

Question Paper 2012 SA-II
CBSE Class 8th ENGLISH (COURSE-A)

General Instructions:

- This paper consists of 4 sections: A, B, C & D.
 - Attempt all questions.
 - Don't write anything on the question-paper.
 - All the answers must be correctly numbered as in the question-paper and written in the answer sheet provided to you. X
 - Ensure that questions of each section are answered together.
 - Read each question carefully and follow the given instructions.
 - Strictly adhere to the word limit given with each question. Marks will be deducted for exceeding the word limit.
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SECTION-A (READING) (20 MARKS)

1. Read the following passage carefully: (8)

(1) All of us have seen the inside-of-hospital sometime or the other. Hospitals have a special smell of their own and seem very busy all the time. But how did the idea of setting up a special place for sick people ever come about?

(2) The ancient Greeks used the temples of their gods of healing as resting places for the sick. So too, did the Egyptians, the Babylonians and the ancient Indians. The Romans especially, began to realize the need for hospitals. They were always at war, and their soldiers needed care and treatment. The idea of hospitals caught on and slowly they passed into the charge of the Church. By the 4th century, Church hospitals had begun.

(3) Centuries passed. By the 17th Century, public hospitals were founded in Britain by rich citizens who wished to serve the public.

(4) The hospitals, as we see today, began to evolve only around the 19th century. People began to live in better conditions. They felt the need for more cleanliness and better expert care. In the past, nuns and other members of the Church had done the nursing.

(5) It was Florence Nightingale who began to feel the need for trained nurses to care for the sick. She began the St. Thomas' Hospital in England. This was the first training college for nurses ever.

(6) Today, any hospital is a vast, complete organisation. There are doctors, nurses and other staff like receptionists, records staff, hospital managers etc. Big hospitals could have porters, orderlies, electricians, carpenters, plumbers, security-whew Doesn't that sound like a small town in itself?

1.1. On the basis of your reading of the above passage, complete the following statements: (6)

(a) Like the ancient Greeks, temples were used as resting places for the sick by the:

(i) _____ (ii) _____

(b) The Romans were the first to realize the need for hospital as:

(i) _____ (ii) _____

(c) The need for more cleanliness and better expert care was felt in the 19th Century as _____

(d) In the past, nursing was done by _____

(e) The first nursing training college was started by _____

1.2. Find the words from the passage which mean the same as the following:

(a) old _____ (para 2)

(b) develop gradually _____ (para 4)

(c) make or become healthy again _____ (para 2)

(d) attendants responsible for various non-medical task _____ (para 6)

2. Read the following poem carefully:

Trees are the kindest things I know,
They do not harm, they simply grow
And spread a shade for sleepy cows,
And gather birds among the boughs
They are the first when day's begun
To touch the beams of morning Sun,
They are the last to hold the light

When evening changes into night,
And when a moon floats on the sky
They hum a drowsy lullaby
of sleepy children long ago
Trees are the kindest things I know
----- Harry Behn

2.1. Fill in the blanks with one word only to complete the following summary of the poem. Write the answers in your answer sheet against the correct blank number. (6)

The poet feels that trees are the (a) _____ gift of nature to man. They never (b) _____ anyone. They grow on this earth and provide (c) _____ to the sleeping cows and give shelter to the (d) _____ among their (e) _____. The (f) _____ of the morning sun fall (g) _____ on the trees and when evening turns into (h) _____ the trees trap the (i) _____ of the sun. They seem to be singing a drowsy (j) _____ when the moon appears in the (k) _____. The sweet music produced by the trees makes the (l) go to sleep.

3. Read the following passage. (6)

I was on my daily morning walk under the canopy of leaves of the tall trees, when suddenly it happened. Something small, cool and fleshy fell on my neck. It would have slipped into my shirt, if I had not grasped it and pulled it out.

It was a baby squirrel, its eyes still closed. The light-brown coloured body wriggled helplessly in my hand. Carefully I wrapped it in my handkerchief and took it home.

Basant and Hema howled with delight when they saw it. They brought an empty bottle to put the baby squirrel in.

"Look, he is hungry". Shouted six-year old Basant. The baby squirrel was opening its small mouth, its eyes still closed. He and his four-year old sister, Hema fed it some milk, "All right, put him back in the bottle, let him rest," I said.

The children could not sleep that night. Their excitement was endless. By turns, they would tiptoe to look inside the bottle and come back saying, "He is sleeping". "He is trying to crawl". The next morning, we looked inside the bottle. The baby squirrel hardly moved. I took him on my palm. His body was trembling and as we looked, the little body hiccupped and then

lay still. Tears streamed down the faces of the children.

