

Question paper 2016 – 17
SA-I Set A
CBSE Class 8th ENGLISH

General Instructions:

- **The Question paper is divided into three sections:**
 - Section A: Reading 20 Marks
 - Section B: Writing and Grammar 45 Marks
 - Section C: Literature 25 Marks
 - This question paper has 20 questions and 6 printed pages.
 - All questions are compulsory.
 - Write answers neatly and legibly.
 - All questions of a particular section must be attempted in the correct order.
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(Section-A: Reading 20)

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. (8)

In front of the enormous Shibua train station in Tokyo, there is a life-size bronze statue of a dog. Even though the statue is very small when compared to the huge neon signs flashing, it isn't difficult to find. It has been used as a meeting point since 1934 and today you will find hundreds of people waiting there for their friends to arrive. (Para 1)

Hachiko, an Akita dog, was born in 1923 and brought to Tokyo in 1924. His owner, Professor Eisaburo Uyenno and he were inseparable friends right from the start. Each day, Hachiko would accompany his owner, a professor at the Imperial University, to Shibua train station when he left for work. When he came back, the professor would find the dog patiently waiting for him. Sadly, the professor died suddenly at work in 1925 before he could come home. (Para 2)

Although Hachiko was still a young dog, the bond between him and his owner was very strong and he continued to wait at the station every day. Sometimes, he would stay there for days at a time, though some believe that he kept returning because of the food he was given by street vendors. He became a familiar sight to commuters over time. In 1934, a statue of

him was put outside the station. In 1935, Hachiko died at the place he last saw his friend alive. (Para 3)

1.1. On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions. (5)

- a. How big is the statue of Hachiko?**
- b. Why is the statue not difficult to find?**
- c. What is the profession of the owner of Hachiko?**
- d. When did the professor die?**
- e. What did the dog do every day at the station?**

Ans. 1. a. The statue of Hachiko is life-size.

b. The statue is difficult to find because there are huge neon signs.

c. The owner of Hachiko was a university teacher.

d. The professor died in 1925.

e. The dog waited every day at the station for his master to return.

1.2. Find word/phrase from the passage which means the same as the following. (1)

a. persons offering something for sale (Para 3)

Ans. a. vendors

1.3. Answer the questions that follow by choosing the answers from the given options. (2)

a. When did the dog first meet his master?

- i. 1935**
- ii. 1924**
- iii. 1923**
- iv. 1925**

b. What is Hachiko's statue made up of?

- i. bronze**

ii. silver

iii. marble

iv. Stone

Ans. a. ii.1924,

b. i. bronze

2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. (7)

There was a time when all house-work was done by the woman or the guests of the household. Few husbands ever dreamt of washing up, preparing breakfast or tending the baby. Such duties were no concern of theirs. And a normal school boy assumed that if help was needed at home, his sisters would be called on to give it. The whole family supported the view that the male child could not or should not clean, mend, wash, cook or make beds. (Para 1)

Things are very different today. Doctors or barristers find nothing shameful in putting on an apron to help in the kitchen or nursery and even boast of being good at washing of clothes and personal linen. (Para 2)

The school boy now more often extends help to his mother. One reason for the change is the shortage of domestic servants. Girls could once be found to do the hard work in middle and upper class homes for very moderate wages. Such girls can nowadays work in factories. In a short working day they earn more money than most householders can afford to pay. Thus, the wife now does the house work herself with the aid of labour saving machines; and she expects some help from the husband. (Para 3)

2.1. On the basis of your reading the passage, answer the following questions. (4)

a. In the past, who did all house work?

b. What did husbands never do?

c. What chores the male child wasn't meant to do?

d. What change do you find in today's educated generation, namely doctors, lawyers, etc.?

Ans. a. the woman or the guests of the household.

b. washing up, preparing breakfast or tending the baby.

c. clean, mend, wash, cook or make beds.

d. find nothing shameful in putting on an apron to help in the kitchen or nursery.

2.2. Find word/phrase from the passage which means the same as the following. (1)

a. average amount (Para 3)

Ans. moderate

2.3. Answer the questions that follow by choosing the answers from the given options. (2)

a. Why do girls work in factories?

i. They want to work hard.

ii. They want to replace men.

iii. They want moderate wages.

iv. They want to earn more respectably.

b What changes does one see today?

i Men and women equally divide household.

ii Men wear aprons and cook.

iii Women are earning better.

iv Women are a stronger gender.

