



विद्या सर्वार्थ साधिका

ANANDALAYA
PERIODIC TEST - 2
Class: VII

Subject: English
Date : 29-09-2023

M.M: 50
Time: 2 hrs.

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains four parts.
2. All the parts are compulsory.
3. Read carefully and answer the questions according to the specific instructions.

SECTION- A (READING) (12 Marks)

1. Read the passage given below:

1. A long time ago, a king lived with his three queens in a great wooden palace in the Himalaya mountains. When the snow on the mountains melted, the king walked with his queens in the meadows that surrounded the royal palace. The meadows were full of flowers and it made them happy just to be among the fragrant blossoms that filled the grassy slopes. Then, one day, the king's chief minister reminded him that, according to the customs of their land, he had to choose one of his queens to be the chief queen and rule the kingdom by his side. The king became very thoughtful. "I like all my queens equally. How can I choose one to be more important than the other?" The chief minister, who was a very wise man, folded his hands and said quietly, "Why not set them a task, Sir? And the one who succeeds best of all, can be the chief queen."
2. "Hmmm," said the king and asked the three queens to come to his apartment. They came with a swish of silk and a tinkling of jewellery. "My birthday falls on the day of the full moon," he told them. "On that day all the people in my kingdom will come to wish me. I want a throne, a birthday throne on which to sit when I receive all my subjects. It should be throne that celebrates the beauty of our beloved land." He paused and looked at the three queens who stood before him. "I'd like each of you to make me a birthday throne," he said. "On the morning of my birthday, I shall choose the one that I think has captured the spirit of our country, and she who has designed and made it will be my chief queen."
3. Saying this, the king went away to attend to very important matters of state, which is what kings did in those days, and the three queens began to think very hard. It was just a week till the full moon and the king's birthday. The queens sent for the best craftsmen in the country. They spent their days locked in their apartments, while servants scurried to and fro carrying mysterious parcels. Except for the youngest queen. She continued to walk on the hillsides and linger in the meadows, talking to shepherds and flower sellers. On the morning of the king's birthday, she woke very early and set to work. Her maids helped her and, before the sun had fully risen, her throne was complete.
4. Slowly, the great palace came to life. Horns and conches were blown to honour the king. From the temple on the hill came the sounds of the bells and gongs while priests chanted prayers for the king's health and happiness. The three queens waited, each in her own room, for the king to come and see the thrones they had made. Soon, the king's messengers came hurrying down the hall. "He's coming," whispered the maids to one another. The king stopped at the apartment of the eldest queen. She

had made a throne of furs. It had a fur of each and every animal in the kingdom. Speckled furs and spotted furs and deep brown and black of the Himalayan bears. “Ooooh!” said the king’s courtiers. “Hmmm,” said the king.

5. They went to the apartment of the second queen. The throne she had made was hidden behind a curtain. As the king and his courtiers walked in, the queen drew the curtain aside and everyone blinked. In the sunlight that poured through the windows, a thousand precious and semi-precious stones glittered and shimmered on a throne made of gold. “Ooooh!” said the king’s courtiers. “Hmmm,” said the king.
6. And they went to the apartment of the youngest queen. In the middle of the room a throne made flowers and leaves from the meadows around the palace. All the wild flowers of the mountains had been woven together to make a delicately lovely throne that filled the room with the fragrance of the forest. The king and his courtiers stood in silence for a few moments, breathing deeply. Dewdrops quivered on the freshly gathered flowers. The chief ministers smiled.
7. Then the king said softly, “This is the wealth of our land. This is the beauty of our land. Not the skins of slaughtered animals, not the treasures of its rocks and soils, but the joy of its flowers and leaves that fill our heart with peace and contentment.” And he led the youngest queen to the hall of audience to tell the people that he had chosen his chief queen.

-from *A folk tale retold by* Monisha Mukundan

Answer the questions given below.

