop this anti-social practice _____ the Child Marriage Act passed as early as in 1929, which _____ child marriage a grave offence.

2) In the passage below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it, along with the correct blank number.

Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined.

The Egyptians embalmed their dead they believed the _____ a) _____
 deceased born after death for existence in the _____ b) _____
 afterlife. The Egyptians devoted great effort preserving _____ c) _____
 the lifelike appearances of corpses they believed that the _____ d) _____
 deceased needed physical bodies the next life. They _____ e) _____
 preserved bodies by drying them placing them within a _____ f) _____
 protective covering. Several styles of mummification _____ g) _____
 used, depending upon wealth of the deceased's family. _____ h) _____

3) The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each of the lines. Write the incorrect word and the correction, against the correct blank number.

Situated at the southern bank of the Yamuna river, the Taj _____ a) _____
 Mahal is composed by four identical facades, each containing _____ b) _____
 the large central arch 33m high. A large bulb-shaped dome, of _____ c) _____

73m tall, rises over the center, with four smaller domes
surrounding it. The building is raised at a square podium by
a minaret at each corner. It is flanked with two red sandstone
buildings – a mosque and its replica. Visitors approaches the
Taj by an imposing red sandstone gate, decorated by
inscriptions from the Koran.

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

g) _____

h) _____

4) Rearrange the following jumbled words to make meaningful sentences. The first one has been done as an example.

E.g. has/special/to those/who/to remain/walking/want/appeal/healthy

Walking has special appeal to those who want to remain healthy

a) and tones/other muscles/legs and/strengthens/the lungs/it

b) the heart/of heart/disease/more efficient/the risk/it/by making/decreases

c) walking/blood/pressure/cholesterol/reduces/and lowers/level/fitness

5) Read the following dialogues. Fill in the blanks to complete the passage.

Ram: Have you done today's English Homework?

Rajesh: No, I had to go to my uncle. So I could not do it.

Ram: Can you show me your notebook when you have done it?

Rajesh: Ok, I will.

Ram asked Rajesh (a) _____. Rajesh answered in the negative saying (b) _____. Then

Ram requested Rajesh (c) _____.
Rajesh readily agreed to this.

6) Complete the following paragraph by choosing the correct word/ words from the options given below.

When the old lady a) _____ to her flat she saw at once that the burglars b) _____ in her absence. Though he burglars themselves c) _____ no longer, there she saw at once that they d) _____ because there was a burning cigarette in the ashtray. Probably they e) _____ the lift coming up and f) _____ down the stairs. But in their hurry one of them dropped his wallet. The old lady called the police and all of them were arrested.

- | | | | | |
|----|---------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| a) | i) return | ii) returning | iii) returned | iv) had returned |
| b) | i) break | ii) broke | iii) had broken | iv) were breaking |
| c) | i) be | ii) were | iii) was | iv) are |
| d) | i) just leave | ii) just leaving | iii) are just leaving | iv) had just left |
| e) | i) heard | ii) hear | iii) had heard | iv) hearing |
| f) | i) run | ii) were running | iii) ran | iv) had run |

WORKSHEET- 6

1) Complete the following passage using the correct form of the verb in brackets:

Traffic lights were first _____ (use) in the 1920s. They are devices used for _____ (regulate) the flow of traffic. The early types controlled the traffic flow in cities only in three ways: they showed only a red light _____ (say) STOP, a green light _____ (say) GO, or a yellow light _____ (tell) the drivers to be ready for a change. Problems arose when at the crossroads some drivers _____ (want) to turn right, found themselves blocked by other vehicles _____ (go) straight across the junctions. _____ (prevent) from _____ (turn) right, they had _____ (stop) in the middle of the crossroads. Then, when the lights changed, vehicles _____ (come) from right angles to them were also blocked.

Various methods were invented _____ (deal) with this difficulty. One-way streets, _____ (design) to make right turns illegal, were introduced. Another method, _____ (see) at many intersections today, is to _____ (have) two different green lights, one with a vertical arrow, _____ (allow) vehicles _____ (go) straight ahead only, and the other, with a right-angled arrow, _____ (permit) right turns only. However, at most intersections left turns are free even when the light is red.

2) Complete the following passage by choosing the correct options:

(a) Five people _____ and 59 people were rescued from a disabled boat carrying suspected asylum-seekers in the Indian Ocean, Australia's government said on Sunday.

(i) has been dead (ii) have been dead (iii) has died (iv) were feared dead

(b) While speaking to the media persons at Kathmandu on Sunday, Prime Minister of Nepal, Madhav Kumar Nepal, said that _____ until the Maoist combatants were integrated and its paramilitary structure was dissolved.

(i) he will not resign (ii) he would not resign (iii) he could not resign (iv) he can not resign

(c) Twin blasts rocked a university in Islamabad a while back. Early reports say at least four persons died and _____ in the suicide attack outside the chairman's office.

(i) 16 were injured (ii) 16 are injured (iii) 16 have been injured (iv) 16 had been injured

(d) Thousands of people stepped out of their houses to witness the longest Solar eclipse in their lifetime. The next such total solar eclipse _____, in 2132.

(i) may only happen 105 years later (ii) will be happen 105 years later (iii) will only happen 105 years later (iv) might happen 105 years later.

3) In the passage below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it, along with the correct blank number. Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined>.

Peak hour traffic scenario a cartoonist's delight. a) _____
 Hassled motorists wipe off sweat their forehead, b) _____
 accusing each other lack of traffic sense in loud c) _____
 voices. It is almost legendary now that one Asia's d) _____
 wealthiest cities, Singapore, has one of calmest e) _____
 traffic. A number of major land use transportation f) _____
 studies carried out to prepare long term plans for g) _____
 Singapore Development. It was evident the planners h) _____
 that traffic congestion to be addressed first. i) _____

4) Rearrange the words and phrases given below to make meaningful sentences:

a) the result/their numbers/very quickly/ rabbits/ that/ grow/ breed/very easily/ with

b) a lot of/ by making /the/they/ damage/ holes/ cause/ in/ ground/

c) grass/ plants/and/ the/ they/ and / further damage/ eat up/ other /soil/ the/

d) in/ rabbits/commercial purposes/ are eaten /for/and/ Australia/they are/
 Europe/bred/mostly/and/

5) Given below are a few sentence connectors. Use them appropriately in the passage that follows:

and	but	also	however	
instead	or	so	therefore	too

It was a wet 1) _____ windy night. I really wanted to spend the evening reading a book 2) _____ watching television, 3) _____ there was absolutely no chance of that. I had to attend a meeting of the Literati Club at the Community Centre. I would have loved to ring up 4) _____ say that I couldn't go. 5) _____, I had agreed to give a talk at the meeting, 6) _____ I couldn't let everyone down. 7) _____ I always give my neighbour a lift to the meeting. She doesn't have a car 8) _____ the bus service is very poor. She 9) _____ has no other means of getting there. I sometimes give one of the other members a lift 10) _____, 11) _____ she had already called to say that she was going with her friend 12) _____.

WORKSHEET- 7

1) Read the following dialogues. Fill in the blanks to complete the passage.

Ginnie: Why have you not brought my dress?

Dimpi: I haven't brought it because I had gone to my cousin's house with my mother, so I forgot to keep it.

Ginnie: Don't give me lame excuses. I want to know the truth.

Dimpi: I am sorry Ginnie. I was playing with my friends till late. I forgot that you needed it today.

Ginnie asked Dimpi (a) _____. Dimpi said that she (b) _____ . Ginnie (c) _____ and further added that she wanted to know the truth. Dimpi said that she was sorry and further added that she was playing with her friends and she had forgotten that she needed it that day.

2) The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in the first nine lines. Write the incorrect word and the correction as given in the example against the correct blank number.

	Error	Correction
Mamma Mia" was originally <u>the</u>	(a) the	a
musical in the British writer Catherine	(b) _____	_____
Johnson, based on the song of Swedish	(c) _____	_____
group ABBA. Now this family spectacles	(d) _____	_____
has spawned a film version. Who is a father	(e) _____	_____
of Sophie ? Who ? She want to know.	(f) _____	_____
After all, she is to be married and someone had	(g) _____	_____
to lead her up the aisle. Over the Greek island	(h) _____	_____
of Kalokairi, everyone is getting excited.		

3) Read the following conversation and complete the passage that follows:

Mr. Bose: I see. Can you manage the post of a public relations executive? It will involve some degree of stress too.

Rohit :I'm sure I will be able to do the job competently. I know there will be difficult times, but I am used to handling problems as you can see from my resume.

Mr. Bose looked at the candidate Rohit and asked him (a) _____? He told him candidly that the job (b) _____ some degree of stress too. Rohit assured Mr. Bose that (c) _____

to do the job competently. He told him that he knew there would be difficult times and assured him again that he (d) _____ problems as he could see from his resume.

