



HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION (2017-18)

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

CLASS: IX

Time: 3Hrs.

M.M: 80

General Instructions:

The question paper is divided into three sections.

Section A : Reading Comprehension 20 marks

Section B : Wrjting & Grammar 35 marks

Section C : Literature 25 marks

SECTION A

(READING - 20 MARKS)

1. Read the given passage carefully and answer the following questions:

10

Our house is filled with photos. They cover the walls of my kitchen, dining room and den. I see our family's entire history, starting with my wedding, continuing through the births of both sons, buying a home, family gatherings and vacations. When my sons were little, they loved to pose. They waved, danced, climbed trees, batted balls, hung upside down from the jungle gym and did anything for a picture. But when they reached adolescence, picture-taking changed into something they barely tolerated. Their bodies were growing at haphazard speeds. Reluctantly they stood with us or with their grandparents at birthday celebrations and smiled weakly at the camera for as short a time as possible.

I am the chronicler of our photographs. I select those to be framed and arrange the others in albums. The process is addictive, and as the shelves that hold our albums become fuller and fuller, I wonder what will become of them. Will anyone look at these photographs in future years? If my sons look at them, what will they think of us and of themselves? One bright afternoon, I took some photographs of my father with my husband as they fished in a lake near our vacation house. As my sons and I sat on the shore and watched them row away, I picked the camera up and photographed the beautiful lake surrounded by green trees. The two men I loved gradually grew smaller until all I could see were my father's red shirt, and the tan and blue caps on their heads.

My father died a week later, and suddenly those photos became priceless to me. I wept when I pasted them in our album. I wept again afterwards when I saw my younger son looking at them. It was a few days before he went away to college. He had taken all our albums down from the bookshelves in the den and spread them out on the carpet. It had been a very long time since I had seen him doing this. Once he stopped posing for pictures, he seemed to lose interest in looking at them. But now he was on the verge of leaving home. This was his special time to look ahead and look back. I stood for a moment in the hall by the den, and then tiptoed away. I didn't take a photo of my son that afternoon, but I will remember how he looked for as long as I live. Some pictures, I learned, don't have to be taken with a camera.

1.1 Fill in the summary using one word only.

(1x4= 4)

The author was (a) _____ about taking photographs and framing them. But she always (b) _____ whether her sons would ever look at them. She was full of (c) _____ when she pasted the pictures of her father's last days in the album. She learnt that some pictures always (d) _____ in one's mind without a camera.

1.2. Two examples that show that the author's sons were averse or opposed to taking photographs are:

(1x2=2)

(a) _____

(b) _____

1.3. Give words that mean the same as

(1x4= 4)

1. not organized or planned (para 1)
2. one who records events in order (para 2)
3. very valuable (para 3) priceless
4. continued engagement with an activity (para 2)

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

10

The Amazon is the world's largest tropical rainforest. It covers an area of nearly 208 million square miles, which is nearly the size of the continent of Australia. The Amazon rainforest gets its life from the majestic Amazon River, the world's second largest river, which runs directly through the heart of the region. The rainforest itself is simply the drainage basin for the river and its many tributaries. The vast forest itself consists of four layers, each featuring its own ecosystems and specially adapted plants and animals.

The forest floor is the lowest region. Since only two percent of the sunlight filters through the top layers of the understory, very few plants grow here. The forest floor, however, is rich with rotting vegetation and the bodies of dead organisms, which are quickly broken down into nutrients and integrated into the soil. Tree roots stay close to these available nutrients and decomposers such as millipedes and earth worms use nutrients for food. The understory is the layer above the forest floor. Much like the forest floor, only about 2-5 percent of the sunlight reaches this shadowy realm. Many of the plants in the understory have large, broad leaves to collect as much sunlight as possible. The understory is so thick that there is very little air movement. As a result, plants rely on insects and animals to pollinate their flowers.

The layer above the understory is the canopy. This is where much of the action in the rainforest occurs. Many canopy leaves have specially adapted leaves which form "drip tips". Drip tips allow water to flow off the leaves which prevents mosses, fungi, and lichens from occupying the leaves. Leaves in the canopy are very dense and filter about 80 percent of the sunlight. The canopy is where the wealth of the rainforest's fruits and flowers grow. Bromeliads, cup-like plants, provide drinking pools for animals and breeding locations for tree frogs.

