

AMBIENCE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Mid-Term Exam 2024-25

Class- IX

Subject-English Language & Literature

Date-11/09/2024

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IX-B

Time: 3 hours

No. of Printed Pages: 06

No. of Questions: 11

M.M.: 80 marks

General Instructions:

- The question paper has 3 Sections:
Section A (Reading Comprehension) 20 marks
Section B (Grammar & Writing Skills) 20 marks
Section C (Literature) 40 marks
- Read the questions carefully and adhere to the word limit.
- All the questions of a particular section must be done in a correct order.
- Write question number against each answer in a legible handwriting.
- Marks are mentioned against each question.

SECTION A: READING (20 marks)

Q1. Read the passage carefully:

(10 marks)

- (A) Overpowering prey is a challenge for creatures that do not have any limbs. Some species like Russell's viper, inject poison into their prey. Some others opt for an alternative non chemical method - rat snakes, for instance, catch and push their prey against the ground to immobilize them, while pythons use their muscle power to crush their prey to death. But snakes can't be neatly divided into poisonous and non-poisonous categories.
- (B) Even species listed as non-poisonous are not completely free of poison. The common Sand Boa, for instance, produces secretions particularly poisonous and dangerous to birds. So, the species does not prefer to take any chance - it crushes its prey and injects poison as an extra step. Do vipers need poison powerful enough to kill hundreds of rats with just one drop? After all, they eat only one or two at a time.
- (C) While hunting, animals try their best to kill as efficiently as possible while their prey will put in all the efforts, use any trick to avoid getting caught and becoming a meal, such as developing immunity to the poison. For instance, Californian ground squirrels are resistant to the poison of Northern Pacific rattle snake.
- D) Competition with prey is not the only thing driving snakes to evolve more and more deadly poison. Snakes also have to struggle to avoid becoming prey themselves. Some snake killers are prone to have partial immunity to poison. Famously, mongooses are highly resistant to the poison of cobra, and with their speed and agility, kill snakes fearlessly and remain relatively unharmed. It would mean death of cobras as a species if they didn't evolve a more deadly poison to stop and resist the mongooses.
-) Poison has another very important role. It has an extreme meat softening property; specific enzymes break up the insides of the prey. Normally, a reptile depends on the sun's warm rays to aid it in its digestion. But I wonder if we cannot use the venom in our favour. In remote parts of India, local hospitality often involves serving leather-tough meat. I chew and chew until my jaws start aching. If I spit it out or refuse, the hosts would be offended; I swallow like a python stuffing a deer down its throat and hope I don't choke. If only I had poison.

Choose the correct options based on the above passage.

-) How do Russell vipers attack their prey?
(a) Inject poison
(b) Crush their prey
(c) Push their prey against the ground
(d) Engulf their prey

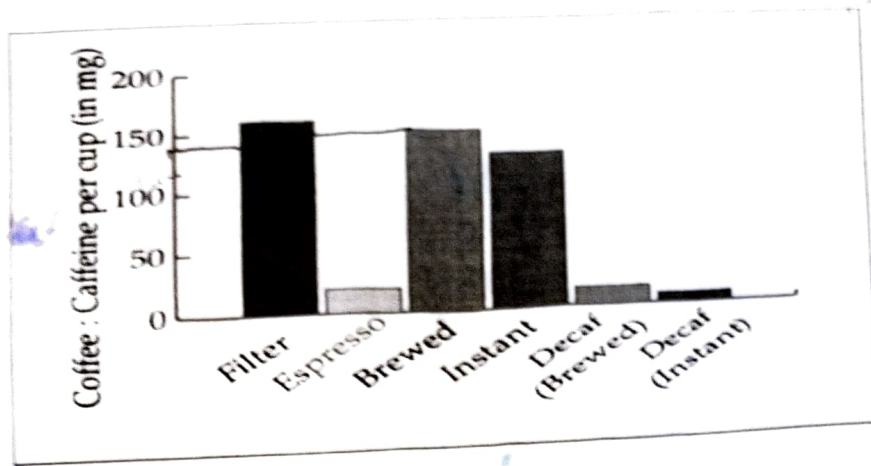
- (ii) The Sand Boa attacks its prey by
 (a) injecting poison (b) crushing its prey
 (c) both a and b (d) none of these
- (iii) How many rats do Vipers consume at a time?
 (a) one hundred and more (b) One or two
 (c) seven to eight (d) Three to four
- (iv) Rat snakes attack their prey by
 (a) crushing its bones. (b) injecting poison.
 (c) pushing their prey against the ground (d) biting their prey.
- (v) What immunity does the Californian ground squirrel have?
 (a) They are bigger in size. (b) They can bite.
 (c) They have become resistant to poison. (d) They can run extremely fast.
- (vi) Poison has one important role, it
 (a) makes the meat sweet and tastier. (b) reduces the size of the meat.
 (c) acts as a preservative. (d) makes the meat soft.
- (vii) The writer wished he had poison because he:
 (a) wanted to hurt someone. (b) wanted to make tough meat soft.
 (c) wanted to know how poison works. (d) none of these
- (viii) Why do animals need to kill their prey efficiently?
 (a) as their prey will use any trick to avoid becoming a meal
 (b) as their prey might counter attack
 (c) they need to test their skills regularly
 (d) because they feel hungry
- (ix) Write one word from the passage for 'liquid substances released from glands'. (Para B)
 (x) Which word in the passage means the same as 'poison'? (Para E)