I told the story to professor Raman of the Zoology department. "What a pity! You should have told me! You put him in a bottle? You tried to force feed him? A new born baby squirrel only needs warmth to survive. If only you had put it in your shirt pocket, he would have survived because of your body warmth." If only we had known it, the baby Squirrel would have been alive today. ” : □□ -

3.1. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate options from the ones given below: (6x1=6)

(a) The baby squirrel could not slip into the narrator's shirt because _____

- (i) he grasped it
- (ii) he pulled it out
- (iii) he threw it on the ground
- (iv) both (i) & (ii)

(b) The narrator and his children put the baby squirrel in a _____

- (i) jar
- (ii) can
- (iii) bottle
- (iv) bowl

(c) Basant thought the baby Squirrel was hungry because:

- (i) It was opening its mouth
- (ii) it was blinking its eyes
- (iii) it was crying badly
- (iv) it was moving its tail

(d) The children could not sleep that night because:

- (i) they were too tired
- (ii) they were too excited
- (iii) they wanted to play with the squirrel
- (iv) they kept on talking the whole night

(e) The baby squirrel could not survive as:

- (i) it did not get enough warmth

(ii) it was put in a container

(iii) it was fed forcibly

(iv) all the above

(f) When the baby squirrel died, the children

(i) felt sad

(ii) felt happy

(iii) shed tears

(iv) both (i) & (iii)

SECTION-B (WRITING) (20 MARKS)

4. On the basis of the hints given below, write down a short Bio-Sketch of Abhinav Bindra, an ace shooter, who won India's first ever individual Olympic Gold Medal in Beijing Olympics-2008. (4)

ABHINAV BINDRA

Birth: 28th September, 1983 in Dehradun

Education: Doon School, Dehradun (upto VIII)

St. Stephens School, Chandigarh;

BBA from Colorado University

Achievements: Youngest Indian contributor at 2000 Olympic Games.

Bronze Medal in Munich World Cup-2001

Gold Medal in 10mt. air rifle shooting in Beijing Olympics

(2008) & Commonwealth Games (2010)

Arjuna: Award (2000)

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna (2001)

Padma Bhushan (2009)

5. You are Jayant/Jayanti. You feel quite distressed to see that man has been cutting trees indiscriminately for centuries to fulfil his selfish interests. Increasing urbanization, rapid industrialization and growing population are leading to depletion of natural resources, hence, threatening the survival of mankind. You decide to write

an article for your school magazine highlighting your views on the need to conserve nature. Taking ideas from the unit 'Environment' and using your own ideas, write the article in about 100-150 words on the topic 'Nature Conservation'. (8)

6. You are Bhavya/Bhavika a resident of 99, Sector-9, Karnal. You feel concerned to see the modern children spending most of their time in front of the Idiot Box and indulging less in physical activities. You decide to write a letter to the Editor of 'The Times of India' expressing your concern about the harmful effects of T.V. Taking ideas from the given visual & using your own ideas, write the letter in about 100-150 words.



SECTION-C (GRAMMAR) (15 MARKS)

7. Use the notes given below to complete the following paragraph. Write the answers in your answer sheet against the correct blank number. (8)

Jaipur _____ the pink city _____ popularly known located _____ 262 Km. from Delhi _____ derives its name _____ founder Sawai Jai Singh II _____ encircled by a formidable wall _____ constructed 1727AD _____ 284 years _____ retains strong Rajputana flavour _____ old world charm.

Jaipur (a) _____ as the Pink City. It (b) _____ 262 kms from Delhi. Jaipur (c) _____ from its founder, the astronomer king Sawai Jai Singh-II. It (d) _____ by a formidable Wall. It (e) _____ in 1727AD and even 284 years after it was founded, all through, Jaipur (f) _____ its strong Rajputana flavour and old world charm.

8. In the following paragraph, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word with the words that come before and after it. Underline the word that forms you answer. The first one has been done for you as an example. (3)

Jaipur City planned in a grid system e.g. - city was planned
of seven blocks buildings with wide (a) _____
straight avenues lined trees. The site (b) _____
for the shops chosen after careful (c) _____
planning arranged in rectangular city (d) _____
sectors. Pink colour was chosen Jaipur (e) _____
to cut down intense glare from the (f) _____
blazing rays of the sun.

9. Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases to form meaningful sentences. The first one has been done as an example. (3)

E.g. - indeed / a visitor's / the city / delight / is a - The city is a visitor's delight indeed.

