

ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY, DEHRADUN
FIRST TERM EXAMINATION SEPTEMBER, 2023-24

SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE

CLASS: VIII

M.M.70 TIME 2 HOURS

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

You will not be allowed to write in the first 15 minutes

This time is to be spent reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of the paper is the time allowed to write the answers

THE INTENDED MARKS FOR QUESTIONS AND PARTS OF QUESTIONS ARE GIVEN IN BRACKETS []

ATTEMPT ALL QUESTIONS

Question 1. (Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question)

Write a composition of about 250 to 300 words on any one of the following topics: -

[20]

- (a) Your class had to conduct the morning assembly. Write an account of how you prepared for it, what your role was and what you gained from the experience.
- (b) Imagine that a passenger aeroplane has crashed on the ground close to your home. Write a composition describing the scene of disaster and what you and other people did to help the injured.
- (c) 'School examinations do not test intelligence.' Express your views either **for** or **against** this statement.
- (d) Write an original story beginning with, 'I jumped from the bed at midnight.....'
- (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. (Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question)

Select ONE of the following:

[15]

- (a) A number of loose electric wires are hanging from a lamp post near the main gate of your school. Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner of your town explaining the problem and the danger it poses. Also, suggest a quick solution.
- (b) The children in your neighbourhood are forced to play on the street for want of a proper playing area. Write a letter to the editor of a popular newspaper, pointing out the need for a playground in your neighbourhood. Give reasons why you think a playing area is necessary and point out how it would benefit everyone who lives in that area.

Question 3. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: -

[20]

That huge bell never stopped ringing. It got us out of bed, it **summoned** us for meals, it rang between class periods, it sent us unwillingly to bed.

One morning it failed to ring or rather there was no bell to ring. Someone had removed it, and it wasn't found till late in the afternoon.

What a glorious day! As there was no bell to rouse us, everyone got up late, and there was no morning PT. Some teachers got confused and mixed up the classes. How could the school manage without it? Confusion reigned.

Of course, no one owned up. It could have meant suspension. Some suspicion fell on the Sports Captain because of our **aversion** to morning PT, but nothing could be proved.

No one was very anxious to find the bell -- we were quite happy without it -- but it was finally discovered hanging from a branch of one of the trees.

'It may have been Mr. Sharma,' said Brian. Mr. Sharma, our Maths teacher, was known to walk in his sleep. And sleepwalkers did funny things sometimes.

'It could be Moolchand himself,' suggested Cyrus Satalkar.

Moolchand was the school chowkidar, who also had the job of banging the brass bell at appointed times.

'Why would he throw it away? He must be as fed up with ringing it as we are of hearing it.' This was my theory. 'Perhaps he wants a raise in salary.'

The identity of the culprit remained a mystery.

Soon there was another sensation.

A girl was admitted to our class!

The boys were **scandalized**. No girl had ever studied in our school before. We protested.

'What is the problem?' asked Mr Knight, our school master. 'Haven't you seen a girl before?'

Tata, who was our spokesman said, 'How will we concentrate on our studies, sir?'

'When did you ever concentrate on your studies, Tata?'

'Are we going co-ed, sir? Adams wanted to know.

'Not at all,' said Mr Knight. 'This is a special case. She is the school accounts manager's daughter and he can't afford the Girls school fees. So, I'm sure you'll make her feel very welcome.'

The accountant was a popular man who also ran the school's tuck shop and allowed most of us a certain amount of credit. All our objections faded away. At first Sunita, our new entrant, was a bit of a distraction because, although she was very shy and modest, she had lovely curly hair, bright eyes, pink cheeks and a smile for everyone. All the boys were very polite and attentive to her and Brian in particular was always ready to help her.

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

[3]

(1) summoned

- (a) totalled
- (c) requested

- (b) ordered
- (d) shout

(2) aversion

- (a) politeness
- (c) hatred

- (b) fear
- (d) creation

- (3) scandalized
 (a) impressed (b) happy
 (c) moved (d) shocked
- (ii) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words: -
- (a) Why did no one own up to having removed the missing bell? [1]
 (b) Why did suspicion fall on the Sports Captain? [2]
 (c) What made Brian think that it was Mr. Sharma? [2]
 (d) Which sentence in the passage tells you that Mr. Knight thought poorly of Tata's academic performance? [2]
 (e) Why was the accountant a popular man? [2]
- (iii) In not more than 50 words describe the effects of the lost bell. [8]

Question 4. Fill in the blanks with a suitable determiner: -

[½X6=3]

- (a) There is _____ milk in the milk - pot to make a cup of tea.
 (b) There were tall trees on _____ side of the road.
 (c) The teacher gave him _____ books.
 (d) _____ man should do his duty.
 (e) This bicycle costs me _____ hundred rupees.
 (f) She spends _____ money on clothes.

Question 5. Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage but write in correct order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space: -

[½X8=4]

Example:-

One night four college students _____ (be) out partying late and did not study for the test scheduled for the next day.

Answer: were

In the morning, they (1) _____ (think) of a plan. They (2) _____ (make) themselves look dirty with grease and dirt. Then they (3) _____ (go) to the Dean and (4) _____ (say) they (5) _____ (go) out to a wedding last night and on their way back the tyre of their car burst and they had to push the car all the way back.

The Dean thought for a minute and said that they could have the re-test after three days. They (6) _____ (thank) him and said they would be ready. On the day of the test, they were made to sit in separate rooms. They agreed as they (7) _____ (prepare) well. But they (8) _____ (get) a rude shock!

Question 6. Place the adverbs given in brackets in a suitable position in the sentences given below. Choose the correct option :-

[4]

- (a) I have to go to the town. (often)
 (i) I have to often go to the town.
 (ii) I often have to go to the town.
 (iii) I have to go often to the town.
- (b) She was clever to speak the truth. (enough)
 (i) She was enough clever to speak the truth.
 (ii) She was clever to speak the truth enough.
 (iii) She was clever enough to speak the truth.
- (c) We have dinner at eight. (usually)
 (i) We have dinner usually at eight.
 (ii) We usually have dinner at eight.
 (iii) We have usually dinner at eight.

- (d) He had finished his meal. (almost)
- (i) He almost had finished his meal.
 - (ii) He had finished his almost meal.
 - (iii) He had almost finished his meal.

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

[4]

- (a) I was buying a book.
- (i) A book was bought by me.
 - (ii) A book was being bought by me.
 - (iii) A book had been bought by me.
- (b) My uncle sent me a beautiful gift.
- (i) I was sent a beautiful gift by my uncle.
 - (ii) My uncle will send me a beautiful gift.
 - (iii) A beautiful gift had been sent to me by my uncle.
- (c) Who has broken the jug?
- (i) By whom was the jug broken?
 - (ii) By whom has the jug broken?
 - (iii) By whom has the jug been broken?
- (d) Show the right path.
- (i) Let me show you the right path.
 - (ii) Let him show you the right path.
 - (iii) Let the right path be shown.