



विद्या सर्वार्थ साधिका

**ANANDALAYA**  
**PERIODIC TEST-2**  
Class : IX

Subject : English Communicative (101)  
Date : 27-09-2022

M.M : 80  
Time : 3 Hours

**General Instructions:**

1. The Question Paper contains four sections.
2. Section A-Reading Section has 2 passages. Answer the question in brief.
3. Section B-Writing Section has 4 questions with options in each question. Adhere the word limit as given in the instructions with each question.
4. Section C-Grammar Section has 3 questions. Attempt the questions, as per specific instructions for each question.
5. Section D-Literature Section has 4 questions. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

**SECTION-A**

**Reading Section (26 Marks)**

1. Read the passage given below. (10x1=10)
  1. 'What can I do for you, master?' he said. 'I am at your command'. The landlord was taken aback by the sight of the huge monster who stood before him, and by the sound of his terrible voice, but he summoned up enough courage to say, 'You can work for me provided you don't expect any salary.' 'Very well!', said the demon, 'but I have one condition. You must give me enough work to keep me busy all the time. If I have nothing to do, I shall kill you and eat you. Juicy landlords are my favourite dish.'
  2. The landlord, certain that there was enough work to keep several demons busy forever, agreed to these terms. He took the demon to a large tank which had been dry for years, and said: 'You must deepen this tank until it is as deep as the height of two palm trees.' 'As you say, master', said the demon, and set to work. The landlord went home, feeling sure that the job would take several weeks. But the demon was done with the task in half a day. Whatever task the landlord gave was completed in no time. 'How shall I keep him busy?' he asked, turning to his wife for aid. 'If he goes on at this rate, he'll soon have an excuse for killing and eating me!'
  3. 'You must not lose heart.', said the landlord's wife. 'Get all the work you can out of the demon. You'll never find such a good worker again. And when you have no work for him, let me know -I'll find something to keep him busy.' 'I'm getting hungry, said the demon. Come on, master, give me more work, quickly!' The landlord felt helpless. 'My dear friend, he said, 'my wife says she has a little job for you. Do go and see what it is she wants done. When you have finished, you can come and eat me, because I just can't see how I can keep you busy much longer!'
  4. The landlord's wife, now came out of the house, holding in her hands a long hair which she had just pulled out of her head. 'Well, my good demon,' she said. 'I have a very light job for you. I'm sure you will do it in a twinkling. Take this hair, and when you have made it perfectly straight, bring it back to me.' All night he sat in a Peepal tree, trying to straighten the hair. He kept rolling it against his thighs and then lifting it up to see if it had become straight. But no, it would still bend!

5. Then he remembered that goldsmiths, when straightening metal wires, would heat them over a fire. So, he made a fire and placed the hair over it, and in the twinkling of an eye it frizzled and burnt up. The demon was horrified. He dared not return to the landlord's wife. Not only had he failed to straighten the hair, but he had lost it too. Feeling that he had disgraced himself, he ran away to another part of the land. So, the landlord was rid of his demon. But he had learnt a lesson. He decided that it was better to have tenants working for him than demons, even if it meant paying for their services.

**Source: An abridged version of "A Demon for Work" by Ruskin Bond**

On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions. (Any 10)

(10x1=10)

