

ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY, DEHRADUN
FINAL TERM EXAMINATION FEBRUARY, 2023-24

SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE

CLASS VIII

M.M.: 70 TIME: 2 HOURS

NAME OF THE STUDENT.....CLASS/SECTION.....ROLL NO.....

ANSWERS TO THIS PAPER MUST BE WRITTEN ON THE PAPER PROVIDED SEPARATELY. YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO WRITE DURING THE FIRST 15 MINUTES. THIS TIME IS TO BE SPENT IN READING THE QUESTION

PAPER. THE TIME GIVEN AT THE HEAD OF THIS PAPER IS THE TIME ALLOWED FOR WRITING THE ANSWERS.

THE PAPER HAS FOUR SECTIONS. THE INTENDED MARKS FOR QUESTIONS OR PARTS OF QUESTIONS ARE GIVEN IN BRACKETS. [] .

Question 1.

(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question)

Write a composition (300 – 350 words) on any one of the following:

[20]

- (i) Write an original story beginning with the line, "I turned around suddenly and saw....."
- (ii) A personal achievement has changed your outlook towards life completely. Write an account of what you achieved and how you prepared for the same.
- (iii) It is better to have more frequent short breaks than to have a long summer break. Give your views either **for or against** the statement.
- (iv) It is said that teenage years are the most difficult period in a person's life. Describe some of the problems that you have faced to bring out the truth of this statement.
- (v) Study the given picture. Write a story or a description or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition must be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it. There must be a clear connection between the picture and the composition.



Question 2.

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question)

Select any one of the following:

[8]

- (i) You visited a well-known historical monument when you went on your school excursion recently. Write a letter to your friend, giving details of the trip and what made it so memorable.

OR

- (ii) Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner of your town complaining about the dumping of garbage next to your house, as your house is at the corner. Mention about the problems caused, like foul smell and pests and request that the garbage be cleared immediately.

- Question 3.
- Your school is hosting an Interschool Basketball Competition. Write a notice for classes VII- VIII to inform the students about the same. [3]
 - Write an email to the Principal of a neighbouring school, informing him/her about the Interschool Basketball Competition and requesting him/her to send a team of students to participate. [3]

Question 4.

Read carefully the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: [20]

Every traveller has a definite **peculiarity**; from picking up souvenirs, collecting coins, to sending mail from every city. For many people, the very act of carefully choosing a postcard, slipping into a local letterbox, and sending it home is a sacred activity. If you fall in that category, you will enjoy this list of some of the most **unusual** post offices in the world; the highest, lowest and remotest, all standing to make sure that your letter is sent from their city, with love.

On the waters of Srinagar's Dal Lake floats a boat. Inside it, sit a few postmen, and with them, a box of stamps. This shikara turned into a houseboat for tourists is India's only floating post office. Established in 2011, the post office acts as a regular post office with banking services and an in-house philately museum, only bobbing along to the water. In addition, your mail gets stamped with a special Kashmiri seal depicting a shikara and a boatman, especially for this wooden post office with the pin code: 19001. Seal your first visit to the Eiffel Tower with a stamp. This iron landmark that Paris is known for has a little post office in its southern wing, allowing tourists and visitors to pop in, and post their mail. If you are lucky, your postage may get a special stamp declaring that it has been sent from the Eiffel Tower, but it is no guarantee.

The task of sending a letter from the world's highest post office is certainly a commitment. This involves reaching Tingri County in Tibet, battling altitude sicknesses, lugging oxygen cylinders and trudging up a height of 5300 metres above ground level. This tin-shed mailing box, just established in 2008, is in the Everest base camp, and acts as a resting point for hungry travellers. It also performs its duties of sending mail to all parts of the world. What does one do after successfully completing their first scuba dive? Their only choice can be found at Vanuatu, a Pacific Island nation located off Oceania and Australia. Here, the first underwater post office is in Hideaway Island which allows anyone willing to swim among the fishes to post mail on specially designed waterproof postcards. For a post box located nine feet below ground level, it entices a lot of visitors especially tourists. Incidentally, the country is driven to make posting mail an adventure activity. It also is home to a volcano post, set on the top of Mount Yasur on Tanna Island, an active volcano which is known to erupt more than 10 times an hour.

