

Roll No: _____

INDIAN SCHOOL SALALAH

POST MIDTERM EXAMINATION- JANUARY 2019

Time: 3 hours

English (Language & Literature)- IX

M.M. 80

General Instructions :

The question paper has been divided into three sections:

Sections A: Reading 20 marks

Sections B : Writing & Grammar 30 marks

Section C : Literature(Behive & Moments) 30 marks

SECTION 'A' : READING (20 MARKS)

1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. (1 X 8 =8)

Read the following passage carefully:

1. It was at Gunupur, a sleepy little town in Koraput, that I had gained my first acquaintance with any river. It was the Vamsadhara. It remained shallow and as transparent as glass almost all through the season that I was there. Numerous tiny fish swam with or against its placid current and played hide and seek amidst the pebbles at its bottom.

2. Gazing at them for hours on end, sitting on the sandy river bank, was a great help to me. I could wash away my anguish and disgust over life. The anguish and disgust were caused by my guardians. They insisted on my taking to as irrational an occupation as learning how to read and write. I had already lived five long years without facing the slightest challenge to my existence on account of my innocence of reading and writing. What was their relevance then? Would the sweetmeats taste sweeter if I could read? Would the rainbow or the hills or the river look more charming if I could write?

3. I had gained a delightful acquaintance a few days earlier. He was Appu. We talked on several vital issues such as how a little devil residing in an old, abandoned well behind Appu's hut popped up from time to time at night with the sole purpose of making faces at Appu, or how a shooting star which had fallen on the hilltop was still smouldering when Appu's father went up and lighted a bidi from the last flame coming from it, and so on and so forth, in the course of which I asked him, 'Have you Learnt the alphabet?'

4. 'Which son of a father in this wide world would dare to make me do that sort of thing?' he challenged his arms akimbo. The next moment he shouted, 'Runaway boy, escape with your dear Life!' and sprinted off like a shooting star.

5. Surprised, I looked in every direction. There was no sign of any wolf or tiger or demon or ghoulish anywhere around. The only living soul, birds and a few animals apart, was a tall, fair and heavily moustached man. Holding something like a sword, he walked through the bushy meadow beyond the sand. He took no notice of me and entered a solitary one-room house with a tin roof, surrounded by shrubs.

6.Appu, back in a few minutes, enlightened me about the stranger. Inside that little house detached from the locality, the man engaged in the strange act of butchering goats; once in a while, for a change, he caught hold of a boy and dragged him in and finished him off in a trice. Appu stared and caressed his neck while passing on the last bit of information in a whisper.

7.One day at noon, Appu and I proceeded towards that dreadful cabin. We practically rolled all the way on the ground so that nobody saw us. The door was ajar. We peeped in, the floor was swampy with a thick plaster of blood. The sight and smell were depressing. Who knew how much blood had flowed from the goats, and how much from the missing boys?

Read the given questions and write the answer in a sentence. (1x8=8)

- (a) How old was the narrator?
- (b) What was the reason for his anguish and disgust?
- (c) Write the phrase in paragraph 3 that tells that Appu was a friend of the narrator whose company made him happy.
- (d) What were the topics of their discussion? Write any two.
- (e) How did the narrator relieve himself from stress?
- (f) Do you think Appu was a brave boy? Cite a reason.
- (g) What did the boys notice in the cabin?
- (h) Why didn't the narrator show any interest in going to school?

2. Read the following passage carefully:

1. By the time our delayed train reached and I disembarked with my father and baby Lavanya, it was past midnight. It was cold, dark and foggy. My husband, Manas, who was to receive us, was nowhere in sight. Soon the platform became deserted.

2. Then, a burly man approached us and offered to carry our bags. He wasn't wearing the usual porter's red shirt and tag, and though I was wary, my father decided to hire him. Leaving Lavanya and me with the man, my father went to look for Manas. I took a closer look at the man and felt apprehensive. He was big hairy, his face was pockmarked and his eyes looked bloodshot. Just then Lavanya, who had been sleeping in my arms, awoke and turned to look at the porter. He gave a playful smile and held out his arms. I thought she'd start crying and held her closer. But she smiled back and twisted herself out of my arms into his.

3. Now I was really scared. What if he ran away with my baby? He must have sensed my fear and, even before I reached out to take Lavanya back, he handed her to me. Turning around, he mumbled that though everyone was scared of him, my innocent baby had accepted him. His eyes had tears in them. I didn't know what to say.

4. At that moment, my father returned with Manas. The man picked up our bags and walked towards the car park. As we followed him, I asked Manas to pay him a little extra. But, having put our luggage in the car, the man refused to take payment from us. Coming up to me, he placed his hand on my baby's head for a moment as if to say, 'God bless you! And walked away.

2. 1. Read the given questions and write the answer in about 30-40 words.(2x4=8)

- a) Describe the time and weather when the narrator reached the railway station.

- b) Why was she worried when her father went to look for Manas?
- c) Why did he hand the child back to its mother?
- d) Why did the narrator ask Manas to pay the stranger some extra money?