- (a) What was the demon's condition?
- A. limited work hours  
B. Healthy work environment  
C. to be kept occupied at all times  
D. fair remuneration
- (b) Why was the landlord intimidated by the demon?
- A. he had sharp teeth and red eyes  
B. he was extremely professional  
C. he was rude and offensive  
D. he was huge with a terrible voice
- (c) Why do you think the landlord wanted a demon to work for him?
- (d) Why was the landlord scared of the demon's brisk pace at work?
- (e) What advice would you give the landlord to avert him from hiring the demon?
- A. The highest branch is not the safest roost  
B. The only free cheese is in the mousetrap  
C. The harder you work, the luckier you get.  
D. If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.
- (f) How did the landlord's wife reassure him?
- A. She assured him that she would find something to occupy the demon.  
B. She assured him that she would offer herself to the demon in place of her husband.  
C. She planned to kill the demon before he could eat the landlord.  
D. She promised to convince the demon to let the landlord go.
- (g) Which of the following words best describe the wife?
- A. Brave, Fierce, powerful  
B. Intelligent, honest, docile  
C. Witty, funny, polite  
D. Clever, Confident, quick-witted
- (h) Choose the correct statements.
- i. The demon was always hungry.  
ii. The wife found a swift and smart solution to her husband's problem.  
iii. The landlord was stingy.  
iv. The landlord was really pleased with the demon's work.  
v. The demon was too ashamed to return to the landlord as he failed to complete his task  
vi. The wife wanted her hair straightened for an upcoming wedding
- A. vi, v, ii  
B. v, iii, ii  
C. iii, iv, v  
D. ii, iv, vi
- (i) What task did the wife give to the demon and why?
- (j) Fill in the blank with a phrase from paragraph 1 of the passage.  
*I was so \_\_\_\_\_ by the engine backfiring. I really thought someone fired a gun.*
- (k) On reading the story would you agree that wit and wisdom is stronger than muscle power? Why/Why not?

2. Read the passage given below. (Any 10)

(10x1=10)

1. No matter how much students feel that going to a regular school is monotonous or causes hindrance to their preparation, coaching institutes cannot be a substitute for the school experience. School plays an important part in shaping the life of a student. They focus not just on a students' academic performance but also on their overall development.
2. A school provides a platform for each child to become aware of their skills and polish existing skills.
3. It goes without saying that a coaching institute provides students with all the possible resources and exposure so as to get the best result from them, making them believe they have a 100% chance of making it to a top-notch college. With students so focused on their goal and surrounded by everyone who has the same goal as them, they often overlook the importance of keeping a backup plan. Having thought of no fallback options, students drop multiple years preparing for the same entrance exam and later when they fail to crack the examination, or plan to change their course, due to gap-year(s) and low scores, they fall prey to low self-confidence and self-esteem.
4. On the other hand, when children attend school regularly, they come across a mixed crowd. School provides an environment for social connectivity, a place where students get to meet other students with different potentials. Whether someone is academically oriented or has other potential skills (ECA/ Sports), they become aware of multiple options that lie in front of them and, therefore, avoid living in a vacuum environment.

**Source: An extract from the article “Ask a Career Coach: Should My Child Join a Dummy School?” (<https://www.mindler.com>)**

- (a) Do you think that dummy schools are a substitute for regular schools? Justify your answer based on the passage.
- (b) Why do you think social connectivity is necessary for students? Justify your answer with the help of the passage.
- (c) “A jack of all trades is a master of none but often times better than the master of one.” Do you agree? Justify your answer based on the passage.
- (d) Why do students choose to study in dummy schools?
  - A. Because it is like a long vacation approved by parents.
  - B. Because it allows more hours for sleep and play
  - C. Because most students are introverts
  - D. Because it guarantees admission to reputed institutes.
- (e) Choose the correct statements based on your reading of the passage.
  - i. Regular schools engage students in multiple activities besides academics
  - ii. Dummy schools help students relax and create tension free environment for them.
  - iii. Regular schools take too much of time and effort and cause hindrance for students aspiring to write competitive exams.
  - iv. Dummy schools deprive students from all career options except the exam they planned to prepare for.
  - v. It is important to focus on a singular goal in order to succeed. “Too many options give too many excuses for failure.”

A. i, v	B. i, iii
C. i, iv	D. ii,iii

(f) “Having thought of no fallback options, students drop multiple years preparing for the same entrance exam and later when they fail to crack the examination, or plan to change their course, due to gap-year(s) and low scores, they fall prey to low self-confidence and self-esteem.” Choose a proverb from the options given below to suggest prevention of such a situation.

- A. It is no use crying over spilt milk.                      B. Don't put all your eggs in one basket  
C. you can't make an omelet without                      D. Where there's a will there's a way  
breaking a few eggs

**Father:** Dummy schools follow an established routine which keeps you focused on your goal and does not let you get distracted.