Q2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (10 marks)

[A] If you are addicted to coffee and doctors warn you to quit the habit, don't worry. Just keep relishing the beverage, because it is not that bad after all! In fact, according to a new study, the steaming cup of Java can beat fruits and vegetables as the primary source of antioxidants. Some studies state that coffee is the number one source of antioxidants in the American diet, and both caffeinated and decaf versions appear to provide similar antioxidant levels. Antioxidants, in general, have been linked to a number of potential health benefits, including safeguard against heart diseases and cancer, but Vinson, a dietician, says that their benefits ultimately depend on how they are absorbed and utilized in the body. The research says that coffee outranks popular antioxidant sources like tea, milk, chocolate and cranberries.

[B] Of all the foods and beverages studied, dates actually have the most antioxidants based solely on the serving size, but since dates are not consumed anywhere near the level of coffee, the drink comes as the top source of antioxidants, Vinson opines.

[C] Besides keeping you alert and awake, coffee has been known to provide significant health advantages, including protection against liver and colon cancer, type 2 diabetes and Parkinson's disease, according to some recently published studies. Researchers, however, advise that one should consume coffee in moderation, because it can make you jittery and cause stomach pains. Given below is the graph which shows the amount (in mg) of caffeine present in various coffees.



2.1. Choose the correct options based on the above passage:

- (i) Who is Vinson in the paragraph?
 - (a) A Doctor
 - (b) A Dietician
 - (c) A Health consultant
 - (d) A Nutritionist
- (ii) Of all the foods and beverages studied, _____ actually have most antioxidants.
 - (a) dates
 - (b) tea
 - (c) cranberries
 - (d) coffee /
- (iii) It is a type of diabetes:
 - (a) Type 5
 - (b) Type 3
 - (c) Type 2
 - (d) Type 4
- (iv) According to the graph, which coffee has the maximum caffeine?
 - (a) Instant
 - (b) Brewed
 - (c) Filter
 - (d) Espresso
- (v) Doctors warn coffee addicts to:
 - (a) drink less coffee
 - (b) drink more coffee
 - (c) make it a habit
 - (d) quit the habit
- (vi) Coffee does not keep one alert:
 - (a) True
 - (b) False
 - (c) Not sure
 - (d) No effect at all
- (vii) Find the word from the passage which means 'protection'. [Para A]
- (viii) Which word from the passage is synonymous to 'nervous'? [Para C]
- (ix) Which coffee has the least amount of Caffeine? *Decaf (Instant)*
- (x) How much caffeine is found in two cups of brewed coffee? *200*

SECTION B: GRAMMAR & WRITING SKILLS (10 marks)

Q3. Attempt the following questions:

- (i) Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence. If we _____ one more batsman in our team, we would have won the match.
 - (a) had had
 - (b) would have been
 - (c) would have
 - (d) would have had

(ii) Read the conversation between Reena and Rakesh. Complete the sentence by reporting Rakesh's reply correctly.

Reena: Have you seen 'Three Idiots'? Rakesh: I saw them yesterday in my class.

Reena asked Rakesh if he had seen 'Three Idiots'. Rakesh replied that they had.

(iii) Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line:

- The swimmer was tired but he _____ reach the shore before he collapsed.
- (a) will
(b) could
(c) may
(d) ~~must~~

(iv) Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line:
Have you ever learn from a mistake you have made?

Option No.	Error	Correction
A	learn	learnt
B	have	I has

(v) Complete the given sentence, by filling in the blank with the correct option:

I bought a new car last year, but I _____ my old car yet, so at present I have two cars.

- (a) sell
(b) have not sold ✓
(c) sold
(d) did not sell

(vi) Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket.
Neither you nor your sister should (talk) to them.

Report the dialogue between Sanjay and Madan, by completing the sentence:

(vii) Sanjay: I am surprised to see you here in Delhi. When did you come? Madan: I came here yesterday. I have been offered a job here.

Sanjay told Madan that he was surprised to see him there in Delhi and asked when he had come. Madan replied that he had come there the previous day and added that _____.

(viii) Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

A good business letter is one that get results.

Use the given format for your response:

Error get Correction gets

(ix) Transform the following direct speech into reported speech: He said, "Reena, do you want to buy a house in Noida?"