4) Complete the passage by choosing the correct options from those given below.

Sea water, (a) _____ freshwater or rainwater is very salty (b) _____ taste. The saltiness (c) _____ due to the presence of (d) _____ minerals in sea water. The total amount of (e) _____ minerals is termed (f) _____ salinity and measured in grams of salt in a kilogram of salt water. (g) _____ feature of sea water is (h) _____ the amount of dissolved salt varies from place to place.

- (a) (i) dislike (ii) unlike (iii) like (iv) likely
 (b) (i) to (ii) in (iii) for (iv) as
 (c) (i) was (ii) has (iii) is (iv) are
 (d) (i) much (ii) little (iii) no (iv) many
 (e) (i) dissolving (ii) dissolved (iii) dissolved (iv) dissolve
 (f) (i) as (ii) like (iii) in (iv) for
 (g) (i) The (ii) An (iii) A (iv) Some
 (h) (i) which (ii) that (iii) this (iv) then

5) Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate option given below.

2,000 DUCKS DIE OF POISONING IN COLOMBIA Bogota, May 19 (IANS/EFE)
 More than 2,000 migratory ducks from Canada (a) _____ after eating poisoned rice. The birds (b) _____ near the city of San Martin, municipal official Ramon Galvis told reporters. This is a criminal act because they (farmers) (c) _____, Galvis said. 'Every duck that ate the seeds ended up like this, dead'. The number of dead birds may be higher since thousands (d) _____, the official added.

- (a) (i) are dead (ii) have been (iii) have died (iv) had been
 (b) (i) were found dead in rural areas (ii) are found dead in rural areas (iii) found dead in rural areas (iv) has been found dead in rural areas
 (c) (i) have used poisoned seeds (ii) might have used poisoned seeds (iii) had used poisoned seeds (iv) used poisoned seeds
 (d) (i) comes to this area in search of food (ii) came to this area in search of food (iii) had come to this area in search of food (iv) come to this area in search of food

Q 6) Fill in the blanks with an appropriate word.

Birds and animals live in the lap (a) _____ nature and can predict the likely changes accurately. Swallows usually fly high (b) _____ the sky. But during a storm, they come down and fly close (c) _____ the ground. Watch the swallows carefully. If they fly low, you (d)

_____ be sure of strong winds. Even a toad is (e) _____ reliable weather man. Normally it is silent but (f) _____ the rain comes, it croaks happily.

Q7) The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction. The first one has been done as an example:

The jungle was thick for dense. We	eg. For and
had to hold on to the vines to avoiding	(a) _____
slip on the mud paths. We had	(b) _____
walked for four hours but everyone	(c) _____
were tired. The sun was shining brightly	(d) _____
generating heat and vapour which will	(e) _____
soon turn from rain. We were given some	(f) _____
bread and cheese. After we had ate, the	(g) _____
trip began again. Some of the weaker	
members were already feeling tiring.	(h) _____

Q8 Read the conversation and then complete the passage given below:

Inspector: What is the matter, boys?

Varun: My bicycle is stolen.

Inspector: Where did you park your bicycle?

Varun: I parked it under a tree.

The Inspector asked the boys _____. Varun replied _____.
The Inspector wanted to know _____.
Varun told him _____.

Q9. Complete the passage by filling in the blanks from the options given . The first one has been done for you.

In volcanic areas, underground water 1) can often rise to a temperature of 200°. Nowadays, wells 2) are _____ drilled to extract the steam that is used to drive turbines. This is 3) _____ of the world's fastest growing sources of energy. 4) _____ the water is heated by enormous reservoirs of cooling rock several kilometres across, geothermal steam is 5) _____ to be a renewable energy resource. Even in non-volcanic areas, underground water can 6) _____ heated by natural radioactivity. In this case, however, it is necessary to drill deeper before the water is as hot as 200°.

- | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
| 1) i) could | ii) can | iii) must | iv) might |
| 2) i) is | ii) been | iii) are | iv) being |
| 3) i) any | ii) some | ii) one | iv) few |
| 4) i) As | ii) While | iii) Though | iv) Even |
| 5) i) called | ii) said | iii) regarded | iv) told |
| 6) i) be | ii) been | iii) being | iv) is |

REVISION I

1. Rearrange the following jumbled words to make meaningful sentences. The first one has been done as an example.

E.g. has/special/to those/who/to remain/walking/want/appeal/healthy

Walking has special appeal to those who want to remain healthy

a) and tones/other muscles/legs and/strengthens/the lungs/it

b) the heart/of heart/disease/more efficient/the risk/it/by making/decreases

c) walking/blood/pressure/cholesterol/reduces/and lowers/level/fitness

2) Use the words given in brackets and fill in the blanks to complete the following passage:

My family (a) _____ (be) of five members. Each of them (b) _____ (be) very kind and helpful. My mother, as well as my two sisters (c) _____ (is) good in household work. I, who (d) _____ (be) the eldest, (e) _____ (help) my father in shopping. Neither of my sisters (f) _____ (be) arrogant, though they both (g) _____ (is) good in studies. All of us (h) _____ (is) good at sports as well.

3) The points given below describe the procedure for opening a Savings Account in a bank.

Read the procedure and then complete the following explanation using a phrase in each space. The first one has been done for you.

1. collect a form from the counter
2. fill in all the required information
3. attach passport size photographs
4. get form attested by an account holder
5. submit form along with Rs,1000/- at cash receipt counter
6. collect passbook on following day

The form for opening a Savings Account (a) can be collected from the counter. All the necessary information (b) _____ in and two passport size photographs (c) _____. Next, the form (d) _____ by an account holder in the same bank who would introduce the new account opener. The form (e) _____ along with Rs. 1000/- at the cash receipt counter and a receipt (f) _____ for the amount. The following day, the (g) _____ from the bank.

4) Read the conversation given below and complete the following in Reported Speech:

Shopkeeper : Good morning! How can I help you, Sir?

Customer : I would like to buy a tennis racket for my son.

Shopkeeper : Would you like a Titanium or a wooden one?

Customer : Show me the different varieties before I decide.

Shopkeeper : Sir, all the rackets are on display in that corner. Please see them and let me know.

Shopkeeper: No ma'am, it is not for sale.

The shopkeeper wished the customer good morning and (a) _____
 _____. The customer said (b) _____
 _____ his son. The shopkeeper enquired whether he wanted a
 Titanium or a wooden one. The customer asked (c) _____
 _____. The shopkeeper told the customer
 (d) _____. He could see and let him know.

5) Join each of the following pairs of sentences using the conjunction given in brackets.

1. Work hard. You will pass. (If)

_____.

2. Give full attention to your studies. You will succeed. (Unless)

_____.

3. Hurry up. You will miss the train. (Unless)

_____.

4. Ruth ran very fast. She could not catch up with Mark. (Though)

_____.

5. He has already delivered a good performance. Nobody can question his eligibility. (Since)

_____.

6. I know. He is a brave boy. (That)

_____.

7. 'Would you like to accompany me?' He asked. (Whether)

8. We all respect him. He is an honest man. (Because)

9. She cannot go to work. She fully recovers from her illness. (Before)

10. Jane is quite warm and friendly. Her sister is quite warm and friendly. (Both...and)

REVISION II

1. Choose the most appropriate options to complete the dialogue given below:

Anchal : (a) _____ shouting wildly?

Mary : What is life without some sound and fury?

Anchal : I know that but I (b) _____ music from my teacher when school reopens if my project is incomplete.

Mary : (c) _____ in the next room and do your work?

Anchal : Are you sure if that room is sound proof?

(a) i. could you stop

ii. can you stop

iii. will you stop

iv. would you stop

(b) i. would have to face

ii. will have to face

iii. should have to face

iv. shall have to face

(c) i. why can't you sit

ii. why don't you sit

iii. why didn't you sit

iv. why shouldn't you sit

2. In the passage below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it, along with the correct blank number.

Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined.

There no doubt about it – fish is very good for you. Not

a _____

only it contain protein and important vitamins, as well

b _____

as minerals such as calcium and iron, but it can also low

c _____

in fat and calories. In white fish, fat content can be as

d _____

little as 1% or 2%, and average serving provides at least

e _____

one third of daily recommended amount of Niacin

f _____

which is vital healthy skin. Oily fish contains Omega,

g _____

fatty acids which are thought to lower the risk heart diseases.

h _____

Shell fish are also low in fat a good source of protein,

i _____

calcium and iron.

3. Rearrange the following jumbled words to make meaningful sentences. The first one has been done as an example.

E.g. in/other animals/elephant/an/excels/intelligence

An elephant excels other animals in intelligence.

a) displays/he/his intelligence/actions/in his

b) with a difficulty/a way out/whenever/with/his intelligence/faced/he finds

c) the world/is/one of/loved/the most/animals in/elephant

4) Complete the passage by filling in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate alternative from those given below:

He has 1) _____ money yet he is not happy. 2) _____ reason is his desire for
3) _____ and 4) _____ money. Whatever he has, he can't take care of
properly. 5) _____ times he has had IT raids on his bungalow and factories. If he learns to
be satisfied, his misery can be reduced but 6) _____ will teach him?

