



ENGLISH

STANDARD EIGHT

TERM 1

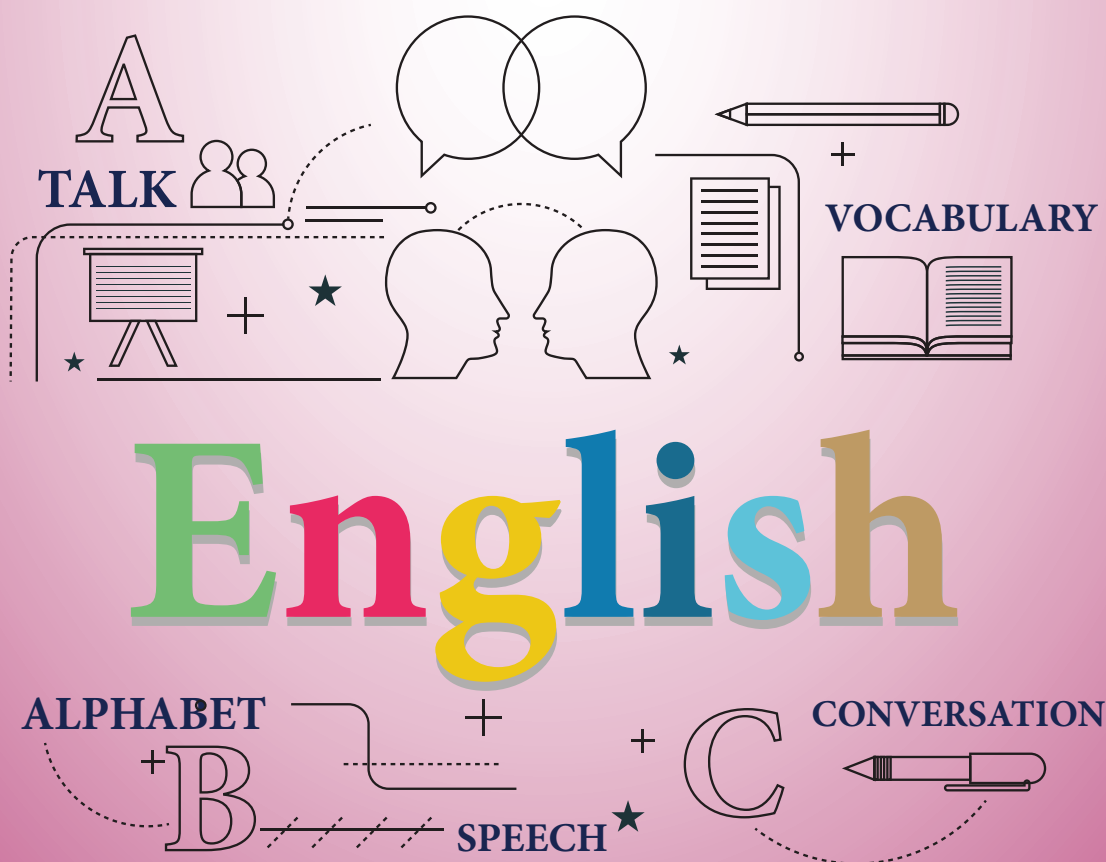


PREFACE

The English textbook for standard VIII has been prepared following the guidelines given in the National Curriculum Framework, 2005. It has been created to make English language learning, both effective and enjoyable. The aim has been to balance learning the structures and vocabulary of the language, with learning their use, in everyday life.

The activities have been graded carefully to allow a gradual building of language proficiency. The lessons provide effective individual and collaborative learning in pairs and groups and enable differentiation in multilevel classrooms. Each unit focuses on the themes of natural and social world to stimulate curiosity and imagination, engaging both heart and mind. An ICT Corner has been introduced in each unit for the first time in a State Board Text Book to develop current digital literacy skills.

To explore the digital world, QR Code has been introduced in each unit.



HOW TO USE THE BOOK



Dear Teachers!

