INDIAN SCHOOL SALALAH

SECOND TERM EXAMINATION, FEB - MARCH 2025

SUBJECT :ENGLISH

Class: VIII **Date: 4.3.25**

Time: 3 hrs **Maximum Marks: 80**

Roll No: (In numerals)…… Section: ……...

(In words) ……..

Name of the Candidate: ……..……

Parent's/Guardian's name: ……

Day and Date of Examination: ……..

Signature of the Candidate: ……

Signature of the Invigilator: ……...

Section A	
Section B	
Section C	
Section D	
Grand Total	

Signature of the Examiner with date: ……..

Signature of the Checker with date : ……

SECTION A READING(20 MARKS)

I Read the following passage and answer the following questions (10 Marks)

Bullet Train in India

Quite recently India laid the foundation stone for one of its most sought-after projects – running a Bullet Train. It was very well considered as a dream project of the Honourable Prime Minister, Narendra Modi. Entire India felt proud of having its first ever bullet train scheduled to run between Mumbai and Ahmedabad, a distance of 508 km, in about 2 hours 35 minutes.

In his own words, "To grow, one needs to expand one's dreams and decide one's strength to achieve that. It's the New India which has to fly high". "Bullet Train is a project that will provide pace to development. Along with new technology, it will also bring results faster", he added. According to Achal Khare, the Managing Director of the National High Speed Rail Corporation, the project would be completed by December 2023.

It all began with the Prime Minister's ambitious dream of having a high-speed train in India that cuts the travel time and yet remains an economical option to go from one city to another. The technology of this High-Speed Rail, also known as HSR, was influenced by Japan, which runs a network of bullet trains in their country on Shikasen technology, making many cities well connected to others.

According to reports, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe offered to provide US$ 12 billion of soft loans to build India's first Bullet Train. The loan was offered at an interest rate of 0.1 per cent per year with repayment over 50 years and a moratorium for the first 15 years. The Japanese Government will be bearing 80 per cent of the total project cost whereas the increase in cost estimates has to be borne by both India and Japan. This deal between India and Japan is considered path-breaking because currently no financial institution in India can provide such a huge funding to be repaid over as long a time as 50 years.

Questions

1. The ……. for the Bullet Train project was laid recently.
a) railway track
b) signalling system
c) foundation stone
d) None of these

2. The bullet train will take about ……. to run between Mumbai and Ahmedabad.
a) 3 hours 25 minutes
b) 2 hours 55 minutes
c) 2 hours 35 minutes
d) None of these

3. According to PM Modi, the two benefits that the bullet train will bring are to provide pace to ……and faster…….
a) travel, trains
b) train travel, results
c) development, trains
d) development, results

4. The project is expected to be …… by December 2023.
a) completed
b) operationalised
c) started
d) None of these

5.Find the synonyms for the following words from the passage. (1x2=2)

i) refund(para 4) ……

ii) aspiring(para 3) ……

6. What was the Prime Minister's ambitious dream?

7.Where is the technology for the bullet train coming from?

8.What are the details of the loan offered for this project by Japan?

9.Why is this deal between India and Japan considered as path-breaking?

--II Read the following passage and answer the following questions (10 Marks)

The Incredible Machine

Everyone has a favorite attraction at an amusement park, and I am no different. However, unlike most people who seem to prefer roller coasters, my favorite ride is a little more gentle. Every time I go to Coney Island, Navy Pier, or the Santa Monica Pier, I absolutely have to ride the Ferris wheel. The Ferris wheel is simple and yet also quite complex. That is, riding it is easy, but how it works is complicated. A series of carts are attached to a wheel, which is attached to a rim. That rim rotates vertically around an axis, and gravity keeps the carts upright. As simple as the ride seems, only advanced engineers can make safe and fun Ferris wheels.

What It Lacks in Thrills…

While the Ferris wheel is not as thrilling as a rollercoaster, it is still very exciting. The fact of being high in the air makes it so much more entertaining than a lot of rides. I mean, how often do you hang from that high up in daily life? Nevertheless, I have to admit, I don't seek Ferris wheels out because of their excitement. Rather, I find them very relaxing. At the top of the Ferris wheel, you get beautiful sights of the park. You also get a sense of calm that you don't get in the hustle and bustle of the park below. Additionally, Ferris wheels are also gorgeous to look at when they are lit up at night. In fact, the original Ferris wheel was designed as much to be seen as to be ridden.

It Happened at the World's Fair

The first Ferris wheel was made by and named after George Washington Gale Ferris, Jr. He designed it for the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. It was the tallest attraction there, standing 264 feet high. However, visitors to the fair were impressed by the size of the ride as well as the mechanics of it. In 1893, anything that was not turned by hand was considered a sight to see. And the wheel, which was a machine, was truly incredible to see. Further, as one visitor put it, the wheel was amazing because it seemed to be missing support. That is, it did not look like it could stand on its own. And yet it did and even rotated!

They Keep Reaching Higher and Higher

Ferris wheel technology has only improved since then. Most of today's Ferris wheels are much larger than that first one. The largest in the world is the "Singapore Flyer," which stands slightly taller than twice what Ferris's did! Today, the Ferris wheel is the most common amusement park ride. But that does not mean you should take them for granted. Instead, be thankful for Ferris' invention. The next time you're at an amusement park, don't just look up at the impressive wheel in the sky on your way to a newer attraction. Take it for a spin!

A. Choose the correct answer (1x5=5 Marks)

1) As used in paragraph 1, the word attraction most nearly means……..