**Sister:** What you call distractions are necessary social skills. Such social skills are highly valued in a professional setup. Regular schools, along with academics help students engage in social interaction with peers which gives them an edge over students from dummy schools.

**Mother:** Rubbish! School life is for studying. Not for socializing. There is plenty of time for that later after you have achieved your goal in life.

**Sister:** One exam cannot be called “goal of life”. Moreover, think about it, you focus on a single exam throughout two or three years and then suddenly you are pushed into the real world and are expected to juggle between four tasks at once. Won't it be like coming out into the world after a long sentence in a solitary cell.

- (g) Who do you think is right and why? Answer the question based on your reading of the passage.
- (h) “Time management is a necessary skill required in life. Regular schools help students get ready for extensive time management.” Do you think this is true? Justify your answer.
- (i) Do you agree with the sister when she says that one exam cannot be called “the goal of life”? Give reasons for your answer.
- (j) Why are regular schools better for student's overall development?  
A. students get to focus on their non-academic skills as well  
B. the discipline is much stricter in such schools  
C. students learn to obey hierarchy in a professional setting  
D. school exams keep students on their toes.
- (k) Choose the proverb from the given options which conveys the message that though studying in a regular school requires more hard work and effort, it is important.  
A. Cross the stream where it is shallowest  
B. Different strokes for different folks  
C. Don't empty the water jar until the rain falls  
D. A ship in harbour is safe, but that is not what ships are built for

## SECTION-B

### Writing Section (25 Marks)

3. You are Asma/Ashish, the head girl/boy of XYZ international school. Your school is soon going to publish the annual magazine next month. Write a notice for the notice board of your school inviting students to submit write-ups.

OR

(1x3=3)

You are Secretary of Gymkhana Club, Madurai. Write a notice in not more than 50 words informing the members to attend a special meeting of the governing body to plan the sport events to be conducted in the year 2022-23. Include details like date, time, venue etc. Sign as Prabhu/Pratibha Gupta.

4. Rajeshwari and Meera are discussing about making Military service compulsory for the youth after their graduation. Rajeshwari is of the opinion that the country is going through a very crucial phase and facing many internal and external threats. Therefore, India needs youth who can protect it. While Meera feels that in a democratic country nobody should be forced to do something and it should only be voluntary. Taking cue from the question and with your own ideas write their conversation in the form of a dialogue.

**OR**

(1x5=5)

Faizan and Shashi are discussing about the importance of nutritional food served in their school. Shashi dislikes the school food as he is obsessed with fast food. Faizan is of the opinion that the school food is a community food which is just not for its taste but also for eating together irrespective of their differences, learning to eat with table manners and respecting simple & nutritious food. But Shashi believes that food is a way to have fun and nobody should be forced to eat specific food. Write their conversation in the form of a dialogue.

5. Write a letter to your friend Rudra/Rutvi inviting him/her to spend the summer vacation at your place in Anand. Write in your letter what is special about Anand being the milk capital of India and the places to visit in and around Anand. You are Sakshi/ Saksham. Do not exceed 120 words.

**OR**

(1x7=7)

Write a letter to your friend appreciating his/her book review that he/she wrote for a magazine and got published. Write to him/her that you have also started reading the books in your school library and getting benefitted in your overall development. You are Robert/Robina. Word limit: 120 words.

6. A leader should be able to direct and motivate others, take overall accountability, organise and motivate his team members, ready to take initiative on behalf of his team, have perseverance when things are not working as per plan, have a positive attitude towards failures and frustrations, adapt in changing circumstances, have a good vision towards the consequences and treat his team members the way he wants to be treated. Write a paragraph giving a suitable title in 150 words and describe an exemplary leader keeping in mind the above mentioned traits of an ideal leader.

**OR**

(1x10=10)

The consequences and effects of global warming are measurable and visible on the planet. Write a paragraph on the topic ‘Saving Mother Earth’ in 150 words using following points.

