

# VIBGYOR HIGH

## Second Term Examination

2019-2020

### English Language

Grade: VIII

Max. Marks : 80

Date : 17/03/2020

Time Allowed: 2 hours

#### INSTRUCTIONS:-

- 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.
- The intended marks for the questions or parts of questions are given alongside the questions.
- Attempt all five questions.

**Question 1 (Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question.) [20]**

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

- (a)** While taking a stroll one evening, you came across an open drain and heard the desperate cry of a little boy. Describe how you went about rescuing the little child.
- (b)** As a part of your school project, you had spent a day with the slum children near your school/near your building. Narrate your

experience of the same.

- (c) Write an original story that begins with the words "I have had enough. I refuse to....."
- (d) 'History bears testimony to the fact that women are as brave as men.' Express your views **for** or **against** this topic.
- (e) Study the picture given below. Write a short 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 (Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)**

**[10]**

**Select any one of the following:**

- (a) For the first time in your life you have been on a ferris wheel. Write a letter to your friend expressing your experience.
- (b) Post Diwali, there has been an increase in the level of air pollution in your city. Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner expressing your concern about the same.

**Question 3**

**[10]**

- (a) Draft a notice to be displayed on your school notice board informing students about the school carnival to be held in the school campus.
- (b) Your school is going to organise an Inter-School Singing competition. Write a notice for your school notice board inviting names of all the interested students.

**Question 4 Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: [20]**

The boy was idling in the market place on the lookout for mischief. All at once he saw it **beckoning** him. Workmen had been slating the church spire and their ladders stretched invitingly from earth to steeple.

All children like scrambling up to high places to see if the world looks any different from an apple tree or a stable loft. Over and above his love for climbing, Michael had a longing to do things that had never been done before. As he **gazed** at the spire, crowned by a golden ball and weather-vane, an idea crept into his mind. He would be the first person in Flushing to stand on the golden ball beneath the weather- vane.

He glanced around. No one was looking. Michael began to climb up the ladder. At the top of the tower there rose a slated spire crowned by a golden ball and weather-vane. At last Michael found himself squatting on top of the ball, holding on to the vane.

He heard workmen moving below. He did not peer over or speak. He was not going to be **hauled** down before Flushing had seen him. The voices died away and Michael sat resting.

Someone must have cast a casual glance up at the vane and seeing his little figure, cried out. In a minute or two Michael was delighted to see the market place full of people who had rushed out of their shops and houses to gaze at the dizzy sight. It was splendid to have all those eyes and hearts glued upon you!

But Michael did not intend to stay there until he was fetched down, to be handed over to his father and cuffed before the crowd. After a while he prepared to descend of his own free will.

He leaned over the ball. The ladder had gone. The workmen had taken it away! A sudden feeling of sickness and giddiness came over Michael, which he got under control. To wait for rescue was a humiliating end to his escapade. He would come down alone, even if it cost him his life.

The spire at the base of the ball was only half slated and Michael saw some hope of gaining a foothold on the old part. He clasped his arms round the top of the ball and let his body swing down. He was just able to feel the first slate with his toes. Michael kicked with his armored toes till the slate crashed and fell in. He then got a foothold on the wooden laths beneath.

He rested for a minute, with aching arms and a stiff body. He must change his grip on the ball, which was too big for him to slide his arms down. He must get clear of it, and somehow grasp the spire beneath. One false move and he would be hurled to death on the cobbles below.

Slowly, he began to slide his hands together at the top of the ball and then downward over its bulging face. Every inch was packed with peril. Every inch pushed him backward towards death. It seemed to him that he would be too weak to hold on when the time came for him to grasp the spire.

But at last the steady deadly creeping of his fingers brought him to a point where he could bend forward. With a sudden snatch he caught the base of the ball.

The next moment he was kicking out a stairway in the old tiles and swarming swiftly down. He reached the foot of the spire, lifted the trapdoor of the tower, ran down the steps and was caught by his father in the organ loft.

(a) Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage: [3]

(i) beckoning

(ii) gazed

(iii) hauled

(b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:

(i) What was Michael doing in the market place? What attracted his attention then? [2]

(ii) What did Michael long to do? What did he plan to do to accomplish this? [2]

(iii) Which sight filled Michael's heart with delight? [2]

(iv) What came over Michael when he realised that the ladder had disappeared? Why? [2]

(v) Which sentence in the passage means 'a wrong step and that would be his end'? [1]

(c) In not more than 50 words of your own, trace Michael's descent from the top of the ball to the foot of the spire. [8]

### Question 5

(a) 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. [4]

Example: (0)heard

Suddenly the clang of arms was (0) \_\_\_\_\_ (hear). The ladies rushed (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (secure) the door of the room, but alas! The bolts and bars had gone and only the empty staples remained. Meanwhile King James seized the tongs and (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (tear) up a board in the floor to let himself down into a vault below. But before there was time to

replace the board, the murderers came rushing along. Then Catherine Douglas, one of the Queen's ladies, (3)\_\_\_\_ (fly) to the door and thrust her arm through the empty staples, thus (4) \_\_\_\_ (gain) time to allow her sovereign to escape. The brave arm was but a frail bar and was soon (5) \_\_\_\_ (break) and the traitors burst into the room to find no signs of King James.

Sadly the King was unable to get out of the vault. The ladies then made ropes of sheets and (6) \_\_\_\_ (try) to pull him up but the noise (7) \_\_\_\_ (hear) by the ruffians. They again rushed into the room and the unfortunate monarch was (8) \_\_\_\_ (murder).

**(b) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word: [4]**

- (i) The car crashed \_\_\_\_ a wall.
- (ii) We are hoping \_\_\_\_ a revision in salary.
- (iii) The company has taken \_\_\_\_ a number of small firms.
- (iv) I came \_\_\_\_ a good article in a magazine.
- (v) The girl takes \_\_\_\_ her mother.
- (vi) I ran \_\_\_\_ George yesterday.
- (vii) They admire him \_\_\_\_ his courage.
- (viii) Julie aimed the gun \_\_\_\_ the target.

**(c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using 'and', 'but' or 'so'. [4]**

- (i) Mona had been ill for a month. She stood first in the examination.
- (ii) Ishita is very happy. It is obvious.
- (iii) Some students stay on the side walk. Some students cut across the grass.
- (iv) I have seen many cruel acts. This was the most cruel act I have ever seen.

**(d) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions [8]**

**given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence.**

- (i) The people were cheering the patriot. (Begin: The patriot.....)
- (ii) Blood is thicker than water. (Change into an interrogative sentence)
- (iii) As soon as we received your message, we heaved a sigh of relief.  
(Begin: No sooner.....)
- (iv) He is too fickle minded to be trusted. (Rewrite without using too)
- (v) She is the girl with blue eyes. (Add a question tag)
- (vi) The cow is one of the most useful animals. (Begin: Very few....)
- (vii) The old man said to the police, "Please show me the way to the temple." (Change the speech)
- (viii) Though Rima got an expensive gift, she was not happy. (Begin: Despite...)

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