



DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWTOWN
SESSION 2024-25
HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION

CLASS: IX
SUBJECT: ENGLISH PAPER I [SETA]

FULL MARKS: 80
TIME: 2 HOURS

*Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.
You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.
This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.
The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.*

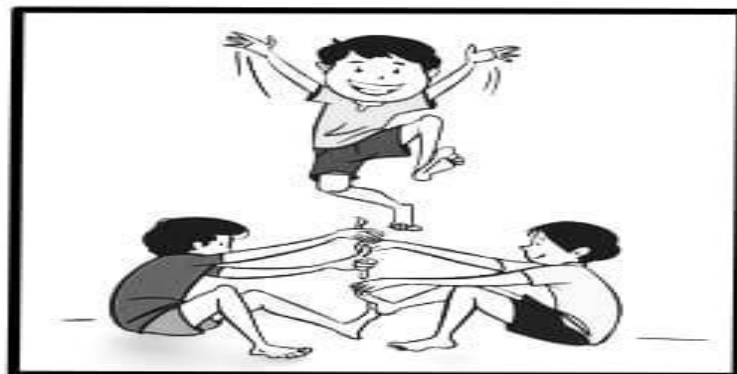
*Attempt all five questions.
The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].
This paper consists of five printed pages.*

Question 1

Write a composition (300-350 words) on any one of the following:

[20]

- (i) Write an original story that begins with the words: “Ravi could not believe his eyes when he saw...”
- (ii) Describe your school library. Give details of the familiar sights. What do you see, hear and feel as different students come in and check out the books? Why is this place so important?
- (iii) 'All good things in the world come with a price tag.' Express your views either for or against this statement.
- (iv) Imagine that you were alone at home on a summer afternoon and there was a sudden power cut. Narrate how you felt and what you did during that time. How did you feel after the power was restored?
- (v) Study the picture given below. Write a story, a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



Question 2

Select any one of the following:

[10]

- (i) You have recently been awarded a special prize at the annual day of your school. Write a letter to your uncle giving him the news. Also include the details of the event and the prize that you have received. Mention why you have been chosen for this honour and how did you feel after receiving the prize?
- (ii) You want to start a new club in your school. Write a letter to the Principal of your school requesting permission to start the club, explain your role in it and give reasons to prove that the club will be beneficial for the students.

Question 3

- (i) Your school is organising an Inter-School Drama Competition. Draft a notice for your school notice board inviting the students of classes IX and X to take part in this event. [5]
- (ii) Write an e-mail to the Principal of a neighbouring school requesting him/her to send a team of five students to participate in the Inter-School Drama Competition. Give details of the event. [5]

Question 4

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Yet, in general, I like cats and dogs very much indeed. What jolly chaps they are. They are much superior to human beings as companions. They do not quarrel or argue with you. They never talk about themselves but listen to you while you talk about yourself and keep up an appearance of being interested in the conversation. They never make stupid remarks. They never say unkind things. They never tell us of our faults, merely for our own good. They do not remind us of our past follies and mistakes at inconvenient moments. We are always the same to them. Cats have the credit of being more worldly wise than dogs.

I had a cat once that used to follow me about everywhere, until it even got quite embarrassing and I had to beg her, as a personal favour, not to accompany me any further down the High Street. She used to sit up for me when I was late home and meet me in the passage. It made me feel quite like a married man, except that she never asked where I had been and then not believe when I told her.

Poor rats! They seem only to exist so that cats and dogs may gain credit for killing them and chemists make a fortune by inventing poison for their destruction. And yet there is something fascinating about them. There is a weirdness and uncanniness attaching to them. They are so cunning and strong, so terrible in their numbers, so cruel, so secret. They swarm in deserted houses where the broken casements hang rotting to the crumbling walls and the doors swing creaking on their rusty hinges.

No tale of horror is complete without the rats. In stories of ghosts and murderers, they scamper through the echoing rooms. They scream in shrill, unearthly notes in the dead of night. I love to read tales about rats. They make my flesh creep. I like that tale of Bishop Hatto and the rats. The wicked bishop, you know, had ever so much corn stored in his granaries and would not let the starving people touch it, but when they prayed to him for food, he gathered them together in his barn, and then shutting the doors on them, set fire to the place and burned them all to death.

But next day there came thousands upon thousands of rats, sent to pass judgment on him. Then Bishop Hatto fled to his strong tower that stood in the middle of the Rhine and barred himself in and fancied he was safe. But the rats! they swam the river; they gnawed their way through the thick stone walls and ate him alive where he sat.

