



DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWTOWN
SESSION 2023-24
HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION

CLASS: IX
SUBJECT: ENGLISH PAPER I (Set A)

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 six printed pages.

Question 1

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

[20]

- i) Write an original short story that begins with the words: "As the plane touched down, Ravi breathed a huge sigh of relief....."
- ii) You were heading towards a forest resort when your car broke down and you got a chance to spend the day with the locals. Describe what you did, what you saw, what you heard and how the experience has left a mark on your mind.
- iii) "Grading system should not exist in schools." Express your views either for or against this statement.
- iv) Your neighbour had an emergency and had to leave his pet with you. Narrate your experience with the unfriendly pet.

- v) Study the picture given below. Write a story or 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) Write a letter to your friend inviting him or her to visit your ancestral home in a village during the Puja vacations. Describe the place and share your ideas how you would like to spend those days with her. Also mention how the village life was different from the city life.
- ii) Write a letter to the Commissioner of Police complaining about the increasing instances of traffic jams in your locality. Mention the problems and suggest few ways to overcome the problem.

Question 3

- i) Your school is hosting a book fair for the students of classes IX to X. Write a notice for the school notice board requesting volunteers to manage the event. [5]
- ii) Write an e-mail to the Principal of a neighbouring school informing him/her about the book fair and requesting him/her to send interested students of classes IX and X along with two teachers to attend the fair. [5]

Question 4

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

For some time, mother had greatly envied us, our swimming, both in the daytime and at night, but as she pointed out when we suggested her to join us, she was far too old for that sort of thing. Under constant pressure from us, mother paid a visit to the town and returned to the villa coyly bearing a mysterious parcel. Opening this, she astonished us all by holding up an extraordinary shapeless garment of black cloth, covered from top to bottom with hundreds of frills and plates and tucks.

'Well, what do you think of it?' mother asked.

We stared at the odd garment and wondered what it was for.

'What is it?' asked Larry at length.

'It is a bathing-costume, of course, said Mother. 'What on earth did you think it was?'

'It looks to me like a badly-skinned whale,' said Larry, peering at it closely.

'You cannot possibly wear that, Mother' said Margo, horrified, 'Why it looks as though it was made in 1920.'

'What are all those frills and things for?' asked Larry with interest.

'Decoration, of course,' said mother indignantly.

'What a jolly idea! Do not forget to shake the fish out of them when you come out of the water.'

'Well, I like it, anyway, mother said firmly, wrapping the monstrosity up again, and I'm going to wear it."

'You'll have to be careful', you do not get waterlogged, with all that cloth around you,' said Leslie seriously.

'Mother, it is awful; you cannot wear it,' said Margo. 'Did you not get something more up to date?'

'When you get to my age, dear, you cannot go around in a two-piece bathing suit.... you do not have the figure for it.'

'I'd love to know what sort of figure that it was designed for,' remarked Larry.

'You really are hopeless, Mother,' said Margo despairingly.

'But I like it..... and I'm not asking you to wear it,' mother pointed out angrily.

"That's right, you do what you want to," agreed Larry. "It'll probably suit you very well if you can grow another three or four legs to go with it."

Mother snorted indignantly and swept upstairs to try on her costume. Presently, she called us to come and see the effect and we all strapped up to the bedroom. Roger the dog, was the first to enter and on being greeted by this strange apparition clad in its voluminous black costumes rippling with frills, he retreated hurriedly through the door, went backwards, barking ferociously. It was some time before we could persuade him that it really was mother and even then, he kept giving her vaguely uncertain looks from the corner of his eye. However, despite all opposition, mother stuck to her tent-like bathing-suit and in the end, we gave up. In order to celebrate her first entry into the sea, we decided to have a moonlight picnic down at the bay and sent an invitation to Theodore, who was the only stranger whom mother would tolerate on such a great occasion. The day for the great immersion arrived, food and wine were prepared, the boat was cleaned out and filled with cushions and everything was ready when Theodore turned up.

