



INDIAN SCHOOL SALALAH
FIRST TERM EXAMINATION – SEPTEMBER 2024



Class: VIII

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

Date:19.9.24

Time: 3Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

Roll No: (In numerals)

(In words)

Name of the Candidate:

Section:

Father's Name:

Day and Date of Examination:

Signature of the Candidate:

Signature of the Invigilator:

STATEMENT OF MARKS

Section A	
Section B	
Section C	
Section D	
Grand Total	

Signature of the Examiner with date:

Signature of the Checker with date:

READING [20 Marks]

Q1. Read the following passage carefully:

Marie Curie: Illuminating Science with Unyielding Brilliance

1. Marie Curie, was born as Maria Sklodowska in Warsaw, Poland in 1867. As a child, she amazed people with her prodigious memory. She learnt to read when she was only four years old. Later she became one of the most renowned scientists in history for her pioneering research on radioactivity.

2. Marie Curie grew up in a family deeply committed to education, as both her parents were teachers. This early environment instilled in her a strong appreciation for knowledge and a dedication to service. She and her elder sister, Bronya, both wanted to live up to their parents' expectations and succeeded in it. Even when she was a young girl, she was inquisitive and trying to figure out how things worked. She was the youngest of five children. The family faced poverty and hardships, including often going without meals. Nonetheless, she excelled academically encouraged by her mother's hope that she would become a teacher, focused on her studies to help others in need.

3. Marie Curie's research focused on understanding the properties of radioactive elements, particularly uranium and thorium. Despite facing gender barriers, she pursued higher education and moved to Paris, where she met Pierre Curie, a physicist whom she married and collaborated with on groundbreaking experiments. In 1898, she discovered a new element, which she named polonium after her native Poland. Later that year, alongside her husband Pierre and Henri Becquerel, she isolated another radioactive element, radium. Their work not only expanded scientific knowledge but also laid the foundation for future developments in nuclear physics and medicine.

4. Regardless of her scientific achievements, Marie Curie faced challenges and discrimination as a woman in the male-dominated scientific community. She persevered, becoming the first woman to win a Nobel Prize in 1903, jointly awarded with Pierre Curie and Henri Becquerel for their work on radioactivity. Curie won two Nobel Prizes, for physics in 1903 and for chemistry in 1911. She was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize as well as the first person—man or woman—to win the prestigious award twice. She remains the only person to be honored for accomplishments in two separate sciences.

5. After Pierre's tragic death in 1906, Marie Curie continued her research and teaching career, becoming the first woman professor at the University of Paris. Marie Curie's contributions to science were not limited to her discoveries. During World War-1, she developed mobile X-ray units, known as "Petite Curies," to assist battlefield surgeons in treating wounded soldiers. These units allowed for the rapid and efficient treatment of wounded soldiers by enabling real-time imaging of injuries, reflecting her commitment to both scientific innovation and humanitarian aid.

6. Marie Curie died on 4th July 1934 in France. Her death certificate states that she died of ‘aplastic anemia’, which is a blood disease. This was caused by her long-term exposure to radiation. Many of her notebooks of experiments are still slightly radioactive today. They have to be stored in lead-lined boxes and handled with care at the 'Bibliothèque Nationale de France' in Paris. Marie Curie’s legacy continues to inspire scientists and women around the world. Her relentless pursuit of knowledge and determination in the face of adversity have left an indelible mark in the field of science and on society as a whole.

Q1. [A] Tick the correct option to answer the following:

[5x1mark= 5marks]

1. Marie Curie’s birth name was _____

- (a) Maria Kowalska
- (b) Maria Sklodowska
- (c) Maria Nowak
- (d) Maria Dubois

2. The element discovered by Marie Curie and named after her native Poland is _____

- (a) Radium
- (b) Uranium
- (c) Polonium
- (d) Thorium

3. Marie Curie won her first Nobel Prize in the year _____

- (a) 1898
- (b) 1903
- (c) 1911
- (d) 1918

4. Marie Curie’s research on radioactivity was in collaboration with scientists _____

- (a) Albert Einstein and Niels Bohr
- (b) Henri Becquerel and Pierre Curie
- (c) Ernest Rutherford and James Chadwick
- (d) Robert H. Goddard and Linus Pauling

5. Marie Curie's radioactive notebooks are stored today at _____

- (a) The Louvre Museum
- (b) The Bibliothèque Nationale de France
- (c) The British Museum
- (d) The Smithsonian Institution

Q1. [B] Answer the following questions: [5x1mark= 5marks]

1. Describe early life and family background of Marie Curie.

2. How did Marie Curie's work during World War-1 demonstrate her commitment to humanitarian efforts?

3. What challenges did Marie Curie face as a woman in the scientific community?

4. Find the words from the passage which mean the same as

(a) extraordinary (*para 1*) _____

(b) permanent (*para 6*) _____

Q2. Read the following passage carefully.