- (i) Why did the king become very thoughtful? (1)
 - (A) Because he wanted to become favourite among the people.
 - (B) Because he didn’t want his wives become sad
 - (C) Because he wanted to show his queens’ beauty to the palace
 - (D) Because he didn’t differentiate among anyone.
- (ii) Why did the king choose the third queen as his chief queen? (1)
 - (A) Because she was the king’s favourite queen
 - (B) Because she bribed the chief minister for the selection
 - (C) Because she valued the nature and real essence of the motherland
 - (D) Because she brought fresh flowers and made the atmosphere pleasant
- (iii) Do you think the king’s chief minister was a clever man? Why? (1)
- (iv) What did the king mean when he said, “This is the wealth of our land”? How can ‘this’ be richer than gems and precious stones? (1)
- (v) If you were to choose one of the three thrones, which one would you choose? Why? (1)
- (vi) Find the words in the passage which mean the same as the following. (2)
 - A. difficult or impossible to understand(para-3)
 - B. happiness and satisfaction (para-6)

2. Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow

*If you can’t be a pine on the top of the hill,
Be a scrub in the valley – but be
The best little scrub by the side of the rill;
Be a bush, if you can’t be a tree.
If you can’t be a bush, be a bit of the grass,
And some highway happier make;
If you can’t be a muskie, then just be a bass-
But the liveliest bass in the lake!
We can’t all be captains, we’ve got to be crew,
There’s something for all of us here.*

*There's big work to do and there's lesser to do
And the task we must do is the near.
If you can't be a highway, then just be a trail,
If you can't be the sun, be a star;
It isn't by size that you win or you fail-
Be the best of whatever you are!*

-Douglas Malloch

- (i) What is the poet's message regarding the roles people play in life? (1)
- (A) People should always strive to be the biggest
(B) Everyone has a valuable role to play
(C) Only the most talented individuals succeed
(D) Size and status are the most important factors
- (ii) According to the poem, why is it important to "Be the best of whatever you are"? (1)
- (A) To become the biggest in one's field
(B) To impress others and gain recognition
(C) To achieve personal fulfillment and make a positive impact
(D) To prove one's superiority over the others
- (iii) Do you think that size determines success or failure? Why? (1)
- (iv) Write the rhyme scheme of the poem. (1)
- (v) State two figures of speech used by the poet in the above poem. (1)

SECTION B (WRITING) (15 Marks)

3. (a) Your grandfather had misplaced his spectacles and searching for it everywhere. You searched it and got it from under the washing machine. Write your experience of helping your grandfather in a diary in not more than 60-70 words. (4)

OR

- (b) You have participated in a school play on the occasion of Independence Day. You were on the stage, the play was going on and you suddenly forgot your dialogues. Describe your experience and feelings in a diary entry in not more than 60-70 words.

4. (a) You are Deven/ Devika, living in a students' hostel of your school. Write an email to your brother telling him about an interesting weekend that you have spent at a friend's house. You can use the clues given below. (80-100 words) (5)
- went to a village – his birthday – unusual games arranged – watched movie – cooked night snacks – climbing a hill – cycling – swimming in a pond

OR

- (b) From the information given below attempt a brief bio-sketch of Kiran Bedi in your own words in about 80-100 words.

Kiran Bedi	
Birth	: 9 th June 1949, Amritsar, Punjab
Education	: Highly educated; won NCC Cadet officer Award; : also has a degree in Law; PhD. from IIT Delhi.
Her work	: Junior National Champion in Tennis; married tennis player Brij Bedi; same year started her police training in Mussourie- only woman in a batch of 80. : First woman in India to become IPS officer 1972. : brought in reduction in crimes against women : launched campaign against drug abuse : introduced several reforms in Tihar jail : joined politics in 2012; appointed as Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry : Authored and translated many books
Awards and Recognition	: Ramon Magsaysay Award; Head of United Nation's Police; President's Police Medal; Lion of the year award; Morrison Tom Gitchoff Award, USA

5. (a) Today's children are fond of riding bikes and cars at very young age. You are Laxman/ Laxmi Gupta, a resident of Jubilee Nagar, Ahmedabad. Use the following notes to write a letter to the editor of 'The Times of India' highlighting the increasing incidents of road accidents in your locality in not more than 120-150 words. (6)
- minor children– driving heavy vehicles–no license –no helmets – follow no traffic rules–exceeding speed – causing accidents–sometimes death

OR

- (b) You are Akshita / Akshaystaying at 15, Agra road, Kanpur. Write a letter to the editor of 'The Indian Express' highlighting the necessity of having better facilities for pedestrians by improving the condition of the footpaths in your city in not more than 120-150 words.
- Use the following notes to write the letter.
- narrow footpaths– pedestrians prone to accidents–unauthorised hawkers on the pavements–pools of stagnant water–parking on the pavements –creative solutions – examples from other countries.