- | | | | | |
|----|-------------|----------|---------------|-------------|
| 1) | i) a lot of | ii) more | iii) much | iv) many |
| 2) | i) Only | ii) The | iii) a | iv) That |
| 3) | i) only | ii) the | iii) a | iv) that |
| 4) | i) only | ii) the | iii) a | iv) that |
| 5) | i) Many | ii) Some | iii) A lot of | iv) The few |
| 6) | i) who | ii) one | iii) some | iv) none |

5) Rearrange the following to form meaningful sentences:

- hardly / koalas are/ever drink / animals that / water
- water supply / they get / they eat / from / all their / the leaves
- inhabited / tree leaves / so / by koalas / in areas / of / is high / demand/ the
- one group / it takes / to support / several acres/ of koalas/ of trees

LITERATURE**How I Taught My Grandmother to Read**

This heart-warming story deals with Krishtakka, a sixty-two-year old woman, the author, Sudha Murthy's, grandmother. She belongs to North Karnataka. She is illiterate. In those days, education was not considered essential for girls. She got married quite young and had children. She always remained preoccupied with her domestic chores, always short of time and was never able to learn the Kannada alphabet. However her passion for learning never disappeared. When her granddaughter read out stories to Krishtakka, she enjoyed them a lot. One day the author had to go out of town to attend a marriage. When she returned, she found her grandmother in tears. The grandmother expressed her helplessness and inability to read the stories. She started taking tuitions from the author and finally succeeded in learning the Kannada alphabet. She touched the feet of the author as a mark of respect to her. The story conveys a lesson that age is no bar for learning if one is determined and self-motivated.

1) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

Solved:

a) "For a good cause if you are determined, you can overcome any obstacle. I will work harder than anybody but I will do it. For learning there is no age bar."

i) Who is speaking to whom?

The grandmother is speaking to the narrator, her granddaughter.

ii) Explain: "For learning there is no age bar."

The grandmother meant that even her age of sixty-two years could not deter her from her path to become literate.

iii) How did the grandmother work harder than anybody?

The grandmother was a very willing and hard-working student. She read, repeated, wrote and recited everything she was taught. Besides this, she also continued with her household chores, and succeeded in learning to read and write in the short period that she had given herself.

b) There was also a young orphan girl who falls in love but there was no money for the wedding. In the end, the old lady gives away all her savings without going to Kashi.

i) Who is the young orphan girl mentioned in the extract?

ii) Why did the old woman want to go to Kashi?

iii) Why did the old lady give away all her savings without going to Kashi?

2) Short answer questions:

Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

a) The author's absence only prompted her grandmother to decide to learn the Kannada alphabet. Comment.

b) How did the narrator react when her grandmother expressed her desire to learn how to read and write?

c) Describe the grandmother as a student.

- d) What was symbolic about the gesture of the grandmother touching her granddaughter's feet?
- e) Why were Triveni's novels very popular in north Karnataka?
- f) How did Grandmother's devout nature help her in achieving her goal?

3) Long answer questions:

- a) Learning never stops, nor does it have any age bar. Elaborate with relevant examples from the chapter.
- b) Education is the path to freedom of the mind, body and spirit. Comment with reference to the chapter.

A Dog Named Duke

The lesson *A Dog Named Duke* by William D. Ellis depicts a bond of love and loyalty between a dog and his master, Chuck Hooper. Chuck was a hard-charging zone sales manager for a chemical company. He was a favoured young man. One day he met with an accident and was admitted to the hospital with a subdural haemorrhage in the motor section of the brain, completely paralyzing his left side.

The family had a four year old Doberman named Duke who gave constant company to the family. When Chuck was in hospital, Duke was kept in the kennel.

About six weeks after the accident, Chuck returned home but in very low spirits. When Duke came home, Chuck wanted to be standing. Out of excitement, Duke hit Chuck above the belt causing him to fight his balance. Duke was so intelligent that he realized the pain of Hooper. After that, he never jumped on Chuck again. From that moment Duke took a position around his master. Both were there but Duke's presence did not reach Chuck who kept on staring at the ceiling for hours. As one could not move and the other could not talk, so boredom set in.

One day, accidentally Chuck's hand hooked the leash onto Duke's collar to hold him still. It was lighting a fuse. He asked his wife to help him to his feet. Duke understood and moved ahead. He took his master towards a step. It was a very small and difficult step but the beginning of a journey. From then onwards, Duke and Chuck could be seen on the road taking more and more steps everyday. It was a new step towards success everyday. Finally, Chuck hit the target and was in a position to attend his office. Everything was on the right track but unfortunately Duke met with an accident. He was drugged and taken to hospital but could not be saved. Chuck attributed his promotion and professional success to Duke, without whose help he could made it this far.

1) Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow:

Solved:

a) He'd lie down with a reproachful eye on Hooper. An hour later he would come over to the bed again and yap and poke. He wouldn't leave but just sit there?

i) Explain 'reproachful eye.'

The term 'reproachful eye' signifies criticism for someone. Here Duke is showing his displeasure at Chuck.

ii) Why did Duke periodically 'yap and poke' Chuck?

Duke did this because he wanted Chuck to stand up and take him for a walk. It was his way of communicating with his master.

iii) What qualities of Duke are brought out in these lines?

This shows that Duke loved and cared for his master so much, that he would not leave his side even though he was bored and restless.

b) Chuck hit the target, and after March 1, there was no time for the physiotherapy programme; he turned completely to Duke....

- i) What was the target hit by Chuck?
- ii) Why did he turn to Duke?
- iii) How did this help him in his recovery?

2) Short answer questions:

Answer the following in 30-40 words:

- i) It is the presence of Duke throughout the lesson 'A Dog Named Duke' that makes it interesting. Elucidate.
- ii) What was the reaction of Chuck's company when he returned to work?
- iii) How did Duke change his rambunctious nature post Chuck's accident?
- iv) How did Marcie's attitude towards Duke change in the story?
- v) 'Hooper was a favoured young man'. Explain.

3) Long answer questions:

- i) 'Dog is man's best friend.' Trace the relationship of Hooper and Duke with reference to this quote.
- ii) Determination is a common theme in 'A Dog Named Duke' and 'How I Taught My Grandmother To Read'. Discuss with examples from the text.
- iii) An injury can be extremely traumatic for the person who is the victim. Comment on the statement based on your reading of this story.
- iv) Had Duke not been there, the former would have taken longer time to recover. Justify your answer.
- v) You are a neighbour of the Hoopers, and had been a witness to this special relationship. Write a diary entry about this.
- vi) Charles Hooper is the protagonist of the story, but the title of the story is after Duke. Do you think it is appropriate? Support your answer with examples from the text.

The Man Who Knew Too Much

The Man Who Knew Too Much by Alexander Baron is about a trainee, Private Quelch, who is in the army and he knew too much but could never win the admiration of his superior officers. Due to his vast knowledge, he rightfully earns the nickname, Professor. He is a lanky, stooping person, wearing horn-rimmed spectacles. He is in the habit of correcting and sermonizing people without considering their status or rank. When he was attending a lecture on the rifle being delivered by the Sergeant, he corrected him by giving more facts about the muzzle velocity. The Sergeant went on listening and questioned him again and again. Technical definitions, the parts of the rifle, its use and care, he had them all by heart.

He wanted to be an army officer. So in pursuit of his ambition, he really worked hard. He borrowed training manuals and stayed up late at nights reading them. He repeatedly asked a series of questions from the instructors. He drilled with enthusiasm, and during training marches, he was not only miraculously tireless but infuriated all his fellow Privates with his horrible heartiness. His salute at the pay table was a model to behold. When officers were in sight, he would swing his skinny arms and march to the canteen like a Guardsmen. Day in and day out, he lectured his friends in his droning, remorseless voice on every aspect of human knowledge. At first he was a hero for them but gradually this heroism developed into villainy. They became sarcastic and tried to escape from him.

A session given by Corporal Turnbull was a turning point in his life. As usual he interrupted the Corporal who didn't appreciate his knowledge. He could not digest the fact that a trainee could be more intelligent and better informed than his superior. Private Quelch did not win his admiration, and instead was punished for it. His ambition of being an army officer ended abruptly.

Even in the cookhouse, he failed to give up his habits. He was overheard by the author, saying that he must protest against that abominably, unscientific and unhygienic method of peeling potatoes and that they were wasting the vital vitamin values. Truly, a leopard doesn't change its spots!

1) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

a) Solved:

As if afraid to say any more, he tossed the grenade to the Professor.

i) Who is the 'he' referred to the extract?