Ans. iv. They want to earn more respectably.

i. Men and women equally divide household.

3. Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow: (5)

Weavers, weaving at break of day,

Why do you weave a garment so gay?

Blue as the wing of a bluebird wild,

We weave the robes of a new-born child.

Weavers, weaving at fall of night,

Why do you weave a garment so bright?

Like the plumes of a peacock, purple and green,

We weave the marriage-veils of a queen.

Weavers, weaving solemn and still,

What do you weave in the moonlight chill?

White as a feather and white as a cloud,

We weave a dead man's funeral shroud.

3.1. Answer the following questions briefly: (3)

- a. Who does the poet talk about in the poem?**
- b. What do the weavers weave in the chilly moonlight?**
- c. Find words which means the same as 'sincere'. (Stanza 3)**

Ans. a. The poet talks about different kind of garments weavers weave as per need.

b. a garment meant to cover a dead man

c. solemn

3.2. Answer the following questions by choosing the best choice. (2)

a. The weavers weave_____in the early morning.

i. a bright blue cloth ii. a dull grey cloth

iii. a soft white cloth iv. a red coloured veil

b. The _____ is purple and green coloured.

i. dress of the weavers ii. dress of a newborn child

iii. the queen's marriage veil iv. the robe of a king

Ans. iii. a soft white cloth

iii. the queen's marriage veil

(Section-B: Writing Skills and Grammar 45)

4. You are Vanya/Vibhor, the Cultural Secretary of R.M. Public School, Vikaspuri, Delhi. You have been asked to inform students of classes VII to VIII about an Inter-School Dramatics Competition. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words for the students' notice board with all necessary details. (5)

Ans.

Notice Writing (5)

The format should include: NOTICE / TITLE, DATE, and WRITER'S NAME WITH DESIGNATION. (1 Mark)

Content (2 Marks)

Expression (2 marks)

5. You went on a school picnic with your classmates and teachers. Write a diary entry, in about 100 words, describing your experiences. (5)

Ans. Diary Entry (5)

Format (1 Mark)

Content (coherence, cohesion, content, lexical resources, word limit) (4 Marks)

6. People play their TV sets on high volume. There is unnecessary honking of horns on the roads. People don't observe silence even in hospitals and schools. Write an article on 'Noise Pollution' in 100 - 120 words. (7)

Ans. Article Writing (7)

Format: (Title and writer's name) (1 Mark)

Content (4 Marks) Expression, grammatical accuracy, appropriate words and spelling,
Coherence, relevance of ideas and style (2 Marks)

7. Write an application to the Principal of your school asking for leave for three days on account of your sister's marriage. You are Sahil/Seema studying in APJ School, Chandigarh. (word limit: 100 – 120 words) (8)

Ans. Letter (8 Marks)

Format (2 Marks)

Content (4 Marks)

Expression, grammatical accuracy, appropriate words and spelling, Coherence, relevance of ideas and style (2 Marks)

8. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of verb given in the bracket. (3)

“(a).....(you excel) as a child also?”, a young boy (b).....(ask) Albert Einstein, the eminent scientist.

“No,” (c).....(say) Einstein with a smile. When I (d).....(be) a young boy like you, my teachers (e).....(think) that I was a dull boy. They (f).....(not encourage) me in any of my trials.

Ans. Did you excel, asked, said, was, thought, did not encourage

9. Complete the passages using suitable preposition. (2)

The chameleon is a relative (a)..... the lizard. It is a reptile. It can be found (b)..... Africa and Madagascar. You can also find it in some parts of Asia and southern Europe. Some varieties of chameleons can grow (c)..... a length of 60 centimetres. However, the most common variety does not grow more than 30 centimetres long. The most interesting thing (d) the chameleon is that it is able to change colour.

Ans. of, in, to/up to, about

10. Complete the passages using suitable possessives. (3)

Mr. Kapoor is a singer. (a) wife is a painter. They have two children. (b)..... son is a budding novelist. (c)..... has written a book. (d)..... title is Harmony in

Community. His fans talk highly of (e)..... Their daughter is a pianist. She is extremely talented. (f)..... teacher praises her a lot.

