

ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY, DEHRADUN
FIRST TERM EXAMINATION SEPTEMBER, 2021-22

SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASS VIII

M.M.: 60 TIME: 2 HOURS

NAME OF THE STUDENT CLASS/SECTION ROLL NO.

Q1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

[20]

A-1
Mount Vesuvius, a volcano located between the ancient Italian cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum, has received **adequate** attention because of its frequent and destructive eruptions. The most famous of these eruptions occurred in A.D.

The volcano had been inactive for centuries. There was little warning of the coming eruption, although one account **unearthed** by archaeologists says that a hard rain and a strong wind had disturbed the celestial calm during the preceding night. Early the next morning, the volcano poured a huge river of molten rock down upon Herculaneum, completely burying the city and filling the harbor with coagulated lava. **Ans 3**

Meanwhile, on the other side of the mountain, cinders, stone and ash rained down on Pompeii. Sparks from the burning ash **ignited** the combustible rooftops quickly. Large portions of the city were destroyed in the conflagration. Fire, however, was not the only cause of destruction. Poisonous sulfuric gases saturated the air. These heavy gases were not buoyant in the atmosphere and therefore sank towards the earth and suffocated people.

Over the years, excavations of Pompeii and Herculaneum have revealed a great deal about the behavior of the volcano. By analyzing data, much as a zoologist dissects an animal specimen, scientists have concluded that the eruption changed large portions of the area's geography. For instance, it turned the Sarno River from its **course** and raised the level of the beach along the Bay of Naples. Meteorologists studying these events have also concluded that Vesuvius caused a huge tidal wave that affected the world's climate. **A4.**

In addition to making these investigations, archaeologists have been able to study the skeletons of victims by using distilled water to wash away the volcanic ash. By strengthening the brittle bones with acrylic paint, scientists have been able to examine the skeletons and draw conclusions about the diet and habits of the residents. Finally, the excavations at both Pompeii and Herculaneum have **yielded** many examples of classical art, such as jewelry made of bronze, which is an alloy of copper and tin. The eruption of Mount Vesuvius and its tragic consequences have provided everyone with a wealth of data about the effects that volcanoes can have on the surrounding area. Today, volcanologists can locate and predict eruptions, saving lives and preventing the destruction of other cities and cultures. **Ans**

a) Give the synonyms/meaning of the following words as used in the passage;

[5]

- (i) adequate **enough, sufficient much - maximum**
- (ii) unearthed **- revealed, discovered, found.**
- (iii) ignited **- set fire to / burnt**
- (iv) course **- path / route / direction**
- (v) yielded **- given / allowed / sanctioned. revealed. provided delivered revealed in shown.**

(b) Answer the following questions:

- Mount Vesuvius*
- (i) Which volcano had been inactive for centuries and where was it located? [10]
 - (ii) What information based on an account had archaeologists found out regarding the coming eruption? [2]
 - (iii) What had happened a night before the volcano had erupted and what did this result in? [2]
 - (iv) How have 'Zoologists' and 'Scientists' been compared in the above passage? [2]
 - (v) What information did the excavations at both Pompeii and Herculaneum provide? [2]

(c) In not more than 50 words, describe the effect of the lava on the ancient Italian cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum. [5]

Q2. (a) Write a letter to the Superintendent of Police complaining against the thefts in your locality. Also, suggest suitable solutions to this problem. [15]

OR

(b) Write a letter to the Editor of a local newspaper expressing your views on the challenges that have been faced by the people during the Covid 19 Pandemic and lockdown.

Q3. Change the following sentences into Passive Voice:

- (i) *Flowers are given by Rajiv to his mother on her birthday.*
Rajiv gives flowers to his mother on her birthday.
- (ii) *The train had been missed by him.*
He had missed the train.
- (iii) *The work will be finished in a week by the Carpenter.*
The carpenter will finish the work in a week.
- (iv) *Let my work be completed by me.*
Let me complete my work.
- (v) *By whom was the Chipko movement started?*
Who started the Chipko Movement?
- (vi) *A beautiful painting is being painted by him.*
He is painting a beautiful picture.
- (vii) *Many awards & honours were received.*
Rabindranath Tagore received many awards and honours.
- (viii) *You are requested.*
Please complete your homework on time.
- (ix) *Her story must be completed soon.*
She must complete her story soon.
- (x) *The poem was being recited by the students.*
The students were reciting the poem confidently.

Q4. Rewrite the following sentences by placing the adverb, given in the bracket, in the correct position:

- (i) *never*
He has visited this tourist place. (never)
- (ii) *almost*
My son forgot my birthday but I reminded him. (almost)
- (iii) *usually*
She revises her work before submitting it. (usually)
- (iv) *often*
We are insensitive towards the feelings of others. (often)
- (v) *seldom*
We spend time with our loved ones. (seldom)
- (vi) *definitely*
My friend is moving to a quieter place for a month. (definitely)

Q5. Fill in the blanks with suitable Determiners:

[½ X12=6]

- (i) He misses the ~~those~~ days when he was young and energetic.
- (ii) Are there any files on my table?
- (iii) There are many ~~doz~~ ^{a lot of} people who have gathered in the park which is unacceptable during this Pandemic.
- (iv) I saw the Eiffel Tower when I went to Paris.
- (v) Mother said, "I don't have any ^{/much} time at hand."
- (vi) Very few people are still wearing masks.
- (vii) Ramesh is the most creative boy in the class.
- (viii) There isn't any ^{much} work to be done at home and so you can relax.
- (ix) I was pleased to hear that my ^{/her / your} mother visited Rita at her hostel.
- (x) I like many of her songs, but not all of them are good.
- (xi) I'm sure that I'll go to Europe one ~~one~~ day.
- (xii) On Environment Day, there were trees planted on either ^{/one/ the} side of the road. ~~other~~

Q6. Punctuate the following sentences:

[3]

Jack London one of Americas ^{major} writers once said, "i would rather be a superb meteor glow than a sleepy, boring and permanent planet."