All school students should get opportunities to listen, speak, read and write in English in a classroom. The textbook has included the following features to ensure that they get these opportunities:

WHAT

- Each unit is designed with a prose, a poem, a supplementary reader and a grammar part.
- Each prose lesson starts with a warm up activity such as dialogues, questions and listen and do.
- The poems used in all the units are simple, thought provoking and enjoyable.
- The supplementary readers are interesting and stories that related to the theme.
- The grammar exercises are comprehensive with, examples and exercises to make it easy for children.
- Language check point deals with the common errors in English.
- Step to success lists the competitive skills.
- Connecting to self connects the theme with the real life situations to handle.

WHY

- **Unit-1** Focuses on theme Hobby. The theme is suitable for their age as it can help them develop hobbies.
- **Unit- 2** Focuses on the theme Friendship. The theme is age appropriate as it helps them develop values of friendship.
- **Unit-3** Stresses on the necessity of knowing and adopting the safety rules in our daily life.

HOW

- Variety of warm-up and grammar activities have been included to discuss the lessons concerned. The listening passages which are given at the end of textbook can be used by the teacher.
- Do you know columns can be used for thinking beyond the text which can facilitate extra information to understand the lessons better.
- Facilitate students to read and understand the lessons.
- Poems encourage the students to understand and explore meaning while they generate ideas and appreciate them.
- Encourage students to practice
1) Two minutes speech 2) Grammar activities or exercises.
- Involve students in the **Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing** activities will help them acquire language skills.
- Motivate students to access materials which are authentic and useful such as QR-code, library resource or other ICT - resources.
- Familiarise students to the assessment using the model paper and help them develop a strategy to write the assessment.

Contents

| Unit | Name | Page Number |
|------|----------------------|---|
| 1 | Prose | Hobby – Turns A Successful Career |
| | Poem | My Hobby: Reading |
| | Supplementary | Jim Corbett, A Hunter Turned Naturalist |
| 2 | Prose | Friendship |
| | Poem | *Lessons in Life |
| | Supplementary | Homeless Man and his Friends: A true story |
| 3 | Prose | Being Safe |
| | Poem | Fire Work Night |
| | Supplementary | When Instinct Works |

*Memoriter



E-Book



Assessment



Digi Links

Let's use the QR code in the text books!

- Download DIKSHA app from the Google Play Store.
- Tap the QR code icon to scan QR codes in the textbook.
- Point the device and focus on the QR code.
- On successful scan, content linked to the QR code gets listed.

Note: For ICT corner, Digi Links QR codes use any other QR scanner.





Unit

1

Prose

Hobby – Turns A Successful Career

Warm up



Look at the pictures. Discuss in pairs and share your answers with your friends.



What is the girl doing?



*What is the man doing?
Will you like doing it? why?*



Do you like gardening? Why?



What are the benefits of taking up cycling as a hobby?





Section -I

Reading

Listen to the teacher and read this section

Once there was a boy named Mani. He was studying at the school in his village. He found it difficult to read and write. His grandfather noticed it and helped him by reading bedtime stories. Gradually, he started reading on his own. Now,

he not only enjoyed reading but also has started writing his own stories. Let us read an essay written by Mani.



Hobbies are the activities that we do in our **spare** time. Hobbies are **unique** to people. Some like gardening, a few like photography, many have book reading as their hobby. While other hobbies are swimming, stamp collection, playing video games, and many more.

People have hobbies not only to pass their free time but also to do something useful. Hobbies help people learn new things, relax after a tiring day and to **energise** their body and mind. Same is the case with me. I love writing, so it is my hobby.

"Whatever you like to do, make it a hobby."

-Warren Buffet

Writing is a unique hobby because most people don't want to **exhaust** themselves in their spare time. Many feel that writing is tough, but I do not think so. I feel writing is like painting our voice. When I get free time, I pick a pen and a notebook and start painting my ideas in words. I write stories, poems and sometimes, about my feelings. My mind relaxes when I pour my thoughts as words. So, writing energises me.

When I write things, my imagination is at its best. I imagine a world with magic and magicians. Where I can fly, and birds can talk. Writing helps me completely immerse into that world! Sometimes, I sit with small children and entertain them with these stories of mine. The happiness of their faces makes me to write more and better.