- 2.1
- | | |
|--|---|
| a) Why is the Amazon rainforest called the world's largest rainforest? | 2 |
| b) Amazon river is the world's _____. | 1 |
| c) How important is the Amazon River for Amazon rainforests? | 2 |
| d) Why do very few plants grow in the understory of the rainforests? | 1 |
| e) Why is there very little air movement in the understory? | 1 |

- f) What is the layer above the understory called? 1
 g) How are bromeliads useful for animals and tree frogs? 1
 h) Find the word from the passage which means 'grand'. 1

SECTION B
WRITING & GRAMMAR: 35 Marks

3. You are Asmit / Asmita, Head Boy/Head Girl of 'The Indian School'. Write a Notice for your school notice Board asking the students to participate in the Science exhibition to be held in your school. Invent necessary details. (50 Words) 5

4. You are Shantanu/Shikha. Taking help from your MCB Unit- Environment and from the picture below write an article for the school magazine on the topic "Saving our Earth". (120 words) 10



5. You were deeply affected by the information that you received after watching a show on National Geographic channel recently on the rising menace of poaching tigers in Indian forest reserves. Write a letter to the editor of a leading national daily, requesting him to publish an article in his newspaper on this issue, to create awareness among Indians. 10

6. Complete the following sentences using appropriate active or passive verb forms. Choose your answers from the given options. 3

1. The problem to the children. (explained / was explained)
2. Those pyramids around 400 AD. (built / were built)
3. All the trouble by your mother. (has caused / was caused)
4. The visitors (were shown / have shown) a collection of old manuscripts.
5. I him ten thousand pounds last year. (lend / lent / was lent)
6. Excuse the mess. The house (is painting / is being painted / has painted)

7. The following paragraph has not been edited. One word is missing from each line. Identify the missing word and write it along with the word before and the word after in your answer sheet. 4

	Word Before	Missing Word	Word After
I met him the first time	e.g. him	for	the
at weekend leadership camp.	a. _____	_____	_____
All the students been invited	b. _____	_____	_____

to sing up become more
involved their communities.

c. _____
d. _____

8. Rearrange the given words and phrases to form meaningful sentences. Write the correct sentences in your answer sheet. 3

e.g, called/is/rose/of flowers/queen/the

Rose is called the queen of flowers.

- one of the/it is/most/in the/flowers/popular/World
- intoxicating fragrance/it has/soft petals/and sharp/thorns
- come in/imaginable/almost every/roses/colour

Section C

LITERATURE AND LONG READING TEXT: 25 Marks

9. Read one of the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow. 3

"My grandmother never went to school so she could not read".

- What was the grandmother's name?
- How did the grandmother know the details of the story published in her favourite magazine?
- The grandmother had not gone to school because _____

OR

*And draw them all along, and flow
To join the brimming river
For men may come and men may go.
But I go on forever.*

- What does the brook draw along with it?
- Where is the brook going?
- Which poetic device is used in last two lines?

10. Answer any FOUR the following questions in about 30-40 words:

(2×4=8)

- Why did Hoopers company people create a desk job for him at the company's headquarter?
- Explain the statement: "And that has made all the difference" with reference to the poem 'The road Not Taken'.
- Who was better at business- Juliette or Gaston? Justify your take.
- 'Corporal Turnbull was a young man, but he was not a man to be trifled with'. Comment.
- Why as Lord Ullin lamenting in the end?

Kishu kaka
Kumvera
da Mhaka

11. Answer any ONE the following questions in about 80-100 words:

4

With reference to the chapter, 'How I taught my Grandmother to Read', Write a paragraph on the topic, 'Girl's Education is Necessary for Social Development'.

OR

Based on your reading of the poem, 'The Solitary Reaper', describe the values of peace and tranquillity in a paragraph on the topic, 'Music transcends all boundaries.'

12. The novel "Three Men in a Boat" is a rich tale of adventure narrated in a humorous way. Describe any one episode from the novel which you consider the most funny. 5

13. Describe the narrator, J (Jerome) in your own words. 5