(x) Ram and Shyam are discussing their plans for the weekend. Fill in the blank to complete the dialogue below by choosing the correct option:

Ram: What are you doing this weekend, Shyam?

Shyam: I don't have any special plan.

Ram: How do you like the idea _____.

(a) of go for a picnic to the Dal Lake?

(b) of going for a picnic to the Dal Lake?

(c) of went for a picnic to the Dal Lake?

(d) of going for a picnic by the Dal Lake?

Q4.(A) Write a **descriptive paragraph** on the person you admire the most. **Word Limit - 100 (5 marks)**

(B) After many years your family got together for the festival of Rakhi. Describe in a **paragraph** how you celebrated it.

Q5.(A) Given below is the beginning of a story. By using the cues given below **complete the story** in 100-120 words. **(5 marks)**

When Raju reached his house from the school, he saw a crowd gathered in front of it. Shocked and disturbed he started running towards it. Many thoughts were flashing in his mind

(B) **OR**
You have been following the Indian players in the recently concluded Paris Olympic Games 2024. You were heartbroken to hear of the Indian wrestler, Vinesh Phogat's disqualification from the 50 kg wrestling final after she was found to be 100 gms overweight. Write a **diary page** on your feelings on the issue. (100-120 words)

SECTION D: LITERATURE (40 marks)

Q6. Read the given extract and answer the questions that follow: (5x1=5 marks)

(A) 'It seemed as if God appreciated that. The snake turned its head. It looked into the mirror and saw its reflection. I do not claim that it was the first snake that had ever looked into a mirror. But it was certain that the snake was looking into the mirror. Was it admiring its own beauty?'

- (i)** Why did the doctor feel that God seemed to appreciate his thought?
- (ii)** What made the snake turn its head?
- (iii)** The writer wasn't sure if the snake was admiring its beauty. **TRUE? / FALSE?**
- (iv)** Find a word in the passage that means 'looking at something with pleasure and satisfaction'.
- (v)** Noticing the mirror, the snake turned towards it because

(B) 'To the little girl he was a figure to be feared and avoided. Every morning before going to work he came into her room and gave her a casual kiss, to which she responded with 'Good Bye Father'. And oh, there was a glad sense of relief when she heard the noise of the carriage growing fainter and fainter down the long road!'

- (i)** What was the daily routine of the father?
- (ii)** When did the daughter feel relief?
- (iii)** Trace a word from the passage which means "answered".
- (iv)** How does the text describe the sound of the carriage as it departs?
- (v)** What relationship is suggested between the little girl and the figure?
 - (a)** great affection and love
 - (b)** affectionless
 - (c)** mutual respect & trust
 - (d)** deceptive and hostile

Q7. Read the given extract and answer the questions that follow: (5x1=5 marks)

'I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,

And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made;
Nine bean-rows will I have there, a hive for the honeybee,
And live alone in the bee-loud glade.

Poetic Device

- (i) Identify one poetic device used in the above lines.
(ii) In Innisfree, the poet plans to:
a) go fishing b) watch birds c) build a hut d) build a boat
(iii) The poet will plant.....
(iv) Give the meaning of the word 'wattles'.
(v) The poet wants to go to Innisfree in search of.....

meta

OR

- (B) 'And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.'
(i) Who is the composer of the above lines?
(ii) What does 'both' refer to?
(iii) Find a word for 'uncertain' from the above lines.
(iv) Why did the poet keep the first for another day?
(v) What is the tone of the speaker?

Q8. Answer any four of the following questions in 40-50 words: (4x3=12 marks)

- (i) What is the single major memory that comes to the poet, Coates Kinney? Who are the darling dreamers he refers to?
(ii) In what way was the Macdonald family different from Kezia's?
(iii) Why does the world remember Einstein as a 'world citizen'?
(iv) How did Evelyn open her mind and body to musical sounds and vibrations?
(v) Describe the kind of schoolroom Margie had.

Q9. Answer any two of the following questions in 40-50 words: (2x3=6 marks)

- (i) Why were the Guru and his disciple astonished when they entered the Kingdom of Fools?
(ii) The escaped elephant created havoc in the town and the school. How?
(iii) How did the child get lost in the fair?

Q10. Answer any one of the following questions in 100-120 words: (6 marks)

- (A) Life poses innumerable challenges to us. With reference to the poem, 'Wind', how can these be overcome?

- (B) Ustad Bismillah Khan's life is a perfect example of the rich cultural heritage of India. A devout Muslim like him had no qualms about playing Shennai every morning at the Kashi Vishwanath Temple. Elucidate.

Q11. Answer any one of the following questions in 100-120 words: (6 marks)

- (A) Give an account of Iswaran as a master storyteller.
(B) How does the festival of spring bring out the latent joy in human nature? Elaborate with reference to The Lost Child.