Although writing is just a hobby for me, yet it is very beneficial. It opens my mind to think beyond the little things with a broader mind. It makes me more **passionate** about my life. It makes me learn new things and enjoy every moment of my life.

"Writing is easy. All you have to do is cross out the wrong words."

-Mark Twain





My hobby helped me in school too. When I started writing things, I was unable to describe them **accurately**. With time, my experiences helped me think of new ideas and this made me a good writer.

Now, I look out for things, which I was not able to see before. Hence, I can describe things better in my stories. I feel no problem with writing English essays or stories as it is my hobby. To become a better writer, I spend time on learning how to write in different forms like **fiction** and non-fiction. It is important to always learn and improve our hobbies. Who knows? One day I could be a writer like *R.K. Narayan*!



The former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, **Mr C.N. Annadurai**, had the hobbies of reading and writing. He wrote many books, stories, plays, thought-provoking articles and cine dialogues which have contributed to reformation of society as we know it today!

Glossary



| | | |
|-------------------|---|------------------------|
| Unique | – | distinctive / uncommon |
| Exhaust | – | tire out |
| Energises | – | give energy |
| Passionate | – | intense/ heartfelt |
| Accurately | – | exactly |
| Fiction | – | imaginative writing |

Read and Understand



A. Say true or false.

1. Mani's hobby is playing cricket.
2. Hobbies are unique to people.
3. People have hobbies only to pass time.

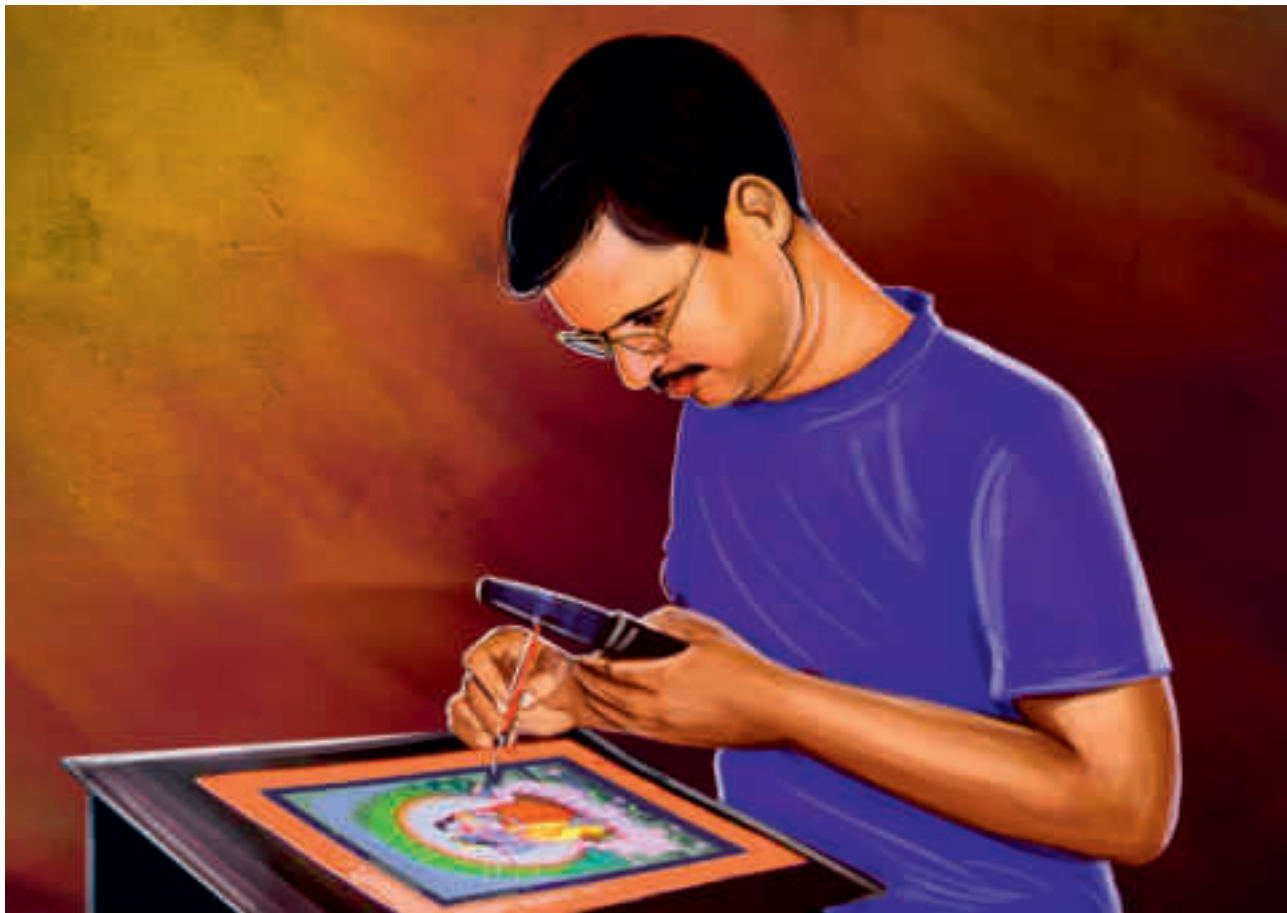
B. Choose the correct answer.