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

1. *peering*

- a) waiting
- b) looking closely
- c) sneaking
- d) concealing

2. *indignantly*

- a) angrily
- b) with fear
- c) hurriedly
- d) immediately

ii) Which word in the passage means the opposite of the word ‘acquaintance’. [1]

- a) mysterious
- b) monstrosity
- c) strange
- d) stranger

iii) Answer the following questions briefly in your words:

a) Which sentence in the passage tells us that mother was reluctant to join the classes and shy to show what she had brought from the town? [2]

b) Describe the swimming costume. [2]

c) What did Larry think it was? How did Margo describe it? [2]

d) Why did mother think it was suitable for her? [2]

e) How would you have reacted if your mother had decided to wear something similar and joined your swimming class? [1]

iv) In not more than 50 words, describe what happened after mother went upstairs to try on her costume. [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 correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. Example: (0) returned [4]

After Christopher Columbus (0) _____ (return) from his famous voyage across the Atlantic, the King of Spain (1) _____ (wish) to celebrate the great event and honour the man who (2) _____(make) himself a national hero. He (3) _____ (do) so by holding a banquet in honour of the explorer. To this banquet, he (4) _____(invite) many of the nobles of the King's Court. Some of them (5) _____(be) jealous of the success Columbus (6) _____(achieve). One of them sat next to Columbus. He turned towards Columbus and said "Of course, you (7) _____(be) a brave man, but it does not take much intelligence to do what you have done. After all, anyone can take a ship and sail on and on till he (8) _____(reach) land.

ii) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words:

[4]

- a) He refused to put _____ with their interference in his affairs.
- b) She has been going _____ the script for days.
- c) It is our duty to protest _____ injustice.
- d) He soon became accustomed _____ the harsh weather.
- e) Dilip went out _____ his way to help the poor.
- f) The glass broke _____ small pieces.
- g) He persists_____ teasing the other children in the class.
- h) I have been waiting for you _____ 4 o'clock.

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

[4]

1. He is very clever. He cannot be deceived.

- a) He is enough clever not to be deceived.
- b) He is too clever not to be deceived.
- c) He is too clever to be deceived.
- d) He is very clever can't be deceived.

2. She must weep. She will die.

- a) She must weep yet she will die.
- b) She must weep or she will die.
- c) She will die if not weep.
- d) She must die to weep.

3. Ricky met me. I gave him the document.

- a) I gave the document to Ricky so he met me.
- b) Ricky met me when I gave him the document.
- c) Ricky met me to get the document.
- d) I gave the document to Ricky when he meet me.

4. Shenaz was very upset. I wanted to help her out.

- a) As Shenaz was very upset, I want to help her out.
- b) I wanted to help Shenaz because she was upset.
- c) So Shenaz was very upset, I wanted to help her out.
- d) As Shenaz was very upset, I wanted to help her out.

iv) Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes but do not change the meaning of each sentence. Choose the correct options.

[8]

1. It is the biggest resort in India. (Begin: It is bigger...)

- a) It is bigger than most other resorts in India.
- b) It is bigger than all other resorts in India.
- c) It is bigger resort than others.
- d) It is bigger than a few other resorts in India.

- 2. He is too proud to accept any help. (Remove 'too')**
- a) He is very proud to accept any help.
 - b) He is so proud when he cannot accept any help.
 - c) He is so proud that he will not accept any help.
 - d) He is so proud not to accept any help.
- 3. Shakespeare will always be remembered. (Use: forgotten)**
- a) Shakespeare will always be forgotten.
 - b) Shakespeare will ever be forgotten.
 - c) Shakespeare will never be forgotten.
 - d) Shakespeare will rarely be forgotten.
- 4. As soon as he came, the lights went out. (Begin: No sooner...)**
- a) No sooner did he came the lights went out.
 - b) No sooner he had come the lights went out.
 - c) No sooner did he come than the lights went out.
 - d) No sooner his arrival then the lights went out.
- 5. She was beautiful and humble. (Begin: Not only...)**
- a) Not only was she beautiful but also humble.
 - b) Not only was she beautiful and humble.
 - c) Not only she was beautiful as well as humble.
 - d) Not only she was beautiful but humble too.
- 6. Both the players are not adequately prepared for the tournament. (Begin: Neither...)**
- a) Neither of the players were adequately prepared for the tournament
 - b) Neither the players are not adequately prepared for the tournament.
 - c) Neither of the players are adequately not prepared for the tournament.
 - d) Neither of the players is adequately prepared for the tournament.
- 7. If the thief apologizes, he will be pardoned. (Use: unless)**
- a) Unless the thief apologizes, he will not be pardoned.
 - b) The thief will be pardoned before he apologizes.
 - c) Unless the thief apologizes, he is pardoned.
 - d) Unless apologizes the thief will be pardoned.
- 8. God made the country. God made the town. (Use: as well as)**
- a) God made the country as well as the town.
 - b) God made the country well as the town.
 - c) God made the town as well as he made the country.
 - d) God made the town and country as well as.