



विद्या सर्वार्थ साधिका

ANANDALAYA
PERIODIC TEST-1
Class : VIII

Subject : English
Date : 18-07-2024

M.M : 40
Time : 1 Hr. 30 Min.

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains four sections.
2. Section A-Reading Section has a passage for comprehension.
3. Section B-Writing Section has two questions. Adhere to the word limit as given in the instructions with each question.
4. Section C-Grammar Section has three questions. Read the instruction carefully.
5. Section D-Literature Section has three questions. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION-A

Reading Section (10 Marks)

1. Read the passage given below.
 - a) Swami, a thin, ten-year-old boy, hurried home from school, his heart pounding with a mixture of excitement and apprehension. He clutched a fat book to his chest, its cover worn and slightly torn. It was a forbidden treasure – a collection of English ghost stories borrowed from a classmate, Somaskandan.
 - b) Swami wasn't supposed to read books that hadn't been approved by his father. His father, a strict but affectionate man, believed such stories were nonsense and a distraction from Swami's studies. But the charm of the unknown, the whispers of ghosts and haunted houses, was too strong to resist.
 - c) Reaching home, Swami sneaked into his room. He carefully locked the door, his eyes darting around like a hunted hare. He placed the book on his bed, its weight a delightful thrill in his hands. He opened it, the musty scent of old paper filling his nostrils.
 - d) The stories were unlike anything Swami had read before. They spoke of shadowy figures, clanking chains, and ghostly ladies weeping in grand hallways. With each sentence, a shiver ran down his spine. He imagined the old bungalow at the end of their lane, rumoured to be haunted, coming alive with these ghosts.
 - e) Suddenly, a loud creaking sound came from the wooden floorboards. Swami froze. His heart hammered in his chest. Was it a ghost? He squeezed his eyes shut, his breath catching in his throat. Then, a muffled giggle broke the silence. Relief washed over him. It was just his mischievous younger brother, Rajam, peeking through the keyhole.
 - f) Swami glared at Rajam, his fear replaced by annoyance. He knew Rajam would drop a word to his parents if he didn't make a deal. Hurriedly, he whispered a promise to share the stories if Rajam kept quiet. Rajam, a born negotiator, insisted on half the book for a week. After some haggling, they settled on a chapter a day, each taking turns to read aloud.
 - g) Swami continued reading, a newfound determination in his eyes. The fear hadn't completely vanished, but now it was laced with a delicious anticipation. He was no longer just a reader; he was a brave explorer venturing into the unknown world of ghosts and ghouls, with his loyal (and slightly greedy) partner by his side.

On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions.

- (i) Why did Swami feel a mixture of excitement and apprehension while hurrying home? (1)
- (A) He was worried about forgetting to do his homework.
(B) He was excited about reading horror stories he had borrowed.
(C) He was scared of getting caught by his father.
(D) He was tired from a long day at school.
- (ii) What can you infer about Swami's father based on the passage? (1)
- (A) He encourages Swami to read a variety of books.
(B) He prioritizes fun and games over studies.
(C) He believes in the existence of ghosts.
(D) He wants Swami to focus on academic success.
- (iii) Identify whether the following statement is True or False. (1)
Swami borrowed the book from his teacher.
- (iv) Why did Swami decide to share the stories with Rajam? (1)
- (A) He wanted to show off his reading skills.
(B) He was tired of reading alone.
(C) He feared Rajam would betray him.
(D) He thought Rajam enjoyed ghost stories.
- (v) How did Swami feel after the creaking sound and Rajam's appearance? (1)
- (A) More curious about the ghost stories (B) Relieved and slightly annoyed
(C) Still scared and hesitant (D) Angry at Rajam for interrupting
- (vi) The word "clutched" (referring to Swami holding the book) suggests he held it (1)
- (A) Loosely (B) Tightly (C) Carelessly (D) Proudly
- (vii) What is the main conflict Swami faces in the passage? (1)
- (A) Difficulty understanding the ghost stories.
(B) Fear of being caught reading a forbidden book.
(C) Disagreement with his brother about reading time.
(D) Lack of interest in ghost stories.
- (viii) Based on the way Swami and Rajam negotiate their reading arrangement, which qualities can you identify about their personalities? (state 2 each for Swami and Rajam) (1)
- (ix) Use the word 'forbidden' in a meaningful sentence of your own. (1)
- (x) The word "haggling" refers to: (1)
- (A) Bargaining (B) Ignoring (C) Sharing (D) Rushing