1. Mani imagined a world with _____.
a) music and musicians b) building and sculptures c) magic and magicians
2. When Mani started writing things, he was unable to _____.
a) describe them accurately b) describe them fluently
c) describe them imaginatively
3. Mani feels writing is like _____.
a) painting the voice b) engraving the voice c) designing the voice



Section -II

Reading



Take turns and read this section aloud.

Ajay Kumar Garg, is a very talented young artist. He lives in Jaipur, India. His childhood was going well, until he suffered an injury at the age of three. Ajay was treated, but that treatment left him permanently deaf. His parents tried several hospitals to cure his **impairment**, but it didn't cure him. His father, once bought him a paint set to play. Ajay started to paint happily. He painted on the walls, floors etc. He looked happy, while using the paint set that was gifted to him. Soon, Ajay's father realised that Ajay was talented in painting. When Ajay was five years old, a court artist of Dholpur (Rajasthan), Shri Sua Lal saw his painting and was very impressed with his work. He then took Ajay and started training him.

After completing his education, Ajay tried tailoring but, that didn't make him happy so he went back to painting. He became an apprentice of Asha Devi. She taught Ajay the old and dying technique of 'Traditional Indian **Miniature** Painting'. He mastered the technique of preparing colors and brushes and gained knowledge of the paintings. Soon he became an **accomplished** artist in the miniature style. He uses a **magnifying** glass and a single-haired brush for miniature paintings that depict Indian culture. Ajay is gifted in the practice of creating images on a grain of rice.



Ajay **exhibited** his work and sold 144 out of the 150 paintings displayed. He continued to show his work throughout India, the United States and the United Kingdom. In 2004, Ajay was awarded a national award of accomplishment from the Indian President, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.

Apart from painting, Ajay is also very actively involved in the welfare of people with hearing **impairment** in India and has been the executive member of the 'Deaf & Dumb Association' in Rajasthan. He also gives free training to hearing impaired children in Jaipur as well as children in an orphanage in Gandhi Nagar, Jaipur. One of Ajay's current goals is to **revitalise** the dying art of traditional miniature Indian paintings.

Ajay's life shows us that we can turn our hobby or passion into a successful career, if we are ready to learn and develop our skills.

Glossary



| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Impairment | – disability |
| Miniature | – very small of its kind |
| Accomplished | – fulfilled |
| Magnify | – enhance |
| Exhibit | – show or reveal |
| Revitalise | – re energise |

Read and Understand



A. Say true or false.

1. Ajay Garg is an artist.
2. Asha Devi taught Ajay the miniature painting.
3. Ajay displayed 150 paintings.
4. Ajay was awarded by the Indian president Dr. A.P.J. Abdul kalam.

B. Answer the following questions.

1. What was Ajay gifted with?
2. How was he honoured?
3. What did Ajay's current goal?
4. Is Ajay's hobby become a successful career? How?





Section -III

Reading | Read this section in pairs.

