

sDr. M.K.K ARYA MODEL SCHOOL, PANIPAT

Holiday Homework

Subject : English

Class :-VIII

Section A	Reading Skills
Section B	Grammar
Section C	Writing Skills
Section D	Literature
Section E	Project
Section F	Vocabulary

Section A Assignment:- Reading Skills

Reading Assignment -1

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

Garbage brings a great environmental hazard. It comes from various sources—used paper, tiffin packings, plastic bags, ice-cream wrappers, bottle caps, fallen leaves from trees and many more. Garbage makes the premises ugly, unkempt and breeds diseases. A lot of trash that is thrown away contains materials that can be recycled and reused such as paper, metals and glass which can be sent to the nearest recycling centre or disposed of to the junk dealer. It also contains organic matter such as leaves which can enrich soil fertility.

A compost pit can be made at a convenient location where the refuse can be placed with layers of soil and an occasional sprinkling of water. This would help decomposition to make valuable fertilizer. This would also prevent pollution that is usually caused by burning such organic waste.

1. Garbage originates from

- a) used paper, Tiffin, packings, plastic bags and fallen leaves from trees
- b) fallen branches from trees
- c) leftovers of food
- d) building materials.

2. Garbage can create havoc to mankind by

- a) spreading foul smell
- b) spreading several diseases
- c) slowing our vehicles on the road
- d) all of the above.

3. What happens to the disposed of material at the recycling centre?

- a) It is thrown away
- b) It is sold to the rag-pickers
- c) It is recycled for reuse
- d) It is dumped into the ground.

4. Fallen leaves from trees are useful because they

- a) solve the problem of fuelwood in village households
- b) enrich soil fertility
- c) enrich water quality
- d) beautify landscape.

5. Which of these is correct with reference to a composite pit?

- a) The refuge is placed with layers of soil with an occasional sprinkling of water
- b) It contributes to the manufacture of useful fertilizer
- c) It prevents pollution
- d) All of the above.

Reading Assignment -2

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

When we enter New York harbour, the first thing we see is the Statue of Liberty. What impresses us the most is its size and magnificence. Have you ever wondered how it came to be there? The Statue of Liberty was a gift from the people of France to mark the one hundred year anniversary of American Independence. In 1869, sculptor Frederic Auguste Bartholdi began to plan his concept for the monument. Bartholdi chose the look of classic Greek and Roman figures. He envisioned Liberty as a strong and proud figure, one who personified not only the majestic Greek goddesses of the past, but also the working men and women of the present. Finally, in 1884, the work was finished, and Liberty was packed into 214 crates and sent to New York city. Only one problem stood in the way. While the French had raised a lot of funds to build the statue, New York had not secured the funds to build its foundation. It was not until a New York newspaper implored people for donations that money became available. Finally, on 28th October 1886, Americans celebrated the unveiling of the Statue of Liberty.

1. Why was the Statue of Liberty given as a gift to America by France?
2. What is the name of the sculptor of the monument 'the Statue of Liberty'?
3. What did the sculptor imagine the Statue of Liberty to be?
4. How many years did it take to unveil the Statue of liberty?
5. Trace the word from the passage which means the same as "imagined".

Reading Assignment -3

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

An elderly carpenter was ready to retire. He told his employer of his plans to leave the house building business and live a more leisurely life with his family. He would miss the pay

cheque, but he needed to retire. The employer was sorry to see his good worker go and asked if he could build just one more house as a personal favour. The carpenter said 'yes', but in time it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work. He resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior material. It was an unfortunate way to end his career. When the carpenter finished his work, his employer handed over the key of the house to the carpenter— "This is your house, my gift to you." What a shock! What a shame! If he had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently! Now he had to live in a poorly built house. So it is with us. We build our lives, a day at a time, often putting less than our best into the building. Then, with a shock, we realize we have to live in the house we have built. If we could do it over, we would do it much differently. But, you cannot go back. You are the carpenter, and every day you hammer a nail, place a board, or erect a wall. Someone once said, your attitude, and the choices you make today, help build the "house" you will live in tomorrow. Therefore, build wisely!

1. What did the carpenter tell his employer?
2. What favour did his employer ask from the carpenter?
3. What surprise did the employer have for the carpenter?
4. Why was the surprise a 'shame' for the carpenter?
5. Which word in the first paragraph means the same as 'art of skill of a workman'?

Reading Assignment -4

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Next to water, tea is the most commonly consumed beverage in the world. This is a good news because tea offers important health benefits. Its benefits were first discovered by the Chinese Emperor Shen Nung who declared that it gave one vigour of body, contentment of mind and determination of purpose. Today there is ample proof that tea in its many forms possesses a number of health benefits from supporting the immune, system to reducing the risk of cancer, to helping prevent tooth decay. What makes tea such a healthy drink? The star compounds are called catechins. Those are antioxidants , that help prevent cell damage by harmful molecules called free radicals. Tea can be black, green and red and is derived from a warm-weather evergreen tree known as Camelia Sinensis. The more processing, tea leaves undergo, the darker they become. Green tea is the least processed tea. It is simply steamed quickly and offers the maximum healing powers because it isn't fermented. It also helps prevent tooth decay and aids weight loss.