- For each word given below choose the correct meaning as used in the passage from the options provided: [2]

1. Peculiarity

(a) characteristic

(b) inability

(c) familiarity

2. Unusual

(a) regular

(b) common

(c) strange

- Which word in the passage means the opposite of the word 'cursed'? [1]

(a) philately

(b) sacred

(c) regular

- Answer the following questions briefly in your words. [2]

(a) Which habit of the traveller is highlighted by the author?

(b) Describe the two special stamps mentioned in the above passage. [2]

(c) How is the task of sending a letter from the world's highest post office certainly a commitment? [2]

- (d) How can one send a letter to their loved ones after successfully completing their first scuba dive? [1]
- (e) Which country is steered towards making posting mail an adventure activity? [2]
- What else is it known for? [2]
- (iv) In not more than 50 words, explain the specialty of India's only floating post office. [8]

Question 5.

- a) 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:

Example: 0-allowed

We were not allowed (0) (allow) to talk during the lecture. The children were asked to sit (1) (sit) in a neat circle and begin (2) (begin) copying their multiplication tables. Most of them were scratching (3) (scratch) in the dirt with sticks that they had brought (4) (bring) for that purpose. The more 'fortunate' had slate boards that they were writing (5) (write) on with sticks dipped (6) (dip) in a mixture of mud and water. [3]

- b) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words. [3]

- (i) The poor man is afflicted with arthritis.
 (ii) The planet was seen through the telescope.
 (iii) My mother prefers tea to coffee.
 (iv) Ramesh parted with his parents at the airport.
 (v) There is no exception to this rule.
 (vi) This garbage has to be disposed of now.

- c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence using a suitable Conjunction: [3]

1. Rosa is a very clever girl. She is always cheerful.

- ☒ a) Although Rosa is a very clever girl, she is always cheerful.
 b) Besides being a very clever girl, Rosa is not always cheerful.
 c) Despite of being a very clever girl, Rosa is always cheerful.
 d) When she is very clever, Rosa is a cheerful girl.

2. My brother lost his admit card. I found it on the road.

- ☒ a) I found my brother's lost admit cards on the road.
 b) My brother lost his admit card so I found it on the road.
 c) My brother lost his admit card, which was found by me on the road.
 d) My brother found my lost admit card on the road.

3. Be healthy. Then you can lead an active life.

- ☒ a) You cannot be healthy only if you lead an active life.
 b) When you lead an active life, you will not be healthy.
 c) If you were not healthy, you could lead an active life.
 d) Unless you are healthy, you cannot lead an active life.

- d) Rewrite the following sentences, according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that are necessary, but do not change the meaning of the given sentence. Choose the correct option. [7]

(1) Is this the way a gentleman should behave?

(Change into Assertive Sentence.....)

- a) This this the way a gentleman should behave.
 b) Does a gentleman behave in that way?
☒ c) This is not the way a gentleman should behave.
 d) How should a gentleman behave?

(2) It has been the best birthday in the last three years.

(Use: good)

- a) How good this birthday has been in the last three years!
- b) Very few birthdays in the last three years have been as good as this.
- c) This birthday is good in the last three years.
- d) No other birthday in the last three years has been as good as this.

(3) The old man said, "These cats have ruined my plants."

(Begin: The old man said that)

- a) The old man said that the cat ruined my plants.
- b) The old man said that that cat has ruined their plants.
- c) The old man said that those cats will ruin his plants.
- d) The old man said that those cats had ruined his plants.

(4) The offer was so bad that I could not take it.

(Use: too....to)

- a) The offer is too bad that I took it.
- b) The offer was too bad to take them.
- c) The offer was too bad to be taken by me.
- d) I will find the offer too bad to take.

(5) The Night is very beautiful.

End: night!)

- a) What beautiful things are seen at night!
- b) Is the night beautiful?
- c) How beautiful is the night!
- d) O, that it could be beautiful at night!

(6) As soon as the crane broke the building, the people started shouting.

(Begin: No sooner.....)

- a) No sooner the crane broke the building, the people started shouting.
- b) No sooner did the crane broke the building than the people started shouting.
- c) No sooner did the crane break the building when the people started shouting.
- d) No sooner did the crane break the building than the people started shouting.

(7) Brutus loved Caesar.

(Change into Negative Sentence)

- a) Caesar did not hate Brutus.
- b) How Brutus hated Caesar!
- c) Did Caesar not hate Brutus?
- d) Brutus did not hate Caesar.