SECTION- C (GRAMMAR) (6 Marks)

6. Read the dialogue and complete the paragraph in reported speech. Do not copy the paragraph. (3)
- Anjali : I have invited four friends for dinner tonight.
Garima: I will also call my friends.
Anjali : What should we serve them for dinner?
Garima: We can serve them Chinese food.

Anjali told Garima (a) _____. Garima said that she would also call her friends. When Anjali asked (b) _____. Garima replied (c) _____.

7. Rearrange the words to make meaningful sentences. Use suitable punctuations. One has been done for you. (3)
- (a) was the first / Galileo / great student of / that/ in the west/ astronomy /to realise/Copernicus/ were true/ the ideas of
Galileo was the first great student of astronomy in the west to realise that the ideas of Copernicus were true.
- (b) the earth/ Copernicus/ it revolves/ had declared/ round the sun/ that/ and/ is a planet
- (c) great excitement/ the / among/ caused/ his theory/ learned men
- (b) to oppose him, /became his enemies/as a/ and/ they began/ looked upon him/ dangerous man

SECTION- D (LITERATURE) (17 Marks)

- 8(a) Read the extract from the lessons and answer the questions which follow. (3x1=3)
- “Ssh!” said Ravi. “I’m thinking about it! Blubbering, ‘it’s not fair, it’s not fair’ isn’t going to help. In two minutes, he’ll be frying his feet on that road. What he needs is a pair of chappals. So where do we get them? Come, let us search the house.” He pushed Mridu and Meena into the house.*
- (i) Why is Ravi speaking the above words?
 (ii) Who will be frying his feet on the road? Why?
 (iii) Where did they get a pair of chappals from?

OR

- 8(b) *“Bah!” The man swung around, and stalked abruptly from the store. Purcell sighed with sudden relief. He waddled to the window and stared out. Just outside, his peculiar customer had halted.*
- (i) Why did the man swing around?
 (ii) Why did Mr. Purcell sigh with sudden relief?
 (iii) What made the peculiar customer halt outside the store?

- 9(a) Read the extract from the poem and answer the questions which follow. (3x1=3)
- My brother says there’s a ghost in the shed
 Who hides under the rotten floorboards,
 And if I ever dare to set foot inside
 He’ll jump out and chop off my head,
 But I’ll take a peek one day*
- (i) How does the brother scare the poet?
 (ii) What can be the probable reason for the fear?
 (iii) Which figure of speech is used in the above stanza?

OR

- 9(b)
- Less noise
 Shut the door behind you
 Don’t drag your feet
 Haven’t you got a hankie?
 Take your hands out
 of your pockets*

- (i) Why is it not important to "Drag your feet" in certain situations?
- (ii) When might the command "Less noise" be given, and why?
- (iii) What's the significance of "Shut the door behind you," and why is it commonly said?

10. Answer the following questions in 60-80 words (**ANY THREE**) (3x2=6)

- (i) Why do mothers and fathers have different perspectives on trees, in the poem 'Trees'.
- (ii) Why do you think the shoemakers chose to continue working in their traditional manner instead of adapting to changing times and consumer demands?
- (iii) The noise in the shop didn't affect Mr. Purcell. Why? Give two reasons
- (iv) Chandni chose to stay and fight the wolf rather than running away to Abbu Khan's house. Analyze Chandni's decision.

11 Answer the following question in not more than 120-150 words. (**ANY ONE**)

- (i) "Having good neighbors make life good and livable, while having bad or quarrelsome neighbors make life hell." Elucidate the statement in the context of the chapter 'The Ashes That Made Trees Bloom.' (5x1=5)

OR

- (ii) When Soapy thought of going to jail, his destiny did not help him. When he yearned to lead a good life, life had made him fall and sent him to prison. Do you think Soapy's life would change after coming out of the prison, or would he continue the same path as before? Why?