1. Mountains have always been held in great awe by mankind. They have been a challenge to humans. Those brave among us have always wanted to conquer them. You see, the more incredible the mountains, the greater the thrill – a challenge to the bravery of the human race. Climbing mountains is an experience that is hard to put into words. You are in a beautiful environment and, when you reach the top, you feel incredible. But you also have to climb down, which is when most accidents happen – people are tired, it gets dark, it's harder. So, mountain climbing is undoubtedly one of the most popular adventure sports along with being challenging and risky for the climber.

2. Without any perceived risk, there can't be a feeling that any significant challenge has been surmounted. Fair, but we have to bear in mind that mountaineering is not a sport that can be embraced without preparation. The enthusiasts must develop in themselves the spirit of adventure, willingness to undertake hardships and risks, extraordinary powers of perseverance, endurance, and keenness of purpose before climbing a mountain. They should also know how to handle the mountaineering equipment. Then comes the penance of the rigorous training.

This could very well be the lifeline up there. It helps inculcate and sharpen survival instincts that allow the climber to negotiate perilous situations. There are numerous institutes in India and abroad that offer such training.

3. Mountain climbers are unanimous in agreeing that the unpredictable weather is what they fear the most. There may be sunshine one moment and a snowstorm the other. At higher altitudes, snow is a regular feature and being decisive about setting up camps or proceeding further is crucial. The icy sheets after ice storms make walking treacherous, while the powdery snow makes a mountaineer sink deep into the snow. Up there, where the intention is to embrace Nature's wonder, one realises that it cannot be done without facing its formidable glory. A true mountaineer may challenge the mountain, yet is always respectful to the powerful forces of nature.

4. Summiting mountains carries its own health risks such as oxygen and altitude sickness problems, frost bites, swelling of hands and feet, fluid collection in brain or lungs and exhaustion. Yet, the gratification mountaineers feel from mastering something that is so frightening, urges them to undertake these endeavours. We may think that the mountaineers are fearless, experts say, "Not at all. It's fear that keeps them so intrigued with such arduous journeys." Impulse and brazenness can be deadly foes. In the words of the Indian mountaineer, Bachendri Pal, "The biggest risk ... is to not to take the risk at all. Remember that."

❖ **Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below: [10marks]**

1. Why does the writer say that mountains inspire 'awe' in humans? (Tick correct option) (Paragraph 1)

- (a) They present us with opportunities for exciting sports.
- (b) They evoke the wish in us, to master them.
- (c) They inspire in us, deeds of valour.
- (d) They represent peace and calm, to us.

2. Select the option that corresponds to the following relation below:

The *more incredible* the mountains—the greater the thrill (Paragraph 1)

- (a) The higher the stamina—the lower the food intake
- (b) The more you laugh—the lesser your illness
- (c) The smaller the car—the bigger the advantage
- (d) The heavier the luggage—the higher the penalty

3. Choose the option that best shows the writer's opinion based on the given information:

So, mountain climbing is undoubtedly one of the most popular adventure sports (Paragraph 1)

- A. doubt
- B. caution
- C. conviction
- D. denial

4. Complete the following with a phrase from paragraph 1.

Opinion	Reason
-----	Best experienced rather than described

5. The writer compares training to penance in the line —*Then comes the penance of the rigorous training.*” Give ONE point of similarity between training and penance. (Paragraph 2)

6. Based on your reading of the text, list 2 reasons why the writer says that “mountaineering is not a sport that can be embraced without preparation”. (Paragraph 2)

1)

2)

7. What connection does the writer draw between unpredictable weather and setting up of camps? (Paragraph 3)

8. The writer says, “A true mountaineer may challenge the mountain, yet is always respectful to the powerful forces of nature.” (Paragraph 3). Select the reason the mountaineer is respectful to the forces of nature, up in the mountains.

