HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION 2026-27

CLASS:- VIII FULL MARKS- 80

SUBJECT- ENGLISH SET - B TIME ALLOWED: 3Hrs

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:-

1. This question paper contains three sections, Section A, B and C.
   - SECTION A – Reading 20 Marks
   - SECTION B – Writing & Grammar 30 Marks
   - SECTION C – Literature 30 Marks
2. All questions are compulsory.
3. Don't write anything on the question paper.
4. All the answers must be correctly numbered as in the question paper and written in the answer sheet provided to you.
5. Ensure that questions of each section are answered together.
6. Read each section carefully and follow the instructions.
7. Strictly adhere to the word limit given with each section.

SECTION – A (READING) 20 Marks

Q1.Read the passage and answer the following questions. (1×8=8)

The history of literature really began before man learned to write. Dancing was the earliest of the arts. Man danced for joy round his primitive camp fire after the defeat and slaughter of his enemy. He yelled and shouted as he danced and gradually the yells and shouts became coherent and caught the measure of the dance and thus the first war song was sung. As the idea of God developed, prayers were framed. The songs and prayers became traditional and were repeated from generation to generation, each generation adding something of its own.

As man slowly grew more civilized, he was compelled to invent some method of writing by three urgent necessities. There were certain things that it was dangerous to forget and which, therefore, had to be recorded. It was often necessary to communicate with persons who were some distance away and it was necessary to protect one's property by making tools, cattle and so on, in some distinctive manner. So man taught himself to write and having learned to write purely for utilitarian reasons he used this new method of preserving his war songs and his prayers. Of course, among these ancient people, there were only a very few individuals who learned to write, and only a few could read what was written.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, attempt the following questions.

a) Before man invented writing, _____.

i) literature was passed on by word of mouth ii) prayers were considered literature

iii) literature was just singing and dancing iv) there was no literature

b) As for the war songs and prayers, each generation _____.

i) added something to the stock of its own ii) blindly repeated the songs and prayers

iii) composed its own songs and prayers iv) repeated what has been handed down to it

c) The first war song was _____.

i) inspired by God ii) developed spontaneously

iii) was a song traditionally handed down iv) was composed by leading dancers

d) The war song evolved out of _____.

i) creative inspiration ii) there was no literature

iii) artistic urge iv) yelling and shouting

e) Man invented writing because he wanted _____.

i) to be artistic ii) to write war song

iii) to write literature iv) to record and communicate

f) The word 'measure' in the context of the passage means:

i) weigh ii) rhythm iii) size iv) quantity

g) Man started writing as he was interested to write. (True/False)

h) Find out a word from 'paragraph-2' which is a synonym of 'different'.

2. Read the following passage carefully: (1×2=12)

Is Your Plastic Mineral Water Bottle Safe?

We buy and drink mineral bottled water, considering it to be safe, pure and clean compared to tap water. But how safe is bottled water? Why does bottled water have an expiry date? Why does bottled water taste different after a period of time than regular water?

Recently, researchers from the State University of New York at Fredonia revealed that the pure and clean bottled water we know, love and completely depend upon is actually pervaded with tiny particles of plastic that go completely unnoticed.

Now, how does bottled water get contaminated? Water packed in bottles gets contaminated with almost invisible micro plastic particles left over and that are most likely to flow or escape into the water during the packaging process. It is assumed that if someone drinks one litre of bottle water in a day, he or she might be consuming as high as 10,000 pieces of micro plastics every year. Therefore, the major contamination is due to the bottle itself, or due to the cap.

Plastic detritus found is mainly Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET), Nylon and Polypropylene, which are used to manufacture bottle caps. Researchers claimed that nearly 93 percent of the water bottle samples from eleven popular brands in nine different countries including India are suffused by tiny pieces of plastic, around 10.4 micro plastic particles in each litre of water. On an average, 65% of micro plastics found are not fibres, they are actually fragments. None of the samples examined were found completely free of micro plastics, they have micro plastic densities ranging from 10 to 10,000 per litre.