1. The most commonly consumed beverage in the world is.....
2. Benefits of tea were first discovered by.....
3. Tea turns out to be a healthy drink due to the presence of.....
4. Green tea leaves offer maximum healing powers because it is.....
5. The word to the last para which means the same as helps is.....

Section B

GRAMMAR

A. State the type of underlined nouns.

1. A fox saw a bunch of grapes.
2. Iron is a useful metal.
3. Honesty is the best policy.
4. A swarm of bees gathered in the garden.
5. Do you feel any difficulty?

B. Do as directed.

1. The children ate up all the cupcakes. They leftfor us. (Fill in the blank with suitable Indefinite pronoun)
2. My twin sister andlook alike. (Fill in the blank with appropriate personal pronoun)
3. The police inspected the car had been smashed in the accident. (Fill in the blank with appropriate relative pronoun)
4. When the teacher entered in the class all the students were talking with..... .(**one another/ each other**)

C. There one error in the use of pronoun in the following sentences. Pick out the error and rewrite the following sentences correctly.

- a. The match who was to be played today has been cancelled.
- b. The doctor for which you are waiting is on leave today.

D. In the following passage an article in each line is missing. Find out and put / where it is missing and write correct word in the space provided.

I met Russian yesterday. He had left	a.
Moscow after Revolution and	b.
for long time had been	c.
driving taxi in Paris. He had	d.
married Austrian girl who worked	e.
as air-hostess.	f.

E. Fill in the blanks with suitable demonstrative determiners (this, that, these, those)

.....cricket team of Australia is not very strong. It has promising players but players lack experience. They are not familiar with the pitches incountry. The pitches in Australia are different. pitches are hard and bouncy.

F. Fill in the blanks with suitable distributive determiners (either, each, every, neither, each)

- a.member of the group was given a driving test.
- b. Trees have been planted on side of the road.
- c. We have a small gathering at our houseSunday.
- d. It wasn't a good match.team played well.

G. Fill in the blanks with suitable Quantifiers (any, few, a few, little, a little,)

- a. I did not haveproblem in locating your house. But the train was late byminutes.
- b. I am facingproblems in dealing with your son. It is unfortunate that he takesinterest in his studies.

Section –C

Writing Assignment

➤ **NOTICE WRITING:**

1. You are Raja, the head boy of R.K. Inter College . Your school is organizing a tour to Sikkim, Write out a Notice inviting students who want to join the tour. Put the Notice in the box.
2. You are Vijeta, the head girl of Sampan Public School, Greater Noida. Your school has decided to hold a fete in the school playground. The Principal has asked you to write a Notice about this fete inviting the students and the teachers to participate in it.

➤ **MESSAGE WRITING:**

1. Read the conversation carefully:

You Rajat, receive a phone call from your father's office in his absence and have the following conversation with the speaker. Write a message , for your father as you have to go for your tuitions. Put the message in a box.

Mr Gupta : Hello, is this 25258654?

Yourself : Yes. May I know who's calling?

Mr Gupta : I am Suresh Gupta. Can I talk to Mr Mahajan?

Yourself : I am Rajat, his son, Daddy is not at home. Do you have any message for him?

Mr Gupta : Yes, Please tell him that the meeting fixed for tomorrow i.e. 15th June has been cancelled

Yourself : Ok Anything else.

Mr Gupta : Please tell him that we shall let him know as and when the next date for the meeting, is fixed

Yourself : Ok uncle, I shall tell Daddy when he comes back.

2. Read the conversation carefully:

You are Smita. Your sister is not at home. You received a call from her friend that her dance class got cancelled. Since you are in a rush to go out, so you will leave a message for her. Now write the message with a word limit of fewer than 50 words.

Madhuri: Hello! Is Kavita at home?

Smita: No. She went outside. May I know who is this calling?

Madhuri: I am Madhuri, Kavita's friend.

Smita: Ok. Is there any message for her, I can pass?

Madhuri: Yes, please tell her that tomorrow's dance class is cancelled, since our dance teacher had an emergency and she has to go out of town. The next class will be on Tuesday.

Smita: Sure. I will let her know. Thank you.

Madhuri: You are welcome!

➤ **LETTER WRITING**

1. Write a letter to your friend describing the importance of learning English.
2. Suppose you have received a letter from your father complaining about the idleness and extravagant habits of your younger brother. In about 100-125 words write a letter to your younger brother expressing your disapproval of his conduct and asking him to mend his ways.

➤ **Review of the chapter**

1. Read Chapter-4 'Bepin Choudhury's Lapse of Memory' of 'Honeydew'. Write the summary of the chapter with illustrations.
2. Read Chapter-6 'The Fight' of 'It So Happened'. Write the summary of the chapter with illustrations.

Section –D

Literature

Answer the following questions in 30 to 40 words.