- (a) survival
- (b) experience
- (c) tradition
- (d) directive

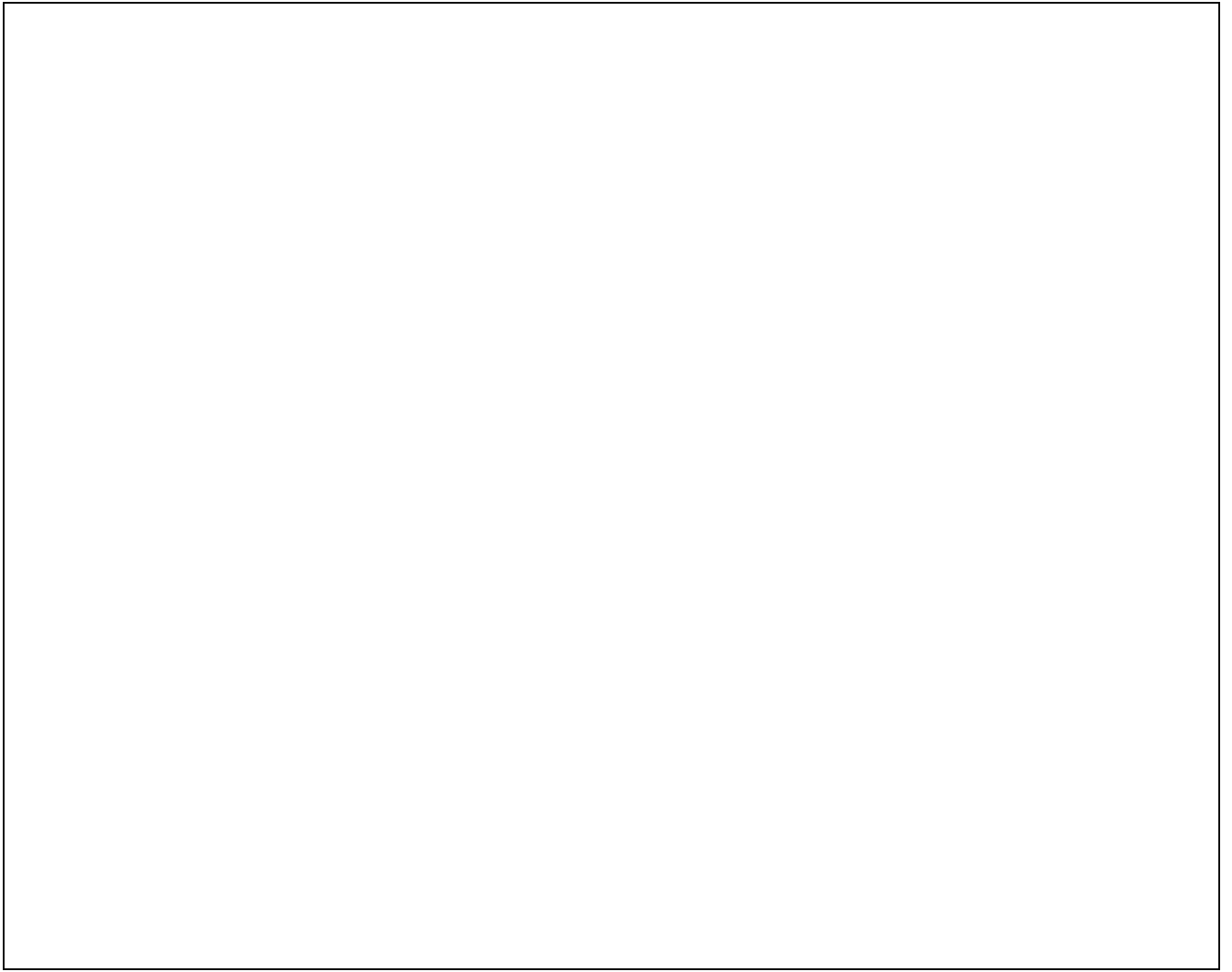
9. Find ONE word for the following from the paragraph no.4:

- a) Pleasure gained from the satisfaction of a desire
- b) A sudden strong desire to act

SECTION [B] WRITING [20MARKS]

Q3. You are Sanket / Saloni secretary of Wildlife Conservation Trust of India. Design an engaging poster on wildlife conservation and the protection of endangered species. [5marks]

[Continued in the next page]



Q4. Write an apology letter to the Principal of your school for breaking the window pane of the school auditorium. You are Anshul / Anjana studying in class VIII of Delhi Private School, Jhansi. [7marks]

SECTION [C] GRAMMAR [20MARKS]

Q6. Do as directed.