Ans. His, Their, He, Its, him, Her

11. Change the following sentences into the passive voice. (4)

a. She made a third attempt.

b. The boy asked a difficult question.

c. Megha was writing a poem.

d. The woman was washing clothes.

Ans. a. A third attempt was made by her.

b. A difficult question was asked by the boy.

c. A poem was being written by Megha.

d. Clothes were being washed by the woman.

12. Complete the passages using suitable modals. (1)

Mohit: Mother, I'm awfully hungry. (a)..... you please give me something to eat?

Mother: Oh! I am sorry. I haven't cooked anything.

Mohit: (b)..... I eat these grapes till you cook something for me?

Ans. Could/can, May

13. Complete the passages using suitable adverbs. (1)

Sonia's mother had (a).....(careful) made all arrangements for her birthday party.

They (b)..... (happy) welcomed everyone.

Ans. carefully, happily

14. Choose the correct form of the verb that agrees with the subject. (3)

One of my friends (a)..... (is/are) going to China. He (b).....(don't/doesn't) know how to speak Chinese. He (c).....(has/have) asked one of his (d)..... (friend / friends) to help him. His teacher (e).....(was/were) none other than my elder brother. Now, he and I (f)..... (am /are) learning Chinese together.

Ans. is, doesn't, has, friends, was, are

15. Choose the correct option in each sentence. (3)

- a. I must more to keep fit. (exercise, to exercise, exercising, exercised)
- b. I remember Sue last Sunday. (visit, to visit, visiting, visited)
- c. The salesman seemed impatient. (get, to get, getting, got)
- d. I really miss in the countryside. (live, to live, living, lived)
- e. She was by the exhibition. (fascinate, to fascinate, fascinating, fascinated)
- f. If you don't stop, you'll kill yourself. (diet, to diet, dieting, dieted)

Ans. exercise, visiting, to get, living, fascinated, dieting

(Section-C Literature and Long Reading Text 20)

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

Sighing like a furnace, with a woeful ballad

Made to his mistress' eyebrows."

Full of strange oaths, and bearded like the pard

Jealous in honour, sudden and quick in quarrel.

- a. Mention the stage referred to in the above lines.
- b. What does the poet mean by 'furnace'?
- c. State the poetic device in the first line.

d. Name the poem and poet.

Ans. a. fourth stage

b. a hot stove

c. simile 'sighing like a furnace'

d. All the World's a Stage

17. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words. (8)

a. What did the old man dream? ('The Man Who Made the Withered Trees Blossom')

b. What nightmares did Swami have? Mention any one.

c. What was peculiar about the narrator's memory in the chapter 'I Never Forget a Face'?

d. Why does Schatz believe he is going to die?

Ans. a. The covetous neighbours and their jealous attitude towards Muko's owners.

b. Tiger chasing, running to save his life, etc.

c. never forgot a face but didn't remember the name.

d. misunderstanding of the doctor's diagnosis and the son's mistaken belief that he would die from the high Fahrenheit temperature, confusing it with the Celsius form commonly used in many other parts of the world. Additionally, the father inadvertently confirms the boy's fears when he goes hunting after Schatz suggests he should leave.

18. Write meanings of the following words. (2)

a. annoying:

b. agonized:

Ans. a. irritating

b. pained

19. Answer the following questions in 60-80 words. (6)

a. In the story 'Hero', Swami's father said, "Courage is everything, strength and age are not important." Did Swami believe in his father's words? Support your answer with valid reasons.

b. Discuss the theme of the poem 'Casabianca'.

Ans. a. The covetous man tried to steal the good man's fortune but didn't succeed in it. God helps those who help themselves. Goodness begets goodness.

b. answers may vary

20. Answer the following questions.

a. What does Mrs. Bennet want her husband to do? [1]

b. Why does Mr. Bennet favour Elizabeth? 2

c. Why does Bingley turn down the first invitation to dinner? [2]

Ans. a. Mrs. Bennet wants Mr. Bennet to be among the first to visit their new neighbour, Mr. Bingley.

b. Mr. Bennet thinks Lizzy is smarter than the rest of his daughters.

c. He had to go to London to bring his relatives back.