The 'he' referred to here is Corporal Turnbull.

ii) Why was the corporal afraid to say any more?

He was afraid he would lose his temper at the Professor's behaviour. It was his way of keeping his anger in control.

iii) Why did he throw the grenade at the Professor?

He did this because he did not like the Professor's frequent interruptions during his lecture and so decided to let him speak on the topic.

b) At first we had a certain respect for him but soon we lived in terror of his approach. We tried to hit back at him with clumsy sarcasms and practical jokes. Of course it was a joke for days afterwards, a joke and joy to all of us.

i) Who are 'we'?

- ii) Why did the *respect* change into *terror*?
- iii) What treatment did Private Quelch earn?

2) Short answer questions:

Answer the following in 30-40 words each:

- a) The professor was neither a good friend nor a good student. Justify.
- b) What was the attitude of the others towards the Professor?
- c) What all did the Professor do to impress his superiors?
- d) Was Professor Turnbull justified in assigning Private permanent cook house duties? Why or why not?
- e) Did Private Quelch learn a lesson from his permanent appointment in the cook house? Explain.
- f) What did the professor mean by 'intelligent reading'?

3) Long answer questions:

- a) Despite some admirable qualities Private Quelch was led to his downfall. Explain his journey from being admired by all to his downfall.
- b) Intelligence is an asset and should not become a tool for haughty behaviour. Justify the statement with reference to the text.
- c) "At first, Private Quelch was a hero in the eyes of his fellow soldiers but he soon lost their admiration. What led to this change?"

Keeping It From Harold

Keeping it from Harold, by Sir Pelham Grenville Wodehouse, tells the story of conscientious parents, Jane and Bill Bramble, who are over caring towards their ten year old son, Harold, who is a prodigy. His superior intelligence makes them nervous, and his achievements overwhelm them. Bill is a famous boxer but he and his wife want to hide it from their son, lest he be ashamed of his father's profession.

Bill decides to have a last fight with an American, Jimmy Murphy, make money from this and retire—all for the sake of keeping his secret from his son. He is influenced by Percy Stokes, brother of Mrs. Bramble, not to fight Jimmy Murphy, as it was a big and important fight and would be widely covered by the media. But his manager, Jerry Fisher, is angry at this decision, and reveals the truth to Harold. Much to everyone's shock, Harold is neither angry nor ashamed, but rather feels betrayed and hurt that he was kept in the dark about his famous father. He tells them that he had always betted money on boxers, without knowing that he was the son of one!

1) Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow:

a) Solved:

The spectacled child considered the point for a moment gravely. Then, nodding, he arranged his books in readiness for his return and went out. The front door closed with a decorous softness.

- i) Which point was considered by the child?

Harold's mother had asked him to take a break from his books and go out for a walk. He was considering this suggestion.

ii) Where did he go for a walk?

He went for a walk along the river.

iii) What do his actions tell us about his character?

Harold was a studious child, and not given to childlike behaviour. He was serious and calm and well-behaved.

b) The only drawback was that his very 'perfection' had made necessary a series of evasions and even deliberate falsehoods on the part of herself and her husband, highly distasteful to both. They were lovers of truth, but they had realized that there are times when truth must be sacrificed.

i) What was the 'only drawback'?

ii) Describe Harold's 'perfection.'

iii) Why did they need to sacrifice the truth in this case?

c) "Bill, we must keep it from Harold"

a) Who is the speaker of the above line?

b) What was the fact that had to be kept from Harold?

c) Why was it to be kept from Harold?

2) Short answer questions:

Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words:

i) Harold's parents were somewhat embarrassed about boxing as a profession and therefore kept it a secret from him. Perhaps they feared Harold's disapproval. Is this kind of behaviour common in real life too? What do you think are the common 'secrets' people keep from their friends and relatives which they fear will embarrass them if their acquaintances found out. For instance a relative who cannot converse in English or has a poor sense of dressing or is physically unattractive or is not wealthy. Would you be embarrassed if the world knew these 'secrets'? Why? How can you help yourself or someone else to overcome this fear?

ii) What does Harold's outburst in the end reveal about him?

iii) What are the things that children in school generally 'swank' about? How do you think the others around them feel when they behave in this manner?

iv) Major Percy Stokes was a meddling person. Comment by giving relevant examples.

3) Long answer questions:

a) *Never judge a book by its cover.* Discuss the proverb in the light of this story.

b) Bill Bramble decided to give up his career as a boxer for Harold's sake. Despite being extremely successful and popular as a boxer, he felt ashamed of his profession and hid it from his son. Many parents make this mistake of not letting their children know the struggles they undergo in life in order to provide a better quality life to them. Based on the reading of the story, write a paragraph on the topic: 'Children Should Grow Up Knowing Their Parents' Struggles in Life.'

c) Intellectual pursuits are more admired than physical pursuits- Discuss this in light of the story.

Best Seller

The narrator was on a business trip to Pittsburgh. In his chair car, he met one of his old acquaintances, John A. Pescud who was a travelling salesman for a plate glass company. He was “a small man with a wide smile”. He was proud of his company and its product.

After an informal exchange of views on different topics as rain, prosperity, health, residence and destination, they began their discussion on a book, *The Rose Lady and Trevelyan*, one of the best sellers. John had read some of the extracts from the book and complained why people spent money on books of fiction which could not even be related to real life. “You don’t see or hear of any such capers in real life.”

The narrator asked him about his personal and professional life. He told him that he was doing well in life. He further told him about his encounter with a girl Jessie whom he later married. Jessie was the daughter of Colonel Allyn, a well-known man in Virginia. She had a big house and was from a royal background. He told the narrator how he was able to win the Colonel and managed to marry Jessie, who was now living with him in a small house in the East end. The narrator was surprised to see him getting down at a small station called Coketown. It was not a big place for business. But John told him that he had not come there for business, rather he had come there for some petunias for his princess!

1) Read the following extracts and answer the questions given below:

a) At first, I thought he was going to throw me out of the window, but I kept on talking?

i) Who is speaking about whom?

ii) Why did he expect to be thrown out of the house?

iii) What does the statement ‘but I kept on talking’ tell us about the speaker?

b) I picked it up and set it carefully farther along on the floor of the car, where the raindrops would not fall upon it. And then, suddenly, I smiled, and seemed to see that life has no geographical bounds?

i) Who is the speaker?

ii) What does ‘it’ refer to?

iii) Explain: ‘Life has no geographical bounds.’

c) “Good Luck to you, Trevelyan”

i) Who was Trevelyan?

ii) Why was the person being called Trevelyan?

2) Short answer questions:

Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

i) Why did Pescud try to win Colonel Allyn’s friendship? What does it tell us about his nature?

ii) Was Pescud’s nature any different from Trevelyan? Comment by giving relevant examples.

iii) Why did Pescud go to Coketown? What does it show of him?

- iv) There is a saying, 'Look at your own faults before pointing fingers at others'. How is this saying true in respect of the story of 'Best Seller'?
- v) Was Pescud's real life romance any different from the romantic story of the Best Seller? In what way?
- vi) Why do you think the Colonel allowed the salesman to marry his daughter even though he came from a lineage of Earls?
- vii) What was John Pescud's opinion about best-sellers? Why?

Long answer questions:

- i) Fiction and reality often coincide. Comment on the basis of this story.
- ii) Pescud is a hypocrite as the story tells us. What is your opinion about the hypocrisy he displays? Was he right when he acted in a hypocritical manner?

The Brook

The poet has realistically drawn a parallelism between the journeys of the brook with the life of a man. The poet says as in the childhood a child is very agile, energetic and lively, like that only the brook in the beginning stage of its life is very powerful, enhancing and it keeps on flowing with a great rush and enthusiasm throughout its life. It falls from great heights and meanders around the wavy path, and when it approaches plains, it becomes very slow and continues to flow eternally. Like the brook, a man towards the end of his life, becomes slow in his movements and ultimately meets the horns of death, the brook also reaches its final destination but it never ends to flow.

The brook in the poem is a symbol for life. Just as the course of life is not always straight and smooth, man also goes through many ups and downs in life, partakes of joys and sorrows alike and finally leaves for his heavenly abode. The poet highlights that man is mortal whereas brook is eternal as it continues to flow perennially.

1. Read the following extract and answer the questions:

A. I slip, I slide, I gloom, I glance,
Among my skimming swallows
I make the netted sun beam dance
Against my sandy shallows.

- a) How does the brook make the sunbeam dance?
- b) Which figure of speech has been used in this stanza?
- c) What does the first line indicate about the journey of the brook?

**B. 'Till last by Philip's farm I flow
To join the brimming river,
For men may come and men may go,
But I go on forever.'**

- a) Where is Philip's farm situated?
- b) What does 'But I go on forever' convey?