(i) For each word given below choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage): [2]

1. *barred*

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| (a) reformed | (b) blocked |
| (c) acknowledged | (d) rebuked |

2. *gnawed*

- | | |
|---------------|---------|
| (a) freed | (b) ran |
| (c) haphazard | (d) bit |

(ii) Which word in the passage means the opposite of: crowded? [1]

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| (a) deserted | (b) arrived |
| (c) uncanniness | (d) discarded |

(iii) Answer the following questions briefly in your words:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (a) Give two reasons why the author likes cats and dogs. | [2] |
| (b) How did the author's cat make him feel like a married man? | [2] |
| (c) Describe the deserted houses where rats gather. | [2] |
| (d) Why does the author feel that "No tale of horror is complete without the rats"? | [2] |
| (e) What kind of a person do you think the author was? | [1] |

(iv) In not more than 50 words describe the tale of Bishop Hatto and the judgement passed on him by the rats. [8]

Question 5

(i) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage but write in the correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. Example (0) came [4]

In this beautifully written story set in the Second World War, Robert, an English soldier (0)_____ (come) to rescue a key member of the French Resistance, called Paul Renard. Robert was on the verge of (1) _____ (be capture) by the Nazis when a young girl named Jehane le Burn (2)_____ (rescue) him and (3) _____ (help) him to locate and free Renard. When he (4)_____ (return) to England, no one (5)_____ (believe) his story of how he returned with Renard and when they all (6)_____ (inspect) the evidence, Robert (7)_____ (find) that the girl who helped him could have been no one else but the legendary Maid of Orleans, Joan of arc who (8)_____ (fight) for France in 1429!

(ii) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words: [4]

- The ship cruised _____ the coast.
- The construction company has encroached _____ the area reserved for a park.
- I will not do anything that goes _____ my conscience.
- My birthday is _____ the month of December.
- I want to prevent my younger brother _____ getting sick.
- Do you speak any other language _____ English?
- The little girl asked me, "Will you take me home _____ you?"
- She was born _____ rich parents.

(iii) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using *and, but or so*.
Choose the correct option. [4]

1. Martin is not tall. His father is not tall.
 - (a) Neither Martin nor his father is tall.
 - (b) Either Martin or his father is tall.
 - (c) Neither Martin or his father is tall.
 - (d) Either Martin nor his father is tall.
2. Jane is quite friendly Her brother is reserved.
 - (a) Jane is quite friendly whether her brother is reserved.
 - (b) Jane is quite friendly and her brother is reserved.
 - (c) Jane is quite friendly whereas her brother is reserved.
 - (d) Jane is quite friendly also her brother is reserved.
3. Winston Churchill was a great statesman. He was a great writer.
 - (a) Winston Churchill was not a great statesman but also a great writer.
 - (b) Winston Churchill was a great statesman but a great writer.
 - (c) Winston Churchill was neither a great statesman nor a great writer.
 - (d) Winston Churchill was a great statesman as well as a great writer.
4. He saw the tiger. He ran away.
 - (a) No sooner he saw the tiger, than he ran away.
 - (b) By seeing the tiger coming, he ran away.
 - (c) Seeing the tiger not coming, he ran away.
 - (d) No sooner did he see the tiger than he ran away.

(iv) Choose the correct option to rewrite the following according to the instructions given after each sentence. [8]

1. He is too inexperienced to be given the senior position right now. (Begin: He is so....)
 - (a) He is so inexperienced that he cannot handle the senior position right now.
 - (b) He is so inexperienced that he will not get the senior position right now.
 - (c) He is so inexperienced, so he will not be given the senior position right now.
 - (d) He is so inexperienced that he will not be given the senior position right now.
2. The cricket team had six batsmen, four bowlers and one wicketkeeper. (Use: comprised)
 - (a) The team comprised six batsman, four bowlers and one wicketkeeper.
 - (b) The cricket team comprised six batsmen, four bowlers and one wicketkeeper.
 - (c) The cricket team comprised of six batsman, four bowlers and one wicketkeeper.
 - (d) The cricket team comprised six batsman, four bowlers and wicketkeeper.
3. As soon as I entered home, it started to rain very heavily. (Begin: No sooner...)
 - (a) No sooner did I entered home than it started to rain very heavily.
 - (b) No sooner did I enter home than it started to rain very heavily.
 - (c) No sooner did I enter home when it started to rain very heavily.
 - (d) No sooner did I enter home, it started to rain very heavily.
4. If the boys do not reach the school on time, they will be punished. (Begin: Unless...)
 - (a) Unless the boys reach the school on time, they will not be punished.
 - (b) Unless the boys are punished, they will not reach the school on time.
 - (c) Unless the school punished the boys, they will not reach on time.
 - (d) Unless the boys reach the school on time, they will be punished.

5. Very few students in the class are as friendly as Svetlana. (End: ...students.)
- (a) Svetlana is as friendly as most other students.
 - (b) Svetlana is the most friendly student.
 - (c) Svetlana is friendlier than most other students.
 - (d) Svetlana is more friendlier than most other students.
6. "Oh! It is my doll," said the child. (Begin: The child exclaimed...)
- (a) The child exclaimed that it is her doll.
 - (b) The child exclaimed Oh! and said that it is my doll.
 - (c) The child exclaimed that it was her doll.
 - (d) The child exclaimed that it was my doll.
7. Shaila won't mind if I use her pen. (Add a question tag)
- (a) Shaila won't mind if I use her pen, won't she?
 - (b) Shaila won't mind if I use her pen, will she?
 - (c) Shaila won't mind if I use her pen, is she?
 - (d) Shaila won't mind if I use her pen, wouldn't she?
8. I sleep on the terrace unless it is very cold. (Use: if)
- (a) I sleep on the terrace if it is very cold.
 - (b) I sleep on the terrace if it is not very cold.
 - (c) I do not sleep on the terrace if it is not very cold.
 - (d) I sleep on the terrace only if it is very cold.