

ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY, DEHRADUN
FIRST TERM EXAMINATION SEPTEMBER, 2024-25

SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE

CLASS: VIII

M.M. : 70 TIME : 2 HOURS

NAME OF THE STUDENT.....

CLASS/SECTION.....ROLL NO.....

ATTEMPT ALL QUESTIONS

Question 1. Write a composition of about 250-300 words on any one of the following topics
(Do not spend more than 30 mins on this question):

[20]

- (a) You have recently represented your school in an Inter-School Competition. Describe the competition, your feelings on being selected and on being successful in the competition.
- (b) Social media has lowered active social life and has put an end to our reading habits. Express your views either 'FOR' or 'AGAINST' this statement.
- (c) Unknowingly you got trapped in a UFO which took you to another planet. Write about your experience there, and the return back home.
- (d) Write an original or imaginary story that begins with the words-
My hair stood on end, a shiver raced down my spine, and a lump came to my throat. It was him...
- (e) Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



Question 2. Select one of the following (Do not spend more than 20 mins on this question):

[12]

- (a) Your grandfather has completed ninety years of age. Write a letter congratulating him, expressing gratitude, praise and admiration for the way he has lived his life.
- OR**
- (b) Public park is the heart of a residential area. Unfortunately the park in your area has become a place for stray animals and anti-social elements. Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner drawing his/her attention towards this matter and requesting him/her to take measures to resolve it.

Question 3. You are the Sports Secretary of your school. Your school has organized an Inter-School Cricket tournament. Draft an email inviting your neighboring school, requesting them to send a team for the same. Give all the necessary details.

[4]

Question 4. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

[20]

A1. It was no use arguing with Ganga Ram. He, like all good Hindus, believed in the Trinity of Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva-the creator, preserver and destroyer. Of these he was most devoted to Vishnu. Every morning, he smeared his forehead with a 'V' mark in sandalwood paste to honor the deity. Although a Brahmin, he was illiterate and full of superstition. To him, all life was sacred, even if it was of a serpent or scorpion or centipede. Whenever he saw one, he quickly shoved it away lest we kill it. He picked up wasps we battered with our badminton rackets and tended their damaged wings. Sometimes he got stung. It never seemed to shake his faith. The more dangerous the animal, the more devoted Ganga Ram was to its existence. Hence, had the regard for snakes; above all, the Cobra, who was the Kala Nag.

A2. One day we saw Kala Nag. The monsoons had burst with all their fury and it had rained in the night. The earth which had lain parched and dry under the withering heat of the summer sun was teeming with life. In little pools, frogs croaked. The muddy ground was littered with crawling worms, centipedes and velvety lady-birds. Grass had begun to show and the banana leaves glistened bright and glossy green. The rain had flooded Kala Nag's hole. He sat in an open patch on the lawn. His shiny black hood glistened in the sunlight. He was big- almost six feet in length and rounded and fleshy, as my wrist.

A3. "Looks like a King Cobra. Let's get him."

A4. Kala Nag did not have much of a chance. The ground was slippery and all the holes and gutters were full of water. Ganga Ram was not at home to help.

Armed with long bamboo sticks, we surrounded Kala Nag before he even scented danger. When he saw, his eyes turned a fiery red and he hissed and spat on all sides. Then like lightning, Kala Nag made the banana grove.

The ground was too muddy and he slithered away. He had hardly gone five yards when a stick caught him in the middle and broke his back. A volley of blows reduced him to a squishy-squashy pulp of black and white jelly, spattered with blood and mud. His head was still undamaged.

"Don't damage the hood," yelled one of us, "we'll take Kala Nag to school." So we slid a bamboo stick under the cobra's belly and lifted him on the end of the pole. We put him in a large biscuit tin and tied it up with string. We hid the tin under a bed.

Next morning, the school bus came and we clambered into it with the tin. As the bus started we held out the tin to Ganga Ram telling him what it contained. We left him standing speechless, staring at the departing bus.

There was great excitement in the school. We were a set of four brothers, known for our toughness. We had proved it again. The tin was presented to the Science teacher.