- c) What is the brook compared to?
 d) Mention the poetic device used.
2. How does the poet use the Brook to draw a parallel with the life of a man ?
 3. Describe the various things that a brook travels past before it joins the river.
 4. What is the poet's philosophy as expressed in the refrain of the poem.
 5. Compared to the small life of man, the brook is ageless and timeless. Do you agree? Does a man's life end with death? Is nature perennial? Comment with examples from real life.
 6. What kind of attitude does the brook reflect in general, towards the various situations that it comes across on its journey towards the river? What message do we get from it?

The Road Not Taken

Robert Frost, the author of *The Road Not Taken*, writes about how a person must choose his or her own path in life. Everyone is a traveller and must choose how to live his or her life. This poem demonstrates Robert Frost's belief that the road a person chooses to follow in their life will define what kind of person they will become, and how fulfilling their life will be. He describes the choice as difficult, and with consequences. He reminds the reader that their choice may not be popular.

"The Road Not Taken" describes the path of a solitary traveller who pauses his travels in an effort to correctly choose his fate. He even feels sorry that he cannot travel both the paths as he has to choose only one out of the two.

Several factors define not only the traveller's life, but all people's lives as well. There will always be times in life when a decision that defines destiny and alters the course must ultimately be decided. Life is not always about the road taken, but sometime the road not taken.

Read the following extract and answer the questions by choosing the most appropriate alternative from those given below:

1. And both that morning equally lay....I doubted if I should ever come back.
 - a. What decision does the speaker take?
 - b. Does the speaker seem happy about this decision?
 - c. Which 'morning' is the narrator discussing in the first line?
2. I shall be telling thisall the difference.
 - a. Why shall the poet be telling ages and ages hence?
 - b. Why is the poet sighing in the end?
3. "And be one traveller, long I stood
 And looked down one as far as I could
 To where it bent in the undergrowth "

- Explain ' Long I stood.....'
- what does the road bent in the undergrowth imply?
- How does the first road appear?

Answer the following questions in about 30 - 40 words:

- What dilemma does the poet face in the poem?
- Why does the poet choose the road less travelled by? Does he sound happy/ unhappy?
- What do the two roads represent if we were to draw a parallel with our lives?
- How is the poem 'The Road Not Taken' a reflection on taking up challenges, observing caution and remaining committed, while making decisions in life?

The Solitary Reaper

The Solitary Reaper is a monologue by English Romantic poet [William Wordsworth](#), and one of his best-known works. Wordsworth describes how he is amazed and moved by a Scottish Highland girl who sings as she reaps grain all alone in a field.

The poem is about a young woman binding and cutting grain in a field. As she sings, the tone of the song tells us that it is quite emotional. "The music in my heart I bore, Long after it was heard no more", these final lines express that this young lady has left an indelible mark on the heart and mind of the poet. The poet is trying to highlight the fact that her song was very peaceful.

Imagery is used throughout this poem to help give readers a better understanding of what is actually going on. The poet creates a comparison between the song of the lady and that of the nightingale ("No Nightingale did ever chant More welcome notes to weary bands Of travellers in some shady haunt, Among Arabian sands.") and a Cuckoo bird ("A voice so thrilling ne'er was heard In spring-time from the cuckoo-bird, Breaking the silence of the seas Among the farthest Hebrides."). This comparison is used by the poet to explain to the readers, how beautiful her singing is.

1. Read the following extract and answer the questions:

- I listen'd motionless and still
And, as I mounted up the hill,
The Music in my heart I bore
Long after it was heard no more.

- Why was the poet motionless and still?
- Why did the sound of the music linger on?
- Identify the rhyme scheme of the given stanza?

2) Alone she cuts, and binds the grain:

And sings a melancholy strain:
O listen! For the vale profound
Is overflowing with the sound.

- Why is being addressed by the poet?
- What is the mood of the singer?
- What effect does the song create on the poet?

3. How does the poet create an aura of romance and mystery in the poem?
4. How does the narrator bring out the beauty of the song of the solitary reaper?
5. What are the guesses the poet makes about the theme of the song?
6. How deep an effect did the song have on the poet? How do we know?
7. Music transcends geographical boundaries. Comment on the basis of this poem.

Lord Ullin's Daughter

Lord Ullin's Daughter is one of the most popular poems of Thomas Campbell. It is a ballad which describes how a Scottish Chieftain and his beloved flee her wrathful father but meet their tragic and fateful end in a surging, stormy sea. The poem is very poignant and emotional in appeal. It is replete with poetic devices such as personification [scowl of heaven], alliteration [bonny bride]. With effective use of imagery and symbolism the poet contrasts the turbulence in the sea with the turmoil and agitation in the minds of the lovers. In expressions like 'Scowl of heaven', 'water -wraith was shrieking', 'raging of the skies' the poet has succeeded in showcasing the threatening aspect of the sky which gave a premonition of the tragic end of the lovers.

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. *His horsemen hard behind us ride;
Should they our steps discover,
Then who will cheer my bonny bride
When they have slain her lover?
Out spoke the hardy Highland wight,
'I'll go, my chief--I'm ready
It is not for your silver bright;
But for your winsome lady*

- a. Whose 'horsemen' are being referred to and whose steps will they discover?
- b. Why will the horsemen slay the lover?
- c. Identify the poetic devices in the above lines.

2. *'O haste thee, haste! The lady cries,
'Though tempests round us gather;
I'll meet the raging of the skies,
But not an angry father.'
The boat has left a stormy land,
A stormy sea before her, ...
When, O! too strong for human hand,
The tempest gathered o'er her.*

- a. What is the dilemma faced by the lady? What choice does she finally make?
- b. What are the different connotations of the word 'stormy'?

c. Explain 'When, O! Too strong.....gathered o'er her?

3. 'Come back! Come back!' he cried in grief
 'Across this stormy water:
 And I'll forgive your highland chief,
 My daughter!-O my daughter!'
 'T was vain: the loud waves lash'd the shore,
 Return or aid preventing:
 The water wild went o'er his child,
 And he was left lamenting.

a. What appeal did Lord Ullin make? What does the repetition of the words 'come back' and 'my daughter' show?

b. What promise did he make?

c. Identify the poetic device used in the above lines.

2) Answer the following questions in about 30- 40 words each:

a) Why is the 'shore' in Lord Ullin's daughter called fatal?

b) Why was Lord Ullin left lamenting in the end?

c) Why did the Chieftain tell the boat man not to tarry?

3. Explain the symbolism in the line 'The water- wraith was shrieking'. Is it a premonition of what happens at the end?

4. Why do you think it is difficult for some parents to accept the relationships their children forge? At times, it is difficult for them to accept even simple, but profound friendship between opposite genders, especially in the Indian scenario. Write a paragraph in reference to Lord Ullin's Daughter.

5) Anger is a vice that mars one's sanity. In the context of the poem, 'Lord Ullin's Daughter', justify the statement. Do you agree that anger is the worst enemy of a person?

SEVEN AGES

All the world's a stage is the phrase that begins a famous [monologue](#) from [William Shakespeare's *As You Like It*](#), spoken by the melancholy Jacques. The speech compares the world to a stage and life to a play, and catalogues the seven stages of a man's life, sometimes referred to as the **seven ages of man**: infant, school-boy, lover, soldier, justice, pantaloon, and second childhood which is "sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything". It is one of Shakespeare's most frequently-quoted passages.

Man, according to the poem goes through these stages:

- [Infancy](#): In this stage he is dependent on others and needs to be constantly attended to.
- [Childhood](#): It is in this stage that he begins to go to school. He is reluctant to leave the protected environment of his home as he is still not confident enough to exercise his own discretion.
- The [lover](#): In this stage, comparable to modern day [adolescence](#), he is always remorseful due to some reason or other, especially the loss of love. He tries to express his feelings through a sad song.
- The [soldier](#): It is in this age, comparable to modern day [young adult](#), he thinks less of himself and begins to think more of others. He is very easily aroused and is hot tempered. He is always working towards making a reputation for himself and gaining recognition, however short-lived it may be, even at the cost of his own life.
- The [justice](#): In this stage, comparable to modern day [adult](#), he has acquired wisdom through the many experiences he has had in life. He has reached a stage where he has gained prosperity and social status. He becomes very conscious of his looks and begins to enjoy the finer things of life.
- [Old age](#): He begins to lose his charm – both physical and mental. He begins to become the brunt of others' jokes. He loses his firmness and assertiveness, and shrinks in stature and personality.
- [Extreme Old Age](#): He loses his status and he becomes a non-entity. He becomes dependent on others, just like a child and is in need of constant support before finally dying.

I. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

A. Then a soldier.

Full of strange oaths, and bearded like a pard,
Jealous in honour sudden and quick in quarrel,
Seeking the bubble reputation
Even in the canon's mouth.

- Which stage does the soldier belong to?
- Explain 'seeking the bubble reputation'.
- State some qualities of a soldier.

B. Last scene of all,
That ends this strange eventful history,
Is second childishness and mere oblivion,
Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything.