SECTION-B

Writing Section (9 Marks)

- 2 A You are Aruni /Arunima, the student editor of the School Magazine. As Aruni/Arunima, invite students to contribute articles, jokes, puzzles, drawings, poems and other interesting creations for the school magazine. Draft the notice, inventing all the necessary details. (word limit-50 words)

OR

(4)

- 2 B You are a member of the local environment conservation group. You observed the difficulties citizens of Anand and elsewhere experienced during the summer season. Draft a poster urging people to protect trees and take other green initiatives. (word limit-50 words)

- 3 A You and your friend, Mihika, are thinking about a weekend trip to a nearby town or park. Briefly mention your idea and ask for her input on the destination and activities. Suggest a few dates that will work for both of you. Write an informal email to your friend in 100 words the above mentioned matter. Use the following points:

consider interests of both persons – distance to be travelled from home and back – budget for the trip – options for accommodation – activities to be done

OR

(5)

- 3 B You are Rohit/Rohini, residing at 56, Munirka Enclave, DDA Flats, Ajmer. Write an informal email to your friend Rahim/Reshma, telling him about your new school in 100 words. Use the following hints:

- Infrastructure- Nice, airy, big classrooms
- Furniture- comfortable, sufficient, attractive
- Playgrounds- big and grassy
- Education- able teachers, computer aided teaching, well equipped labs
- Emphasis- over all development of the child

SECTION-C

Grammar Section (7 Marks)

4. Rearrange the following to make meaningful sentences. The first one has been done as an example: (2x1=2)

laughter/is/the/panacea/for/only/diseases/all.

Ex. Laughter is the only panacea for all diseases.

i. the/laughter/is/medicine/best

ii. ensures/life/it/longer/and/healthier/a

5. Read the given paragraph and complete it by filling up the gaps with the most appropriate option from those given: (3x1=3)

For doing transaction through ATM you (i)..... to find an ATM of any bank.

First you (ii)..... to put your card in the card slot followed by (iii)..... the secret PIN. You are to wait till your transaction is complete.

Then take the currency, collect your card and leave the ATM cabin.

- i. (A) shall (B) are required (C) will (D) needed
- ii. (A) need (B) have to (C) must (D) do
- iii. (A) enter (B) have entered (C) entered (D) entering

6. The following paragraph has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Identify the error and write down its correction against the correct blank number. The first one has been done for you. (2x1=2)

		Error	Correction
The city police have decide	Ex.	decide	decided
to taking stern action against	(i)		
drivers which attempt to	(ii)		
overtake from the left side on city roads.			

SECTION-D
Literature Section (14 Marks)

7. Read the given below and answer the questions that follow. (3x1=3)

*When the jet sprang into the sky,
it was clear why the city
had developed the way it had,
seeing it scaled six inches to the mile.*

*There seemed an inevitability
about what on ground had looked haphazard,
unplanned and without style*

When the jet sprang into the sky

- i. Seen from the window of an aeroplane, the city appears;
- (A) as haphazard as on the ground. (B) as neat as a map.
(C) as developed as necessary. (D) faded with nothing seen clearly
- ii. Which poetic device is used in the first and the last line of the stanza?
- iii. "There seemed an inevitability about what on the ground had looked haphazard". In this sentence what is meant by the word "haphazard"?
- (A) That cannot be avoided (B) That can be avoided
(C) Without plan or order (D) With plan or order

8. Answer the following question in 30-40 words. (Any 3) (3x2=6)

- i. The cricket says, "Oh! What will become of me?" When does he say it, and why?
- ii. What was Bepin Babu's hobby? What would he do every Monday?
- iii. Why did Velu decide to pick up rags?
- iv. Why was it still winter in one corner of the garden?

Answer the following question in 120-150 words. (1x5=5)

- 9 A The story 'Children at Work' highlights a serious issue in our society. Explain.

OR

- 9 B How were the princes short-sighted? (Glimpses of the Past)