The hard working and the passionate people, always chase their dream and live it. Ilavazhagi is one among the many to achieve their dream amidst all odds. A. Irudayaraj, her father was a district level champion in carrom, his dream shattered, since his family did not encourage and support him. He was determined to achieve his dream through her daughter. He used to put her daughter, on the carrom board, while she listened to the sounds of striker and coins. When she was two years old, he would carry her with him to the tournaments; he played with friends at local clubs. Her father began coaching her when she was around five. One day her father called for a match, and she won that match, which gave her confidence. The confidence led her to win, her victories included the Asia Cup and SAARC Cup and the world championship.



Irudhayaraj, a fish-cart driver who transports materials like pipes to make a living for his family – a wife and three daughters. They have lived in a small one-room apartment in Vyasarpadi, Chennai, is not enough to accommodate the family. The trophies she has won over the years are too many, and her home is just not big enough to keep them. The trophies left over after filling the space under the bed, were given to the neighbours and relatives. Financing the trips has always been a big trouble, though she has been playing for the state for almost 14 years. Still she says "**Victories follow me**".

Ilavazhagi is a member of the Thiruvallur District Carrom Association and also represented India at the Carrom World Championships, Asian Championships.

Achievements:

1. 5th World Carrom Champion, 2008 in France.
2. Women's singles title at the 38th Senior National Carrom Championships in Visakhapatnam, 2009.
3. Women's singles title in the 37th National Carrom Championship in Chennai, 2008.
4. 13th SAARC Carrom Championship women's doubles with Rashmi Kumari in 2009.
5. The two time SAARC Carrom Championship women's singles title in 2009.
6. World Cup winner in 2006 and The next was the 2010 championship in the US where she secured the first place in singles and doubles.

She holds 260 medals, out of which 106 are gold, 17 are silver & 12 are bronze medals won in national competitions. She has won 111 gold, 9 and 5 bronze medals in international tournaments.

Her hobby of playing carrom took her to the level of world champion.



Glossary



| | | |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Passionate | – | showing strong feelings |
| Accommodate | – | sufficient space for |
| Trophies | – | a decorative cup given as a token of victory |
| Shattered | – | break , damage or destroyed |

Read and Understand



A. Fill in the blanks.

1. Mani feels writing is like _____.
2. Ajay mastered the techniques of _____.
3. Ilavazhagi won her first match against _____.

B. Choose correct synonyms for the italic word.

1. Writing is a *unique* hobby
 a) common b) beneficial c) uncommon d) separate
2. Ajay started to paint *happily*.
 a) depressed b) joyfully c) unhappily d) sadly
3. Miniature paintings *depict* Indian culture.
 a) warp b) portray c) twist d) falsify

C. Choose correct antonyms for the italic word.

1. Ajay *suffered* an injury.
 a) sorrow b) endure c) hurt d) mourn
2. Ajay *mastered* the techniques of painting.
 a) skilled b) proficient c) unskilled d) experienced
3. Ilavazhagi *won* world championship in _____.
 a) win b) succeed c) defeat d) well-skilled

D. Answer the following questions in one or two sentences.

1. What happened to Ajay at the age of three?
2. What did Asha Devi teach Ajay?
4. Why writing is beneficial according to Mani?

E. Answer the following questions in 100 words.

1. How did Ajay's father find his son's talent?
2. Write a note on Ilavazhagi.

Vocabulary



Homophone

When two or more words have the same pronunciation but different meanings, origins, or spelling.

For example:

| | | |
|--------|---|-------|
| new | – | knew |
| hole | – | whole |
| knight | – | night |
| see | – | sea |

a. Pick out the correct homophone.

1. I am not _____ to drink soda. (*aloud, allowed*)
2. The wind _____ the leaves. (*blue, blew*)
3. I will _____ my friend. (*meat, meet*)
4. He will play the _____ in the second play. (*role, roll*)
5. I have _____ movie before. (*scene, seen*)

b. Choose the correct homophone.

1. Every morning my father likes to look at the _____ on the grass.
a] due b] dew
2. Chennai is the _____ of Tamilnadu.
a] capitol b] capital
3. Their words had a negative _____ on my self-esteem.
a] affect b] effect
4. I was very _____ last weekend because my friends made plans that did not include me.
a] bored b] board
5. The cat caught the _____ of a mouse.
a] scent b] cent