- i. Why is this stage referred to as 'Second childishness'?
- ii. Explain 'strange eventful history'.

C. "And all the men and women merely players,
They have their exits and entrances,
And one man in his time plays many parts,
His acts being seven ages"

- a) In what way are men and women merely players?
- b) Why does the poet compare the world to a stage?
- c) Explain 'exits' and 'entrances'
- d) What does 'His acts being seven ages' refer to?
- e) Mention the poetic device.

2. What emotional changes does man go through between the school-boy to justice stage including these two phases of life?
3. What changes take place in the personality of a man when he enters his sixth stage?
4. Shakespeare states that the Justice is *full of wise saws and modern instances*. Why is it so?
5. The poet refers to the world as a *stage* and the men and women as *players*. How does he compare life with the stage of a drama?

Oh, I Wish I Had Looked After Me Teeth

This is a comic poem by a British contemporary poet, Pam Ayers. It has a clear rhyming scheme, easy to memorize or recite 'aabba'. The poet has written about looking after teeth. It is a poem that can be enjoyed at all ages. Pam Ayres repents that she was irresponsible as she did not look after her teeth and did not spot the dangers when she indulged herself in toffees and sticky food.

She feels that she should have spent her pocket money on something other than sweets like gobstoppers, lollies, liquorice and the like. Now that she has spoilt teeth, her conscience is pricking her. She recalls that her mother had scolded her number of times about her old, worn toothbrush, but it was in vain. She gives an excuse that she never had much time for herself.

This poem indirectly teaches us that life is so fast that we don't find time for ourselves when we are young. It is only when we grow old, and have some free time, that we realize that we have not been just to ourselves. This is a lesson for all of us to spare sometime everyday and not run after material things all the time.

1) Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:

A) "When I think of the lollies I licked,
And the liquorice all sorts I picked,

Sherbets dabs, big and little,
All that hard peanut brittle,
My conscience gets horribly pricked."

- a. What does the line- "My conscience gets horribly pricked "signify?
- b. Why has the narrator listed the sweets she ate?
- c. What has been the narrator's fondness for sweets?

B) " Oh I showed them the toothpaste all right, I flashed it about late at night,
But up-and-down brushin' and pokin' and fussin'
Didn't seem worth the time- I could bite!"

- a) Explain 'showed them the toothpaste'.
- b) What does the poet mean by 'pokin' and fussin'?
- c) What didn't seem worth the time?
- d) What did her action result in?

3) **Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each:**

- a) How does the poet regret over the damage of cavities, decay, etc., in her teeth?
- b) What message does the poem convey?

4) The poem is moralistic beneath its cloak of humour. It not only talks about self-abstinence but also the importance of oral hygiene. Write a paragraph based on the above points.

Song of the Rain

Khalil Gibran sings about the exquisiteness and austerity of rain by giving it heavenly connotation. He calls it a gift of God to the earth and also to the mankind. He drops the heavenly dots on earth and nature embraces them with open arms to bring prosperity. He compares rain drops to the pearls in the crown of Ishtar (Babylonian Goddess of fertility). The beauty of nature is much dependent on the receipt of rain and entire nature rejoices in its arrival.

Metaphors have been used extensively to describe the beauty of rain. In the second stanza, rain is beautiful pearls. In the fourth it is described as a messenger of mercy between lovers, the fields and the sky. In the ninth stanza, rain is the sigh of the sea, the laughter of the field, the tears of heaven. We must remember that Khalil was born in a Christian town in Lebanon. Throughout his poetry, we find images of Christ as is evident in the eighth stanza of the poem. The poem is replete with imagery and is an inspirational poem. Rain is personification of human emotions throughout the poem. There is an undercurrent of the political upheaval during the time Khalil lived and wrote. It is an ode to nature, rain in particular. He mentions in the poem that he is writing only for the sensitive people who could understand his emotions.

1) **Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow:**

- i) The field and the cloud are lovers
And between them I am a messenger of mercy

I quench the thirst of one;

I cure the ailment of the other.

- a) Who is 'I' in the above lines?
- b) How does the rain help the two?
- c) Who is the messenger of mercy?

ii) I am the sigh of the sea;
The laughter of the field;
The tears of heaven.

- a) Why rain is called 'the sigh of the sea'?
- b) What happens to the fields when rain falls on them?
- c) Identify the figure of speech in the above lines.

2) Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each:

- a) Why is the rain divine?
- b) The rain says that only the sensitive can understand its song. Why does it say so?
- c) Why does the rain claim to begin at the feet of the five elements?
- d) What all has the rain been compared with in the poem, 'Song of the Rain'?

3) We need to value and worship Nature. The value the Nature brings to our lives cannot be measured. The rain, the sunlight, snow, the flowers and trees that we enjoy are the greatest wealth we have. In the poem 'Song of the Rain', how does the rain highlight its worth?

Villa for Sale

The play has been written by Sacha Guitry, son of a French actor. He was born in St. Petersburg. The play is one of his best creations. It is not only a source of amusement but a beautiful literary work.

Juliette, Gaston and Jeanne are the main characters of the play. Juliette is the owner of the villa. She wants to sell it as she is in need of money. She is emotionally attached with it, but likes it no more and wants to leave it at the earliest. She has put it up for sale but soon gets disappointed as she is unable to find a suitable buyer for it. She calls herself a fool as she has taken a decision to sell it. Jeanne and Gaston, a couple, visit her with the aim of buying it. While Jeanne is willing to buy it, Gaston detests the idea for two reasons. Firstly, he finds it too expensive. Secondly, he does not want his in-laws to come and stay there for a long time.

When Jeanne and Juliette go around the house, another customer walks in and starts talking to Gaston, taking him to be Juliette's husband. She is Mrs. Al Smith, a big star. She is interested in buying the villa. Taking Gaston as the owner of the house, she strikes a deal with him for 300 thousand francs. She pays him there and then. When Juliette and Jeanne come back, they find Gaston a changed person. Now he shows interest in the villa and strikes a deal with Juliette for the villa in 200 thousand francs. Thus, he's able to give 200 thousand francs to Juliette and makes one hundred thousand francs and a Carot for himself!

1) **Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:**

"While you were upstairs, I have been thinking a lot about your mama and papa"

- a) What is the discrepancy between what Gaston said earlier and what he says now?
- b) What does the statement reveal about Gaston's character?

But the sign has been hanging for over a month now and I am beginning to be afraid that the day I bought it was when I was the real fool.

- a) Why is Juliette disappointed?
- b) Why does she call herself a fool?
- c) What is the price fixed for the Villa?

2) Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each:

- a) Describe the relationship between Jeanne and Gaston.
- b) Mrs Al Smith is a racist. Do you agree? Give examples from the play to support your answer.
- c) "It's never the right time to sell". Why does Juliette say this?

3) Gaston clinched a deal with Mrs. Al Smith and made a good profit. Will you call it business skill or unethical practice. Write a paragraph in reference to the play 'Villa for Sale'.

The Bishop's Candlesticks

Mckinnell was an actor and a dramatist. 'The Bishop's Candlesticks' is an adaptation of a section of Victor's Hugo's "Les Miserables". The play, which is still very popular, is based on the theme that love and kindness can change a man, rather than violence. The play is about a convict who breaks into a Bishop's house and is clothed and warmed. The benevolence of the Bishop somewhat softens the convict, but, when he sees the silver candlesticks, he steals them. He is captured and brought back. He expects to go back to jail, but the Bishop informs the police they are a gift. The act of the Bishop reforms the convict to a belief in the spirit of God that dwells in the heart of every human being.

1) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

- i. Persome: "Monseigneur the Bishop is a-ahem!"
 - a. Who is Persome talking to here? Why is she angry with the Bishop?
 - b. Justify her behaviour in this scene.
- ii) "They chained me up like a wild animal; they lashed me like a hound. I was fed on filth. I was covered with vermin."
 - a. Who is speaking these lines to whom? Why was the speaker chained up?
 - b. What does the word 'they' refer to? How was he treated in jail?
- i) "Monseigneur, I'm glad I did not get away with them, curse I'm glad..."
 - a. Who says these words to whom? About whom?
 - b. Why is he glad he didn't get away with them?

Solved---

Do you sympathize with the convict? Why /Why not? Give reasons.

Word limit 50-75 words

Answer:

Yes, we do sympathize with the convict. He was a poor man who was happily married. However, all his dreams were shattered when he was caught red handed stealing a loaf of bread for his wife, who was sick and dying. He was sent for ten years rigorous imprisonment where he was treated like a beast. But when he met the Bishop he was touched by his selfless love for humanity and he was transformed into a remorseful man.

