



विद्या सर्वार्थ साधिका

ANANDALAYA
PERIODIC TEST – 1
Class : VIII

Subject: English
Date : 16-07-2022

M.M: 30
Time: 1 hr 30 min

General Instructions:

1. This paper is divided into four sections: A, B, C and D
2. All the sections are compulsory.
3. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
4. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

Section A (Reading) 6 Marks

1. Read the following passage and answer the following question

An Amazing Ancestor

1. Many children have never seen it, yet without the typewriter, there would not have been a computer as we know it. The typewriter is the ancestor of the personal computer that is such a major part of our lives. Did you ever wonder why computer keyboards (and now some mobile phones as well) have the strange layout that they have, with the QWERTY keys across the top left? The answer lies buried in decision made more than a hundred years ago, when the typewriter first appeared.
2. The placement of letters in this odd way in the QWERTY keyboard was intended to prevent frequently struck keys from colliding; thus the E was next to the W and so on. As people became faster typist, this was an important consideration. The QWERTY keyboard also became popular because it was the first keyboard, and was manufactured by Sholes and Glidden. The late nineteenth century saw continued product improvements.
3. The first models appeared around the turn of the century, but they were not successful. It was not until the 1930s, when electricity was more common, that the company IBM came on the scene with the electric typewriter. The need for speed and automation led to further development of typewriters. Although the electronic typewriter, took over, like the manual typewriter, it was far from silent. The various sounds of the typewriter were one of the most memorable by-products of the age of the typewriter.
4. This age came to an end — with the advent of the personal computer. The electric became electronic, the physical became digital. A set of typewriter keys are pressed, but what is now recorded are bits and bytes that are saved on discs of all sorts, transmitted over great distances and much easier than ever to correct. More recently even the keyboard on mobile phones has become digital. Little did its inventors know where their keyboard would one day be found!

5. What has not changed, however, is the ideal environment when trying to write something. A bright lamp and a comfortable chair in front of a table or desk are as desirable now as they were yesterday. Whether a typewriter or a laptop, the human challenge is the same — putting thoughts into words for someone else to read. And of course, without literacy, there would be not type, real or digital.

- (a) The text tells us that the typewriter is the ancestor of the personal computer. Which other modern gadgets can be traced to earlier machines and centuries? (mention at least two) (1)
- (b) In what way is the typewriter the ancestor of the personal computer? (1)
- (c) In the early days, the placement of the QWERTY keys was decided upon because_____ (1)
- it made typing easier.
 - this way the most frequently used keys would not hit against each other.
 - this format was made popular by Sholes and Glidden.
 - it prevented one hand from being predominantly used while typing.
- (d) Despite of many technological advances, what has not changed is the_____ (1)
- placement of the letters on the keyboards.
 - need for electricity which continues even now.
 - ideal environment for writing.
 - putting of thoughts into words for another to read.
- (e) The main reason which led to improvements in typewriter was the_____ (1)
- need for speed and automation.
 - desire to reduce paper wastage.
 - demand for more user friendly and comfortable keyboards.
 - global movement of converting the physical into the digital.
- (f) Find the antonym of the word ‘allow’ from para 2. (1)

Section B (Writing) 8 Marks

2. Given below are some notes about the life and achievements of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the chief architect of India’s Constitution. Write the factual description of Dr. Ambedkar. You can take help from the hints given below. (3)

- 1891 Born – Mhow, Madhya Pradesh
- 1913 Awarded a Baroda State Scholarship
- 1915 Passed MA Economics – Columbia University, New York – obtained PhD.
- 1921-23 Obtained MSc from London School of Economics; obtained DSc.
- 1940 – 42 Served in Governor-General’s Executive Council as Labour Member
- 1948 As Chairman of the Constituent Assembly’s Drafting Committee and Law Minister in the Nehru cabinet; submitted the first draft of the Indian Constitution.

OR

On the basis of the information provided in the box below, write the factual description of Abraham Lincoln.

Born: 1809 in Northern Kentucky

Family: Father- wealthy farmer, lost his land when Lincoln was 7, moved to Indiana
Mother- died when he was nine, family moved to Illinois soon after

Education: Little formal education, loved to read. Studied law by reading law books- became a lawyer in 1837, Springfield, Illinois

Political Career: began early- served in State Legislature, in the U.S. House of Representatives. Gifted Speaker, speeches against slavery, nomination for Presidency- won in 1860. Re-elected in 1864

Death: assassinated by John Wilks Booth on April 15, 1865. Remembered for wisdom, compassion, patriotism

3. There is a busy road in front of your school. A large number of students have to cross the road while going back home. They run a great risk. Write a letter to the Editor, Hindustan Times, Vadodara drawing attention of the concerned authorities to the problem. Make a request to mark a zebra crossing, deploy a traffic police man and to put traffic lights in front of your school. You are Amit/Anita, Class VIII, New Age Public School, Ram Nagar, Vadodara. (5)

OR

There is a book fair in your city. You have visited the fair and bought a few books. You were thrilled and loved the atmosphere which was lively and filled with book lovers. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper expressing your views and feeling about the importance of reading and book fairs for the students of your age.

Section C (Grammar) 5 Marks

4. The passage given below has a mistake in each line. Write the mistake as well as the correction in your answer sheet. The first one is done as an example. (3)

	Incorrect	Correct
Banana is an popular fruit and (Example)	an	a
(a) an important part to our diet today.		
(b) It originally belonged in South Asia		
(c) region where it using to grow wild		
(d) in the forests. Over the years, scientific selection		
(e) yield the edible banana.		
(f) We all liked this fruit.		

5. Complete the following paragraph by filling in the blanks. (2)

Los Angeles' architect, Frank Gehry is well known (a) his striking and inventive creations. For Google, he (b) designed a truly iconic building that now represents the city on postcards (c) photographs around the world. He is (d) extraordinary architect.

Section D (Literature) 11 Marks

6. Read the extract from the poem and answer the following questions. (2)

(a) *'His coat is dusty from neglect, his whiskers are uncombed.*

He sways his head from side to side, with movements like a snake;

And when you think he's half asleep, he's always wide awake.'

- (i) The last line tells you about his deceptive behaviour. Why does he behave so?
(ii) Which figure of speech is used in the third line?

7. Read the extract from the lesson and answer the following question.

'You must cure me of this horrible illness. I can't tell you how it's affecting my work.'

- (i) What is this horrible illness the speaker is talking about?
(ii) Why is it affecting speaker's work?

8. Answer **any one** question in 30 words. (2)

What is disaster management? How can the victims of tsunami be helped?

OR

Why did Chunilal write a letter to Bepin babu?

9. Answer **any one** question in 30 words. (2)

Explain the contrast between the two poems 'The Ant and the Cricket' and 'Macavity'.

OR

How did the Djinn help the three animals when they complained about the camel?

10. Answer the question in 100 to 120 words. (any one) (3)

Djinn found a solution to the problem faced by the three animals. Write about your experience where you would have come across such situations in your life where you faced a problem but somehow you found a solution by using your life skills or abilities.

OR

Chunilal used his imagination to punish Bepin Babu for his unfeeling behaviour. What could have been its effects on Bepin Babu? Are you in favour of Chunilal's act? Why?