1. What did the author do after he read the letter? (The Best Christmas Present in the World)
2. Who wrote the letter? Why It was so special? (The Best Christmas Present in the World)
3. What happened with Meghna? (The Tsunami)
4. What is Tsunami? What happened on 26 December 2004? (The Tsunami)
5. What did the camel eat and where did he live? (How The Camel Got His Hump)
6. How was Velu feeling when he got down from the train. (Children at work)
7. Write the character sketch of Mrs Macpherson. (The Best Christmas Present in the World)
8. How did the Djinn punish the camel? (How The Camel Got His Hump)
9. Do you think Jaya is a brave and sensitive child with a sense of humour? (Children at work)
10. Write the central idea of the poem 'The Ant and the Cricket'.
11. Mention the things that are clear from the height. (Geography Lesson)

12. Write any two examples in which you find the poet has used exaggeration. (Macavity: The Mystery Cat)

Section –E

Project Work

Project-1

Watch any of the movie from the options listed below and write a review.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a) Night at the Museum | b) School of Rock |
| c) The Chronicles of Narnia | d) Journey of the Centre of the Earth |
| e) Enchanted | f) Harry Potter |
| g) Good Will Hunting | h) Life of Pi |
| i) Robinson Crusoe | j) Charlie and the Chocolate Factory |

Any other English Movie

Your REVIEW must include the following:

- ☐ Character sketch of the male or female protagonist
- ☐ What is the message of the movie?
- ☐ Did you learn anything from the movie? If yes, what was it?
- ☐ Would you recommend this movie to your friend? Explain your reasons.
- ☐ If you had a chance to ask a character in this movie a question, what would it be and to whom?

Project-2

Enrich your vocabulary and make a Pocket Dictionary and write three new words everyday with their meanings.

General Instructions:

- ❖ Read and Revise the Course covered in the class.
- ❖ Understand the concepts and practice questions.
- ❖ Complete your pending assignments. (if any).

❖ Improve your handwriting by practicing daily. Revise all the concepts done so far.

Vocabulary

Instructions:

1. Learn all the given word meanings and idioms very well.
2. Write all the given words in note book and use them in your own sentences .
3. There will be a test of these words only as soon as the school will reopen.

Vocabulary

Words	Meanings
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- | | |
|-----|---|
| 1. | chuckheaded – stupid |
| 2. | chatterbox – a person who talks a lot |
| 3. | optimist- one who looks at things favorably |
| 4. | pessimist-a person who always expects the worst |
| 5. | wicked- evil |
| 6. | hastened- rushed quickly |
| 7. | exhausted- extremely tired |
| 8. | grin- smile broadly |
| 9. | giggle- laugh lightly and repeatedly in a silly way |
| 10. | snigger- to laugh at someone or something in a silly and often unkind way |
| 11. | feeble -weak |
| 12. | glumly -sadly/gloomily |
| 13. | grimace- twisted expression due to pain |
| 14. | woobly- unsteady |
| 15. | famine- scarcity of food |
| 16. | chaos- complete disorder or confusion |
| 17. | recede- move back from where it was |
| 18. | haphazard- without plan or order |
| 19. | inevitable- that cannot be avoided |
| 20. | nightmare- bad/frightening dream |
| 21. | stumbled on-got into by chance |
| 22. | cakewalk- smooth ride/ something easy to achieve |
| 23. | cope- manage or handle |
| 24. | flung- throw forcefully |
| 25. | hellacious- an awful experience |
| 26. | concealed- hidden |

27. revealed- to show something usually secret or hidden
28. exaggerate- say something beyond the limits
29. immortal- living or lasting forever
30. influence- the capability of putting an effect on something
31. superstition-a belief that is not based on human reason or scientific knowledge
32. blissful- in a way that provides perfect happiness or great joy
33. fascinated- strongly attracted
34. desperation- a state of despair, hopelessness
35. prank- mischief
36. precise- marked by accuracy of expression or detail
37. furious- extremely angry
38. lethargic- at a slow pace, sluggish
39. reinforce- to increase in amount or make stronger
40. acquaintance- knowledge or experience of something

Idioms

Idioms	Idiom Meanings
1. Beat around the bush	To avoid talking about what's important
2. Get your act together	Get organized and do things effectively
3. Hit the sack	Go to sleep
4. Your guess is as good as mine	I do not know
5. Good things come to those who wait	To have patience
6. Back against the wall	Stuck in a difficult circumstance with no escape
7. Up in arms	Being grumpy or angry about something

8. Scrape the barrel	Making the most of the worst situations or things because you can't do anything about it
9. Burn your boats/bridges	Doing something that makes it impossible to go back to the original state.
10. Break fresh/ new ground	Doing something that has never been done before
11. Sell like hot cakes	Quick sellout
12. Run around in circles	Putting efforts into something that is not a worthwhile result
13. On cloud nine	Being very happy
14. Left out in the cold	Being ignored
15. Blow hot and cold	Alternate inconsistently between moods and actions
16. Cut corners	Doing something in an easier and least expensive manner
17. Boil the ocean	Taking up an almost impossible or overly ambitious project
18. Keep an ear to the ground	Staying informed and updated about everything
19. Eat like a horse	Eating too excessively
20. A snowball effect	The aspect of momentum in every event and how they build upon each other