- 2) Where did the convict plan to go? How did the Bishop help in fulfilling his plan?
- 3) What do you think are the situations that can be called as the turning points in the convict's life? Write your answer in not more than 50-75 words. (4 marks)
- 4) After reading the play what opinion do you form about Persome's nature and personality? Word limit 50-75 words.
- 5) What treatment did the convict receive in prison? What effect did such inhuman treatment have on the convict?
- 6) **To err is human. To forgive, divine.** Write a paragraph based on the play 'The Bishop's Candlesticks'
- 7) "It is a just punishment for me," Why does the speaker say so?

Three Men in a Boat (To Say Nothing of the Dog)

Three Men in a Boat (To Say Nothing of the Dog), published in 1889, is a humorous account by English writer **Jerome K. Jerome** of a two-week boating holiday on the **Thames** from **Kingston upon Thames** to **Oxford** and back to Kingston. The book was initially intended to be a serious travel guide, with accounts of local history along the route, but the humorous elements took over to the point where the serious and somewhat sentimental passages seem a distraction to the **comic novel**. One of the most praised things about *Three Men in a Boat* is how undated it appears to modern readers – the jokes seem fresh and witty even today.

The three men are based on Jerome himself (the narrator Jerome K. Jerome) and two real-life friends, George Wingrave (who would become a senior manager at **Barclays Bank**) and Carl Hentschel (the founder of a London printing business, called Harris in the book), with whom Jerome often took boating trips. The dog, Montmorency, is entirely fictional but, "as Jerome admits, developed out of that area of inner consciousness which, in all Englishmen, contains an element of the dog." The trip is a typical boating holiday of the time in a **Thames camping skiff**. This was just after commercial boat traffic on the Upper Thames had died out, replaced by the 1880s craze for boating as a leisure activity.

Following the overwhelming success of *Three Men in a Boat*, Jerome later published a sequel, about a cycling tour in Germany, titled *Three Men on the Bummel* (also known as *Three Men on Wheels*, 1900).

Chapter Contents

Chapter 1

Three invalids- Sufferings of George and Harris- A victim to one hundred and seven fatal maladies-Useful prescriptions- Cure for liver complaint in children- We agree that we are overworked- and need rest- A week on the rolling deep? George suggests the river- Montmorency lodges an objection- Original motion carried by majority of three to one.

Chapter 2

Plans discussed- Pleasures of "camping out," on fine nights- Ditto, wet nights- Compromise decided on- Montmorency, first impressions of- Fears lest he is too good for this world- fears subsequently dismissed as groundless- Meeting adjourns.

Chapter 3

Arrangements settled. – Harris's method of doing work. – How the elderly, family man puts up a picture. – George makes a sensible, remark. – Delights of early morning bathing. – Provisions for getting upset.

Chapter 4

The food question. – Objections to paraffine oil as an atmosphere. – Advantages of cheese as a travelling companion. – A married woman deserts her home. – Further provision for getting upset. – I pack. – Cussedness of toothbrushes. – George and Harris pack. – Awful behaviour of Montmorency. – We retire to rest.

Chapter 5

Mrs. P. arouses us. – George, the sluggard. – The "Weather Forecast" swindle. – Our luggage. – Depravity of the small boy. – The people gather round us. – We drive off in great style, and arrive at Waterloo. – Innocence of South Western officials concerning such worldly things as trains. – We are afloat, afloat in an open boat.

Chapter 6

Kingston. – Instructive remarks on early English history. – Instructive observations on carved oak and life in general. – Sad case of Stivvings, junior. – Musings on antiquity. – I forget that I am steering. – Interesting result. – Hampton Court Maze. – Harris as a guide.

Chapter 7

The river in its Sunday garb. – Dress on the river. – A chance for the men-Absence of taste in Harris. – George's blazer. – A day with the fashion able young lady – Mrs. Thomas's tomb – The man who loves not graves and coffins and skulls. – Harris mad. – His views on George and banks and lemonade. – He performs tricks.

Chapter 8

Blackmailing. – The proper course to pursue. – Selfish boorishness of riverside landowner. – "Notice" boards. – Unchristian like feelings of Harris. – How Harris sings a comic song. – A high class party. – Shameful conduct of two abandoned young men. – Some useless information. – George buys a banjo.

Chapter 9

George is introduced to work. – Heathenish instincts of tow lines. – Ungrateful conduct of a double sculling skiff. – Towers and towed. – A use discovered for lovers. – Strange disappearance of an elderly lady. – Much haste, less speed. – Being towed by girls: exciting sensation. – The missing lock or the haunted river. – Music. – Saved!

Chapter 10

Our first night. – Under canvas. – An appeal for help. – Contrariness tea kettles-how to overcome. – Supper. – How to feel virtuous. – Wanted! A comfortably appointed-well drained-desert island, neighbourhood of South Pacific ocean preferred. – Funny thing that happened to George's father. – A restless night.

Chapter 11

How George, once upon a time, got up early in the morning. – George, Harris, and Montmorency do -not like the look of the cold water. – Heroism and determination on the part of J. – George and his shirt: story with a moral. – Harris as cook. – Historical retrospect, specially inserted for the use of schools.

Chapter 12

Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn. – Disadvantages of living in same house with pair of lovers. – A trying time for the English nation. – A night search for the picturesque. – Homeless and houseless. – Harris prepares to die. An angel comes along. – Effect of sudden joy on Harris. – A little supper.

– Lunch. – High price for mustard. – A fearful battle. – Maidenhead. – Sailing. – Three fishers. – We are cursed.

Chapter 13

Marlow. – Bisham Abbey. – The Medmenham Monks. – Montmorency thinks he will murder an old tom cat. – But eventually decides that he will let it live. – Shameful conduct of a fox terrier at the Civil Service stores. – Our departure from Marlow. – An imposing procession. – The steam launch, useful receipts for annoying and hindering it. – We decline to drink the river. A peaceful dog. – Strange disappearance of Harris and a pie.

Chapter 14

Wargrave. – Waxworks. – Sonning. – Our stew. – Montmorency is sarcastic. Fight between Montmorency and the teakettle. – George's banjo studies. Meet with discouragement. – Difficulties in the way of the musical amateur. – Learning to play the bagpipes. – Harris feels sad after supper. – George and I go for a walk. – Return hungry and wet. – There is a strangeness about Harris. – Harris and the swans, a remarkable story. – Harris has a troubled night.

Chapter 15

Household duties. – Love of work. – The old river hand, what he does and what he tells you he has done. – Scepticism of the new generation. – Early boating recollections. – Rafting. – George does the thing in style. The old boatman, his method. – So calm, so full of peace. – The beginner. – Punting. – A sad accident. – Pleasures of friendship. – Sailing, my first experience. – Possible reason why we were not drowned.

Chapter 16

Reading. – We are towed by steam launch. – Irritating behaviour of small boats. – How they get in the way of steam launches. – George and Harris again shirk their work. – Rather a hackneyed story. – Streatley and Goring.

Chapter 17

Washing day. – Fish and fishers. – On the art of angling. – A conscientious flyfisher. – A fishy story.

Chapter 18

Locks. – George and I are photographed. – Wallingford. – Dorchester. – Abingdon. – A family man. – A good spot for drowning. – A difficult bit of water. – Demoralizing effect of river air.

Chapter 19

Oxford. – Montmorency's idea of heaven. – The hired upriver boat, its beauties and advantages. – The "Pride of the Thames." – The weather changes. – The river under different aspects. – Not a cheerful evening. – Yearnings for the unattainable. – The cheery chat goes round. – George performs upon the banjo. – A mournful melody. – Another wet day. – Flight. A little supper and a toast

Sample Answer:

Q : What were the three friends discussing at the beginning of the story? What do they finally decide?

Ans: At the beginning of the story the three friends discuss the various ailments they are suffering from, which are actually just a figment of their imagination. They agree that the ailments are a result of the enormous amount of work they are doing and that they are all in need of some rest. The three of them decide that a holiday would do them good and so they decide on a boating trip down the river Thames.

Questions for Assessment**Chapter 1**

- 1) What were the men discussing and why?
- 2) What made the narrator feel that he was an interesting medical case?
- 3) Why did George suggest that they go on a boating trip?

Chapter 2

- 1) What plans did the three men make about their trip? When were they planning on going on a trip?
- 2) What was the major point of discussion while planning the trip? What was their final decision?
- 3) Who was Montmorency? Was the narrator's first impression about him proved right? Give reasons for your answer.

Chapter 3

- 1) How does Uncle Podger involve the whole family in the simple task of hanging a picture?
- 2) What is the narrator's advice for those who load their boat with useless things?
- 3) What items did the three finally decide to carry on the ship?

Chapter 4

- 1) Why were the three men in agreement over not taking an oil stove?
- 2) How did the people in the train react to the smell of the cheese?
- 3) Do you think Harris and George were experts at packing? Give reasons for your answer.

Chapter 5

- 1) Who was Biggs? Who were his boys? Why did the narrator get irritated with Biggs' latest boy?
- 2) 'We calmed them with an umbrella.' What is the narrator referring to?
- 3) Why were the men shocked at being woken up at nine o' clock?