6.1 Fill in the blanks with suitable determiners and complete the passage. [4x ½ mark=2marks]

Students entered (a) _____ classroom quietly, taking their seats without a sound. Teacher greeted them warmly and began the grammar lesson. She handed out (b) _____ worksheet containing questions on conjunctions and asked them to work independently. Some students looked confused so teacher walked around, offering (c) _____ assistance where needed. After (d) _____ hour of focused work, students handed their worksheets and teacher praised them for their efforts.

6.2 Select appropriate quantifier from box given below and fill in the gaps. [2x 1 mark=2marks]

Little, Few, A little, A few, The little, The few

1. _____ friends he has are really faithful to him.
2. There is _____ work left to be completed. We will finish it in two days.

6.3 Fill in the gaps with correct form of present tense verbs given in brackets. [2x 1 mark=2marks]

1. Tejas _____ to be a Chartered Accountant. (aspire)
2. She _____ Spanish in school. (learn)

6.4 Complete the following using the present perfect tense of verbs in the brackets + just/ already/ yet.

[2x1 mark=2marks]

1. I _____ through your essay. It's an excellent piece of composition. (go, just)
2. Sorry, I _____ the newspaper. (not read, yet)

6.5 Fill in the gaps using the verb in brackets in the past continuous tense and simple past tense.[4x ½ mark=2marks]

1. The CEO _____ (relax) on holiday while the company _____ in crisis. (be)
2. We _____ (have) a coffee when we _____ the news on the radio. (hear)

6.6 Rewrite the sentences using the tenses given in the bracket.

[2x1 mark=2marks]

1. Reena *plays* a guitar today. (Rewrite in Simple Future Tense)

-
2. They *brought* salad for dinner. (Rewrite in Future Continuous Tense)
-

6.7 The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the incorrect word and the correction in the space provided. [4x ½ mark=2marks]

Incorrect

Correct

Much of the fun and excitement is your life comes

from use your senses. Senses open up a (a) _____

world who is full of sights, sounds, smells (b) _____

tastes and things to touch. The sharp your eyes and the

(c) _____

more you use them, more enjoyable world become.

(d) _____

6.8 Fill in the gaps using future perfect tense of the verb given in bracket. [2x1 mark=2marks]

1. I _____ (leave) office by 6pm.
2. How long _____ (you, be) in this company when you retire?

6.9 Fill in the gaps using since or for. [2x1 mark=2marks]

1. A cold breeze has been blowing _____ yesterday.
2. Raju has been watching television _____ two hours.

6.10 Rewrite these sentences in the passive voice.

[2x1mark=2marks]

1. She accepted their invitation with pleasure.

2. The marvelous performance delivered by the children enthralled us.

SECTION [D] LITERATURE [20MARKS]

Q7. Tick the correct option to answer the following: [2x1mark=2marks]

7.1 _____ is the path of the Nicobar group of islands.

- (a) Kalpeni (b) Katchal
(c) Neill island (d) Andrott

7.2 Why men found reasons to kill each other was _____

- (a) easier to understand
(b) not mentioned in the poem
(c) not needed to be understood
(d) difficult to understand

Q8. Annotate the following:

[2x2marks=4marks]

8.1. *In the heat of the mid-day the houses stood with shut doors.*

I wandered along the crooked lane.

An old man came out with his nag of gold.

He pondered and said, "I will hire you with my money."

He weighed his coins one by one, but I turned away.

8.1.1 Where was the man heading to?

8.1.2 Why did he turn away the offer?

8.2. "*Then we will have to continue the fight,*" said the other.

8.2.1 Who spoke these words and why?

8.2.2 Did the fight continue? If not, why?

Q9. Answer the following in detail:

[4x2marks=8marks]

9.1 “..... he has never yet learnt to behave”. In the light of this, what is the writer’s opinion about the camel?

9.2 What, according to you, makes the two adversaries turn into good friends in a matter of minutes? Explain it in context to topic ‘The Fight’.

9.3 How did the Maids of Honour come to know that the Princess and the bird had become intimate friends?

9.4 The ant tells the cricket to “dance the winter away.” Why is the word ‘dance’ is appropriate here? Elaborate.