(a) quite a / in Jaipur W there area/ few places / see

(b) delightful blend / traditional Rajasthani / the city palace / Mughal and / lie as of /
architecture

(c) is considered / chamber of mirrors / by many / the Sheesh Mahal / as the world's best

10. Complete the following paragraph by choosing the correct option from the ones given in brackets:

More and more teenagers (a) _____ (are, were, is, have been) working out, whether for sports or to simply get (b) _____ (fit, fitter, fittest, fitness). Fitness means that a person focuses (c) _____ (at, about, on, for) aerobic conditioning (e.g. running, swimming), weight lifting, flexibility (stretching) (d) _____ (or, but, and, as) good nutrition. When training for a sport, (e) _____ (this, these, that, those) four aspects of fitness are important not just for (f) _____ (perform, performed, performing, performance) but also to minimize the risk of injuries.

11. Read the conversation given below and complete the passage that follows by choosing the correct option. Write the answers in your answer sheet against the correct blank number. (3)

Ramesh: Doctor, I have got trouble. Every time I get into bed, I think there's somebody under it.

Doctor: Don't worry, I shall cure your fears.

Ramesh: How much do you charge?

Doctor: A thousand rupees per visit.

Ramesh: Thank you, Sir. I have been cured automatically.

Ramesh went to a psychiatrist and told him that (a) _____ as whenever he got into bed, he thought there was somebody under that. The doctor told him not to worry and assured him (b) _____. Ramesh asked him how much he charged. The doctor told him that his charges were one thousand rupees per visit. Ramesh thanked the doctor saying (c) _____ automatically.

(a) (i) he had got trouble

(ii) he has got trouble

(iii) he have got trouble

(iv) I have got trouble

(b) (i) that he will cure his fear

(ii) that he would cure his fears

(iii) that he shall cure his fears

(iv) if he would cure his fears

(c) (i) that he has been cured

(ii) that I have been cured (j) that he had been cured (iv) that he have been cured

SECTION-D (LITERATURE) (25 MARKS)

12. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. (4)

Write the correct answer in your answer sheet.

“Bangle seller are we who bear

Our shining loads to the temple fair,

Who will buy these delicate, bright

Rainbow tinted circles of light?

(a) Name the poet of the above lines:

(i) A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

(ii) Ruskin Bond

(iii) Alexander Pope

(iv) Sarpjini Naidu

(b) The bangle sellers describe their bangles as:

- (i) shining, delicate objects
- (ii) bright like. multi-coloured rainbows
- (iii) symbol of cheerfulness in life
- (iv) all the above

(c) The poetic device used in the second line is:

- (i) Metaphor
- (ii) Simile
- (iii) Alliteration
- (iv) Personification

(d) The rhyme scheme used in the above stanza is:

- (i) aabb
- (ii) abba
- (iii) abab
- (iv) abcc

13. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow. Write the correct option in your answer sheets. (4)

"I am glad. I never liked those dinners. (After a moment) But George, why have you changed suddenly? You're quite different now!"

(a) Who speaks these lines and to whom?

- (i) Annie to Mr. Hill
- (ii) Mrs. Hill to Mr. Hill
- (iii) Mr. Winter to Mr. Hill
- (iv) Mr. Hill to Mr. Briggs

(b) What kind of man was George earlier?

- (i) inconsiderate and unsympathetic
- (ii) not nice to the people in the bank
- (iii) unkind towards Annie
- (iv) all the above

(c) What changes have come over George?

- (i) he is caring towards Annie
- (ii) he retains her in service
- (iii) he hacks Annie and gets a new cook
- (iv) both (i) & (ii)

(d) What had brought about this change in George?

- (i) the unpleasant dream that he had
- (ii) his wife's scolding
- (iii) his customer's complaints
- (iv) his employees' indifferent attitude

14. Answer any for the following questions in about 30-40 words each. 4x2=(8)

- (a) What are Alexander Pope's views on Judgement? (Couplets)
- (b) Why did the disappearance of the flower-ring upset Mr. Regnier?
- (c) How did the woman know the narrator? (The Luncheon)
- (d) Why did the narrator secretly admire the district officer?

(The Undeserved Reward)

- (e) What kind of bangles are suitable for a bride? (Bangle-Sellers)

15. What is the waiter's contribution in allowing the woman to have a gorgeous meal?

Answer in about 40-50 words. (The Luncheon) (3)

16. You are Mr. Regnier. You feel quite pleased at the conscientious dedication and presence of mind displayed by your assistant William Morris who solved the mystery of the missing flower-ring so tactfully. You decide to write a page in your diary highlighting your feelings of pride and gratitude towards William Morris. Write the diary in about 80-90 words. (6)

OR

You are the narrator. You are overcome with a feeling of guilt after Baldev and his son leave your house. Write a letter to Baldev expressing your guilt over accepting the honour that you did not deserve. (80-90 words)