Chapter 6

- 1) How do we know that Kingston was a place of deep historical interest?
- 2) Who was Stivvings? What was strange about him?
- 3) What was funny about the story of the maze recounted by Harris?

Chapter 7

- 1) What does the narrator mean by the 'boating costume'? How does it affect the atmosphere?
- 2) Describe the river as it looks on a Sunday?
- 3) Why was Harris getting upset with George?

Chapter 8

- 1) What were the narrator and Harris' feelings about people who put up noticeboards barring people from pick nicking on the banks of the river?

- 2) Why did the German singer, Herr Slossen Boschen, get upset at the party?
- 3) Why did the party end up so quietly?

Chapter 9

- 1) What is the narrator's view about tow lines?
- 2) Why does the man with the tow lines get angry with the man who had handed it to him, and vice versa?
- 3) How was the muddle resolved finally?

Chapter 10

- 1) Why does the narrator feel that they no longer yearned for the picturesque?
- 2) Was it easy to put up the canvas over the boat? Give reasons for your answer.
- 3) Pick out an example of personification from the chapter and explain it.

Chapter 11

- 1) Why did George find very few people in the streets as he rushed out to work one morning eighteen months ago?
- 2) What was ironical about the narrator's early morning whim?
- 3) By recounting the tale of Oliver Cromwell and King John what is the narrator trying to say?

Chapter 12

- 1) The narrator and Harris refuse to enter the two inns at Datchet on some flimsy grounds. What were the excuses they make? What is the irony they have to face at the end?
- 2) Why does Harris express a desire to die? What effect does the appearance of the young boy have on him?
- 3) Why did their boat ram into the boat with the three men fishing in the river? How did those men react?

Chapter 13

- 1) What is the narrator referring to when he says, "Strange that Nature's voices all around them..... should not have taught them a truer meaning of life than this."?
- 2) How did the narrator's attitude towards cats contrast with that of Montmorency's attitude towards them?
- 3) Point out the irony in the statement made by the lady with the fox terrier at Haymarket Stores about other people's dogs.

Chapter 14

- 1) Why did the men put in the potatoes into the Irish stew without peeling them?
- 2) Why and how did Montmorency develop awe, suspicion and hate for the kettle?
- 3) What comment does the narrator make about people who want to learn how to play an instrument?

Chapter 15

- 1) What is the narrator's attitude towards work as described in this chapter?
- 2) What are the qualities of an old boatman that the narrator likes?
- 3) What was the "monkey on the stick"? How had he got there?

Chapter 16

- 1) The narrator comments that their towing by the steam launch would have been delightful if it had not been for the wretched small boats. What is ironic about the statement?
- 2) What shocked George that morning?
- 3) What had happened to the woman?

Chapter 17

- 1) Why does the narrator say that the river between Reading and Henley was much cleaner after they had passed through?
- 2) According to the author, what are the ways in which people lie about their fishing?
- 3) What was strange about the trout mounted in the glass case?

Chapter 18

- 1) Why does the narrator say that he is fond of locks?
- 2) Why were only the feet of the narrator and George visible in the photograph?
- 3) Why did the two men refuse to pay the photographer?

Chapter 19

- 1) How do we know that Montmorency had a great time at Oxford?
- 2) Pick out the simile used by the narrator to describe the close connection between the sunlight and Nature? Why does he say this?
- 3) How did the men finally end their journey?

Questions for Assessment

- 1) Do you think George was a committed worker in the bank? Give reasons for your answer. What does this show about his character?
- 2) What does the narrator want to suggest through the following statement "If Harris' eyes filled with tears, you can bet it is because Harris has been eating raw onions." What does this tell about their characters?
- 3) Relate two instances that bring out the high spirited nature of Montmorency.
- 4) "You cannot give me too much work; to accumulate work has almost become a passion with me." Who says these lines? What do they tell about the speaker's character?
- 5) What was ironical about the boat journey? What light does it throw on the characters of the three friends?
- 6) What judgement of character does the narrator make about a person from the kind of boat he rows?

Literary Terms & Poetic Devices

Imagery is the use of language to represent experiences of the senses --- what can be seen, heard, touched, tasted, and smelt. With vivid, skillful imagery, poets and other writers can evoke deeply felt responses from the reader.

When you find a reference to some person, character, or event – real or fictional, past or present – you have encountered an allusion. It can come from literature, myth, history or even any religious book. Have you heard of the expression ‘sour grapes?’ This expression refers to a fable in which a fox who could not reach a bunch of grapes said they were probably sour anyway.

A figure of speech, in which two basically unlike things are directly compared, usually with *like* or *as*, is called a simile. A writer sees and brings out the likeness in the two items in a fresh and clear way. Eg. Snow white’s skin was as white as snow, and her lips were like a red rose.

A metaphor is an implied comparison between things essentially unlike, often with no clue words. It does not use the words *like* or *as*. It is not always confined to poetry: it occurs even in daily conversation. You may refer to a studious classmate as a ‘bookworm’ and someone who is speechless may be called ‘tongue-tied.’

In poetry, exaggeration is called hyperbole. In advertising, similar exaggeration is called hype. For example you might read a claim that you can ‘recapture the magic of childhood’ by buying a certain collector’s doll that is a ‘big’ seven inches high. Another good example is ‘I’m so hungry I could eat a bear,’ or ‘He cried his eyes out.’

Alliteration is the repetition of initial and stressed sounds at the beginning of words or in stressed syllables of words. A common example is tongue twisters. Alliteration is popular in our language (safe and sound, rough and ready, through thick and thin) because it gives pleasure in itself. But it is also used where possible to echo the sense and provide emphasis. It creates melody, establishes mood, calls attention to certain words and points to similarities and contrasts.

Onomatopoeia is the use of words having sounds that suggest their meaning or which imitate the sound associated with them. Eg. The buzzing of bees, the hiss of a snake.

Tone is the author’s or poet’s attitude, stated or implied, towards a subject or audience. The tone can be serious, indignant, angry, sad, humourous.

Personification is when human characteristics are assigned to nonhuman things.

Eg. ‘Oreo – Milk’s favourite Cookie’ (Slogan on a packet of Oreo cookies).

Irony is in general, a contrast between what really is and what appears to be. You have probably heard the expression ‘Thanks a lot!’ used sarcastically, spoken in a way to mean, ‘Thanks for – nothing.’ You might have come in from a snowstorm and remarked, ‘Nice day, uh?’ In each case you are saying one thing while meaning another, often emphasizing that meaning by the tone of your voice.

Identify what literary / poetic device the underlined words refer to:

1) *Nothing is so beautiful as spring---*

When weeds, in wheels, shoot long and lovely and lush

Thrush’s eggs look little low heavens.... _____

2) The Romeo whistled at the pretty girl. “Will you be my Juliet?” he called. _____

3) He looked at her and gave his heart away. _____

4) As he got out of his strawberry- coloured car, his immense fists looked like two slabs of slightly gnawed ham. He waddled over to the counter and snarled under his garlic-laden breath.... _____

5) She pushes cloth
through a pounding needle, under,
around, and out,
breaks thread with a snap
against finger bone.
Sleeve after sleeve, sleeve.
It is easy. The same piece.

For eight or nine hours, sixteen bundles maybe

250 sleeves to ski coats, all the same.

It is easy. _____

6) To him the moon was a silver dollar, spun into the
sky by some mysterious hand; the sun was a golden coin... _____

7) The moan of doves in immemorial elms,
The murmuring of innumerable bees _____

8) Till last by Philip's farm I flow
To join the brimming river,
For men may come and men may go
But I go on for ever. _____

9) He looked like a horse with a burr under its saddle. _____

10) Only the champion daisy trees were serene. After all, they were part of a rain forest already two thousand years old and scheduled for eternity, so they ignored the men and continued to rock the diamondbacks that slept in their arms. It took the river to persuade them that indeed the world was altered."

(Toni Morrison, *Tar Baby*) _____

11) I had to get up in the morning at 10 o'clock at night, half an hour before I went to bed, eat a lump of cold poison, work 29 hours a day down mill, and pay mill owner for permission to come to work, and when we got home, our Dad would kill us, and dance about on our graves singing "Hallelujah." _____

12) "I'm a night owl, Wilson's an early bird," he said. _____

13) Every time I see ya
My senses tell me hubba
And I just can't disagree.
I get a feeling in my heart that I can't describe. . . .

It's sort of whack, whir, wheeze, whine
Sputter, splat, squirt, scrape
Clink, clank, clunk, clatter
Crash, bang, beep, buzz
Ring, rip, roar, retch
Twang, toot, tinkle, thud
Pop, plop, plunk, pow
Snort, snuck, sniff, smack
Screech, splash, squish, squeak
Jingle, rattle, squeal, boing
Honk, hoot, hack, belch."

(Todd Rundgren, "_____")