A. sense B. park C. ride D. vision

2) It can be understood that Coney Island, Navy Pier, and the Santa Monica Pier are all

examples of ……

A.amusement parks B. Ferris wheels C. vacation spots D. boat docks

3) As used in paragraph 2, which is the best antonym for complex? …….

A. impressive B. beautiful C. exciting D. simple

4.This passage was most likely written to……

A. describe the author's favorite amusement park rides

B. explain the original design of Ferris wheels and how they work today

C. describe the history of Ferris wheels and why they are so popular

D. explain the history of Ferris wheels and why the author likes them

5) Using information in the passage, the reader can understand that the tallest Ferris wheel in the world is…….

A.under 250 feet tall

B. between 250 and 500 feet tall

C.between 500 and 750 feet tall

D.over 750 feet tall

B.Answer the following questions **5 Marks**

1. Why does the author like Ferris wheel? List three reasons. (3)

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2.In paragraph 3, the narrator says, " While the Ferris wheel is not as thrilling as a rollercoaster, it is still very exciting ." Can you think of any other machines that are not "thrilling" but still "exciting"? (2)

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SECTION B WRITING(20 MARKS)

1.Looking at the increasing obesity among school children write an article on the topic in taking help from the hints given below. **(7 Marks)**

Hints:-

- problem of being overweight in common in children.
- sedentary lifestyle of children, watch television, waste time on social networking sites, very little physical exercise.
- eat junk food and drink aerated drinks instead of a balanced diet.
- should be encouraged to do more physical exercise.

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2.You are Vaishali Sharma/ Vaibhav Sharma, the Vice Head Girl/Vice Head Boy of Oxford High School, Bahadurgarh. Your school is organising an inter class Drawing and Painting Competition for classes V to VIII. Draft a notice, words inviting the students to participate. Give all necessary details. **(5 Marks)**

3.People have adapted to wearing face masks as a ‘new normal’. But most of them do not know how to dispose of them properly. Spread awareness regarding the disposal of protective masks by writing a letter to an editor of a popular newspaper. **(8 Marks)**

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1. is/as/known/Jaipur/Pink City.

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2. in the/are/buildings/city/in pink colour/ painted/most of the

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II Join the following sentences using a suitable conjunction. (1X 4=4 Marks)

1. The rain poured all day. The picnic was cancelled.

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2. She looked around. She couldn't see anything.

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3. We could hike to the lake. We could rent bikes and explore the trails.

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4. We waited. The rain stopped before leaving the house.

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III Read the following sentences and convert them into indirect speech. (1X2=2Marks)

1. They said, "We are going to the cinema.

……

2. My teacher said to me, "You answered correctly."

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IV In the following passage, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word in the space provided (1/2 X 6=3 Marks)

Passage	**Before**	**Omitted**	**After**
Higher education is_important part of	is		important
the life of every individual. Be_any field of	be		any
work, the best professionals_always more	professionals		always
likely to hail_a rich educational background.	hail		a
Education not_provides essential job skills,	not		provides
but it also broadens_horizons of the mind.	broadens		horizons

V Choose the correct modal to fill in the blank, out of the given options (3x1=3)

1. We _____ respect our elders. (can, could, ought to, may)

2. You _____ take some extra food along with you. (will, must, would, none of these)

3. I _____ make the arrangements for the party tonight. (can, will, may, would)

VI Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions (1 X 4=4 Marks)

1. Mrs Robinson searched the entire house ____ her favourite necklace. (for / of / to)
2. Suzan apologised ___ her parents for her rude behaviour. (to / at)
3. Always be polite and gentle ___ everyone. (to / with / at)
4. Raj's dad met with an accident yesterday. I truly felt sorry ___ him. (for / about)

VII Read the conversation and complete the passage that follows: (1X2 = 2 Marks)

Ritika: Can I borrow your Math book for a couple of days?
Mohit: Yes certainly, I have already studied for the test tomorrow.

Ritika asked Mohit (1) …… for a couple of days.

Mohit agreed and said that (2) ……

SECTION D LITERATURE 20 MARKS

I Choose the correct answer from the options given below (1X2=2)

1. The poem "The school boy" is written by ……..

a.William Blake b.John Keats. c. Firdaus Kanga d.Michael Morpurgo

2."He rests at ease beneath some pleasant weed. " .Identify the poetic device used in the line ………..

a.Alliteration b.Simile c.Personification d.Metaphor

II Annotate the following (4)

A.How can the bird that is born for joy,
Sit in a cage and sing.
How can a child, when fears annoy,
But droop his tender wing.
And forget his youthful spring.

1.What is the central idea of the poem The School Boy? (1)

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2. Why does the boy compare himself to a caged bird? Identify the poetic device used here while comparing bird and cage to child and school? (1)

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B. "Jalebis I had gobbled up easily enough, but digesting them became another matter. With every breath came a burp, and with every burp, the danger of bringing out a jalebi or two — the fear was killing me."

1. "The fear was killing me." What was the fear? (1)

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2. Why was he forced to have dinner? (1)

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III Answer the following questions **(4x2=8)**

1.Write a short note on the character of the schoolboy in Jalebis.

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2. What is Stephen's idea behind saying- 'They should concentrate on what they are good at'?

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3. What changes came to be noticed in the Giant's behaviour?

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4. What is the scientist's message for the disabled?

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IV. "Life is as dear to a mute creature as it is to a man." Do you agree with this, support your stand with reference to 'Jody and the fawn' (6)

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