



विद्या सर्वार्थ साधिका

ANANDALAYA  
PERIODIC TEST – 1  
Class: VII

Subject: English  
Date : 22 – 07 – 2024

M.M: 40  
Time: 1 hr 30 min

**SECTION A**  
**READING (10 Marks)**

1. Read the passage given below:

Conjurer's Revenge by Stephen Leacock

1. 'Now, ladies and gentlemen, 'said the conjurer, 'having shown you that the cloth is absolutely empty, I will proceed to take from it a bowl of goldfish. Presto! All around the hall people were saying, 'Oh, how wonderful! How does he do it?'
2. But the quick man on the front seat said in a big whisper to the people near him, 'He-had-it-up-his-sleeve.' Then the people nodded brightly at the Quick man and said, 'Oh, of course'; and everybody whispered round the hall, 'He-had-it-up-his-sleeve.'  
'My next trick, 'said the conjurer, 'is the famous Hindustani rings. You will notice that the rings are apparently separate; at a blow they all join (clang, clang, clang) – Presto!'
3. There was a general buzz of stupefaction till the Quick Man was heard to whisper, 'He-must-have-had-another-lot-up-his-sleeve.' Again, everybody nodded and whispered, 'The-rings -were-up-his-sleeve.'
4. The brow of the conjurer was clouded with a gathering frown. 'I will now, 'he continued, 'show you a most amusing trick by which I am enabled to take any number of eggs from a hat. Will some gentleman kindly lend me his hat? Ah, thank you-Presto!'
5. He extracted seventeen eggs, and for thirty -five seconds the audience began to think that he was wonderful. Then the Quick Man whispered along the front bench, "He -has-a-hen-up-his-sleeve, and all the people whispered it on. "He has -a-lot-of-hens-up-his-sleeve." The egg trick was ruined.
6. It went on like that all through. It transpired from the whispers of Quick Man that the conjurer must have concealed up his sleeve, in addition to the rings, hens, and fish, several pack of cards, a loaf of bread, a doll's cradle, a live guinea pig, a fifty-cent piece, and a rocking chair.  
The reputation of the conjurer was rapidly sinking below zero. At the close of the evening, he rallied for a final effort.
7. 'Ladies and gentlemen, 'he said, I will present to you in conclusion, the famous Japanese trick recently invented by the natives of Tipperary. Will you, sir, 'he continued, turning towards the Quick Man, 'will you kindly hand me your gold watch?' It was passed to him. 'Have I your permission to put it into this mortar and pound it to pieces' he asked savagely.  
The Quick Man nodded and smiled.  
The conjurer threw the watch into the mortar and grasped a sledge-hammer from the table. There was a sound of violent smashing, 'He's-slipped-it-up-his-sleeve, 'whispered the Quick Man.
8. 'Now, Sir, 'continued the conjurer, 'will you allow me to take your handkerchief and punch holes in it?

Thank you. You see, ladies and gentlemen, there is no deception; the holes are visible to the eye.’ The face of the Quick Man beamed.

This time the real mystery of the things fascinated him.

‘And now, sir, will you kindly pass me your silk hat and allow me to dance on it?

Thank you. The conjurer made a few rapid passes with his feet and exhibited the hat, crushed beyond recognition.

‘And will you now, sir, take off your celluloid collar and permit me to burn it in the candle? Thank you, sir. And will you allow me to smash your spectacles for you with my hammer? Thank you.’

9. By this time the features of the Quick Man were assuming a puzzled expression. ‘This thing beats me,’ he whispered, ‘I don’t see through it a bit.’

There was a great hush upon the audience.

10. Then the conjurer drew himself up to his full height and, with a withering look at the Quick Man, he concluded: ‘Ladies and gentlemen, you will observe that I have, with this gentlemen’s permission, broken his watch, burnt his collar, smashed his spectacles, and danced on his hat. If he will give me further permission to paint green stripes on his overcoat, or to tie his suspenders in a knot, I shall be delighted to entertain you. If not, the performance is at an end.’

Amid a glorious burst of music from the orchestra the curtain fell, and the audience dispersed, convinced that there are some tricks, at any rate, that are not done up the conjurer’s sleeve.

Answer the questions given below.

Choose the best answer from the given options.