2. 2 Find antonyms for the following: (1x2=2)

- a) crowded
- b) guilty

2.3. Find the words from the passage which mean the same as: (1x2=2)

- a) fearful
- b) spoke unclearly

SECTION-B WRITING AND GRAMMAR (30 MARKS)

Q 3. You made the following notes after reading about the disappearance of bird habitats from city forests and parks. Write an article in 100-120 words stressing upon the need for bringing back the birds to the city. You are Allen/Maneesha. Include value points from the poem ‘On Killing a Tree’.

(8)

Overuse of pesticides in maintenance of city parks... cutting down of roadside trees.....putting up of communication towers on rooftops facing parks...leading to extinction of nesting grounds for birds.....preservation of bird life through man-made bird baths in home balconies,.. hand-rearing of orphaned fledglingsnesting areas in alcoves and groves...need for clean and green environment.

Q.4 Tarun decided to write a story but after some time, he could not complete the story as he lost interest in it. **Complete the story in 150-200 words. Give a suitable title to your story. (10)**

“Once upon a time, the Lion, the king of the forest, was celebrating his son’s birthday. All the animals and birds of the forest were to participate in the grand function....”

Q5. Read the following passage. Fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate option from the ones given below. Write the answers in your answer sheet against the correct blank numbers. Do not copy the passage. (1x4=4)

Today, you are proud to say that you live in India’s capital but (a)..... you guess how many of your fellow citizens were actually around (b)..... the national capital was shifted from Calcutta to New Delhi in 1911? Believe it or not, the answer is not (c) mere tens or hundreds but (d) astounding 3,938.

- | | | | |
|---------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| (a) (i) could | (ii) can | (iii) if | (iv) did |
| (b) (i) when | (ii) where | (iii) whose | (iv) which |
| (c) on | (ii) in | (iii) at | (iv) out |
| (d) (i) a | (ii) the | (iii) an | (iv) of |

Q 6 There is an error in the lines that are numbered. Write the error and correction in your answer sheet. (1/2x8=4)

	Incorrect	Correct
Megasthenes came to India into 302 B.C.	(a)
as an ambassador for Seleucos, the	(b).....
representative in India from the Greek	(c).....
Prince Alexander.		
He took up office on the	(d).....
court of King Chandragupta. He has		
described at detail the land, the people,	(e).....
the climate, the fertility for the soil etc.	(f)
on his book Indica. He has praised	(g).....
the Indians and has shown respect of	(h).....
their wisdom.		

Q 7. Rearrange the following words in meaningful sentences. (1x4=4)

Example. old people / we / a feeling / should / acceptability / give / of

Ans. We should give old people a feeling of acceptability.

- i). are not / citizens / respected / senior / or cared for
- ii). ill-equipped / are not only / insufficient / old age homes / also / but
- iii). must / anyone else's / place them / the society / before / interest
- iv). giving them / very much needed / is important / they are / an impression / that

SECTION C : LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (30 MARKS)

8. Read the extract given below and answer the following questions. (1x4=4)

A) When the humid shadows hover
 Over all the starry spheres
 And the melancholy darkness
 Gently weeps in rainy tears,
 What a bliss to press the pillow
 Of a cottage-chamber bed
 And lie listening to the patter
 Of the soft rain overhead!

- i) Which season is being talked about here?
- ii) What does the poet like to do in this season?
- iii) Who weeps in the form of rainy tears?
- iv) Write the opposite of 'Bliss'.

OR

B) Slowly consuming the earth,
Rising out of it, feeding
Upon its crust, absorbing
Years of sunlight, air, water,
And out of its leprous hide
Sprouting leaves.'

- (i) What does 'rising out of it' mean?
 - (ii) How long it takes for a tree to grow to its full size?
 - (iii) According to the poet in the poem, 'what' finally kills the tree?
 - (iv) The poetic device used in the phrase the 'leprous hide' is
- a. onomatopoeia
 - b. metaphor
 - c. simile
 - d. personification

Q 9 Answer the following questions in 40-50 words each (2X5=10 marks)

- 1. Why did the swallow not leave the prince and go to Egypt?
- 2. Why does the author say that Iswaran seemed to more than make up for the absence of a TV in Mahendra's living quarters?
- 3. What did the writer mean when he said "I'd pack"? How did his friends react to his suggestion?
- 4. What are the qualities that helped Maria attain the number one position in women's tennis in 2005?
- 5. What did Einstein call his desk drawer at the patent office? Why?

Q10. Answer any one of the following questions in 100-150 words each (8 marks)

- a. The role of a teacher is very important in guiding and shaping a child. Elaborate taking examples from the lesson in context of Evelyn Glennie.
- b. The humour in the story overshadows the frightening incident. Discuss with reference to "The Snake and the Mirror".

Q11. Answer any one of the following questions in 100-150 words each (8 marks)

- a. Imagine that you are the Guru in the story 'In the Kingdom of Fools'. Narrate how you became the accidental king of the kingdom of fools in the form of a diary entry. Include what you and your disciples have learnt from this experience.
- b. Prashant, in 'Weathering the Storm in Ersama' is a real life hero. Write the character sketch of Prashant in about 150 words.