- I. For each word given below choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided:

[2]

(a) smeared

- (i) dampened
- (ii) existed
- (iii) marked
- (iv) collected

(b) yelled

- (i) cleaned
- (ii) shouted
- (iii) climbed
- (iv) worried

II. Which word in the passage means the opposite of the word 'boredom'?

[1]

- (a) teeming
- (b) tended
- (c) excitement
- (d) spattered

III. Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:

[9]

- (a) What was Ganga Ram's faith? Who was he devoted to?
- (b) How can you say that Ganga Ram's faith was never shaken?
- (c) Describe Kala Nag. Why did it come out in the lawn?
- (d) Why did the cobra not have much chance to escape?

[2]

[2]

[3]

[2]

IV. In not more than fifty words, describe how the brothers managed to capture the cobra.

[1+7=8]

Question 5. Supply a correct verb in agreement with the subject:

[½ x 6=3]

- (i) Are your brother and sister at home?
- (ii) Gulliver's travels was/is written by Jonathan Swift.
- (iii) Some of the staff of our office were absent yesterday.
- (iv) The gangster with all his men is/was killed.
- (v) Many of his books were destroyed in fire.
- (vi) Rice and curry is his only food.

Question 6. Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in the brackets. Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space:

[½ x 6=3]

Example:

Answer: (0) loves

Kevin Adams (0) loves (love) trains. He first (1) saw (see) one when he was four years old and he (2) thought (think) it was great. He (3) goes (go) to a different railway station every week and (4) writes (write) down the engine number of every train he sees. He (5) has been doing (do) this since he was eight. By the time he was fifteen, he (6) had collected (collect) over 10,000 different engine numbers in various counties.

Question 7. Change the following sentences to Passive voice. Choose the correct option.

[1x4=4]

(a) The teacher selected the new monitors of the class.

- (i) The new monitors of the class is selected by the teacher.
- (ii) The new monitors of the class have been selected by the teacher.
- (iii) The new monitors of the class are selected by the teacher.
- (iv) The new monitors of the class were selected by the teacher.

(b) Please deliver the books on time.

- (i) The books must be delivered on time.
- (ii) The books should be delivered on time.
- (iii) You are requested to deliver the books on time.
- (iv) You are requested to get the books delivered on time.

a 7a (iv) 8a (i) (ii)
b (iii) (b) (ii)
c (ii) (c) (iii)
d (i) d (iv)

(c) The gardener is planting a lemon tree.

- (i) A lemon tree was being planted by the gardener.
- (ii) A lemon tree is being planted by the gardener.
- (iii) A lemon tree has been planted by the gardener.
- (iv) A lemon tree had been planted by the gardener.

(d) Had the boys eaten all the cakes?

(i) Had all the cakes been eaten by the boys?

(ii) Had all the cakes eaten by the boys?

(iii) Had all the cakes being eaten by the boys?

(iv) Had all the cakes ate by the boys?

Question 8. Rewrite each of the following sentences according to the instructions given after each sentence. Make other changes that are necessary but do not change the meaning of the sentence. Choose the correct option:

[1x4=4]

(a) I wish I had not lived to see this day. (change into exclamatory sentence)

(i) O that I had not lived to see this day!

(ii) Alas! I had lived to see this day.

(iii) If I had lived to see this day!

(iv) How I wish I had lived to see this day!

8 a (i)

b (ii)

c (iii)

d (iv)

(b) Who can believe her story? (change into assertive sentence)

(i) All cannot believe her story.

(ii) Nobody can believe her story.

(iii) Everybody cannot believe her story.

(iv) Anybody can believe her story.

(c) I admit that you have done your best. (change into negative sentence)

(i) I deny that you have done your best.

(ii) I do not accept that you have done your best.

(iii) I do not deny that you have done your best.

(iv) I suspect that you have done your best.

(d) None but the brave deserve the reward. (change into affirmative)

(i) All deserve the reward with the brave.

(ii) The brave does not deserve the reward.

(iii) Everyone except the brave deserve the reward.

(iv) Only the brave deserve the reward.