- (a) What was the mood of the audience in the beginning of the show? (1)  
(A) not very interested in the show.  
(B) feeling bored.  
(C) audience was angry.  
(D) appreciative of the efforts of the conjurer.
- (b) The conjurer's reputation was sinking because\_\_\_\_\_. (1)  
(A) he could not perform the tricks.  
(B) the audience was wanted better show.  
(C) the Quick man passed sarcastic comments during his performance.  
(D) his tricks were not very interesting.
- (c) The conjurer decided to take revenge because \_\_\_\_\_. (1)  
(A) the audience was losing interest in the tricks.  
(B) the Quick man spoiled each trick with his remarks.  
(C) the conjurer was very upset with the witty comments of the conjurer.  
(D) All of the above.
- (d) The conjurer took revenge on the Quick Man by \_\_\_\_\_. (1)  
(A) fooling him and destroying all his belongings with his permission.  
(B) ending the show quickly and ran away.  
(C) shouting at him on top of his voice.  
(D) asking questions to the audience.

- (e) Who do you sympathise with, the quick man or the conjurer? Why? (1)
- (f) How do you think the quick man felt at the end of the story? (1)
- (g) Mark True or False. (2)
- (i) The author used the name 'Quick Man' in the story because this man was very quick to comment and convince the audience.
- (ii) The audience realized at the end that the conjurer was not performing the trick but was actually, taking his revenge on the Quick Man.
- (h) Find out the words from the story which mean the same as the following words. (2)
- (i) confusion (para 3)
- (ii) hidden (para 6)

**SECTION B**  
**WRITING (9 Marks)**

2. You have learned to cook a new dish during the summer holidays. Express your feeling of joy and satisfaction in a diary entry. (40-60 words) (4)
3. Your father has been away from home for about a month. Write an email to give him some interesting news. Use the clues given below. (80-100 words) (5)
- [Lots of things have happened – mummy’s school – summer vacation – computer classes – joined some sports/music class – neighbour bought a new car – sister got call for job]

**SECTION C**  
**GRAMMAR (7 Marks)**

4. Choose the most appropriate word from the help box to complete the following passage. Do not copy the passage. (4)

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Thirty-four-year-old Arunima Sinha is not (a) \_\_\_\_\_ ordinary person. Arunima was travelling (b) \_\_\_\_\_ train in 2011 when some men tried (c) \_\_\_\_\_ snatch her gold chain. The feisty young woman put up (d) \_\_\_\_\_ fight but was thrown (e) \_\_\_\_\_ the train (f) \_\_\_\_\_ daring to resist the attempt at chain snatching. (g) \_\_\_\_\_ accident cost Arunima Sinha a leg, which had to be amputated (h) \_\_\_\_\_ the knee.

5. Rearrange the words to make meaningful sentences. One has been done for you. (3)
- (a) disappointment / to / lead / broken / and / sorrow / promises  
Broken promises lead to disappointment and sorrow.
- (b) gentleman / and / his word / is thoughtful / a true / always keeps
- (c) slow to / keep it / he / make a promise / and hasten to / will be
- (d) cost you / promise / broken / your friendship / a / can

**SECTION D**  
**LITERATURE (14 Marks)**

6. Read the poem 'The Squirrel' and answer the following questions. (2)
- (A)
- He wore a question mark for tail,  
An overcoat of gray,  
He sat up to eat a nut.  
He liked to tease and play,  
And if we around his tree,  
He went the other way.*

- (a) What does the squirrel like to do the most?  
(b) Which figure of speech does the poet use in the poem?

**OR**

- (B) Read the extract from the poem 'The Rebel' and answer the following questions.

*When everybody talks during the lesson,  
The rebel doesn't say a word.  
When nobody talks during the lesson,  
The rebel creates a disturbance.  
When everybody wears a uniform,  
The rebel dresses in fantastic clothes.  
When everybody wears fantastic clothes,  
The rebel dresses soberly.*

- (a) How does the rebel behave during lessons?  
(b) Give two examples of the dress sense of the rebel.

7. Answer the following questions in 60-80 words (ANY THREE) (3×2=6)

- (a) 'A sharp V-shaped line had formed between her eyebrows' What does the line suggest? Give reasons.  
(b) The bearded man forgave the king although he was his enemy. Give reasons.  
(c) Why is an ant's life peaceful? Give two reasons.  
(d) What kind of person is Lalli's music master?

8. Answer the following question in not more than 100-120 words. (ANY ONE) (6)

- (A) Compassion, kindness and generosity are great virtues that human beings can possess. But sometimes these qualities bring challenges and embarrassment in our life. Comment on the statement with regard to 'A Gift of Chappals'.

**OR**

- (B) The king is a good human being and has right sense of judgement. Do you agree? Give examples from the story 'The Three Questions' to support your answer.