- Sea levels have risen about 7 inches in the last 100 years sea levels will rise by 7-23 inches by the end of this century
- Since 1880, the average temperature has risen by 1.4-Fahrenheit degrees.
- The last two decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century have been hottest in the past 400 years causing extreme weather changes
- Increasing temperatures will release more greenhouse gases, unlock methane, and cause more evaporation of water.
- With this rate it will be extremely difficult to prevent the world from collapsing from global warming.

### SECTION-C

#### Grammar Section (10 Marks)

7. Rearrange the following words/phrases to form meaningful sentences. (3x1=3)

- pleased/God/brings/prosperity/rain/when
- over pleased/he/when/havoc/but/causes
- blessings/one/rain/nature/of/wonders/is/the/and/of

8. In the passage given below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and the word that comes after it in your answer sheets. (4x1=4)

**Before                      Missing                      After**

I badly wanted learn swimming,                      i.  
so I hired a trainer who train me                      ii.  
for a month. After training was complete                      iii.  
I swim alone, without anyone navigating me.                      iv.

9. The passage given below is not complete. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words to complete it.

Sadao Hoki’s house (i)..... built on a spot of the Japanese coast (ii)..... as a little boy he had often played. The low, square stone house was set (iii)..... rocks well above a narrow beach that was outlined with bent pines. (3x1=3)

### SECTION-D

#### Literature (26 Marks)

10. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions in brief. (ANY ONE) (4x1=4)

“My grandmother, Krishtakka, never went to school. So, she could not read. Every Wednesday, the magazine would come and I would read the next episode of the story to her. During that time, she would forget all her work and listen with the greatest concentration. Later, she could repeat the entire text by heart. My grandmother too never went to Kashi so she identified herself with the novel’s protagonist.”

- Why Krishakka could not go to school?
- Which magazine is talked about in the passage?
- What was the aspiration of the protagonist of the story?

- iv. Use the word ‘identify’ in your own sentence and in the same context as it is used in the passage.

**OR**

To start off with, why isn’t the price marked on the signboard? You French people have a cute way of doing business! You go and tell your boss that if he doesn’t come right away, I’m going. I haven’t any time to waste. Any hold up makes me sick when I want something. (MAID goes out.) Oh, you’re the husband, I suppose. Good afternoon. Do you speak American?

- i. Justify the statement “I haven’t any time to waste”?  
ii. What ‘cute business’ the speaker is talking about?  
iii. Who is the husband mentioned in the passage?  
iv. Use the phrase ‘hold up’ in your own sentence and in the same context as it is used in the passage.

11. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions in brief. (ANY ONE) (3x1=3)

*“Till last by Philip’s farm I flow  
To join the brimming river,  
For men may come and men may go,  
But I go on forever.”*

- i. What is the river brimming with?  
ii. Explain the line “*For men may come and men may go, But I go on forever.*”  
iii. The poet has repeated certain lines in the poem. What is this repetition called?

**OR**

*“Behold her, single in the field,  
Yon solitary Highland Lass!  
Reaping and singing by herself;  
Stop here, or gently pass!”*

- i. Why is the girl called “highland lass”?  
ii. What advice does the poet give the passers-by?  
iii. Which rhyme scheme is used in the given stanza?

12. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words. (Any Five) (5x2=10)

- i. How do we know that Sudha Murthy’s grandmother was determined to read?  
ii. “The pair set daily goals.” Who were the pair? What were their daily goals? (A Dog named Duke)  
iii. Why did his fellow trainees dislike Private Quelch?  
iv. What sort of relationship could exist between Juliette and the maid? Justify your answer.  
v. Discuss the title of the poem “The Road Not Taken”. Is it appropriate for the poem?  
vi. How does the narrator bring out the beauty of the song of the solitary reaper?

13. Answer the following questions in 150 words. (Any One) (1x8=8)

Juliette says Gaston is very witty. Do you agree? Discuss the humour evoked by Gaston’s

**OR**

Bring out the parallels between the life of man and actors on a stage? (The Seven Ages)