Does it mean tap water is completely safe to drink?

Well no, tap water does contain plastic particles but on a smaller scale. Tap water is found to be much safer than bottled water. Bottled water contains twice the micro plastic particles present in the tap water.

How dangerous is bottled mineral water?

It is still not clear how bottled water can affect human h micro plastics are widely found in everything from fish, shellfish, honey, sea salt to tap water. While a few micro particles might stick in the intestinal wall, others might be absorbed by intestinal tissues through the body's lymphatic system. Still others can be taken up by the body's hepatic portal vein which is responsible for carrying blood from the pancreas and intestine to the liver.

Around 90% of the ingested plastic is excreted by the human body naturally. But over the long term the potential impact of plastics on human health could be a bother as micro plastics can increase the risk of certain kinds of cancer, health conditions like autism, and can cause lower sperm count.

On hot summer days, we opt for a cool bottle of water. We just open the seal and drink it without noticing the expiry date. Well the water never expires then what does the expiry date on the water bottle signify? Actually, the plastic bottle in which the water is packaged has expired. PET will eventually begin leaching chemicals into the water and thus affecting its taste and smell. Therefore manufacturers should clean the bottles before filling them with mineral water. We should reduce the use of single-use plastic bottles, or recyclable water bottles should be manufactured. Always look at the expiry date of a water bottle before purchasing it.

Now choose the correct option for the following:

i) Pure and clean bottled water we know and completely depend upon is actually pervaded with

(a) tiny particles of dust (b) tiny particles of metals
(c) tiny particles of plastic (d) All of the above

ii) By drinking one litre of bottled water in a day a person might be consuming pieces of microplastics every year.

(a) 100 (b) 1000
(c) 10,000 (d) 1,00,000

iii) Samples that were examined are found to have micro plastic densities ranging from

(a) 1 to 1000 per litre (b) 10 to 1000 per litre
(c) 1 to 10,000 per litre (d) 10 to 10,000 per litre

iv) Plastic particles in the tap water _____.

(a) are present on a smaller scale (b) are present on a larger scale
(c) are not present at all (d) are sometimes present

v) _____ % of micro plastics are not fibres but fragments.

(a) 35 (b) 45 (c) 55 (d) 65

vi) A major part of the ingested plastic is _____ by the human body.

(a) Broken (b) excreted (c) assimilated (d) both (i) and (iii)

vii) Expiry date on the water bottle signifies expiry date of _____.

(a) water contained in it (b) bottle itself
(c) water and bottle both (d) None of the above

viii) Few precautions that can be taken are _____.

(a) Use of single-use plastic bottles should be reduced.
(b) Expiry date of a water bottle should always be checked before purchasing it.
(c) Bottles should be cleaned before filling them with mineral water.
(d) All of the above

ix) The word 'contaminated' means _____.

(a) dirty (b) polluted
(c) Both of the above options (d) None of the above options

x) The word in the passage above that means 'to spread through in a noticeable manner' is

(a) pervade (b) flow (c) escape (d) found

xi) The antonym of 'begin' in the passage above is

(a) open (b) expire (c) affect (d) None of these

xii) The word 'botheration' means _____.

(a) Disturbance (b) inconvenience (c) aggravation (d) All of the above

SECTION – B (WRITING& GRAMMAR) 30 Marks

3. As you are Ayush/ Suman, a student of Std VIII, write an e-mail to the Customer care of an online site to complain about an expensive smart watch that you had bought. It is not working properly. Ask for a replacement or refund. (4)

OR

You are Shantanu/ Aradhya, Headboy/Headgirl, Sunshine Public School, Saltlake, Kolkata.Your school is organizing an Interhouse Kabaddi Competition for both boys and girls. Write a notice for the school notice board inviting students to participate in the event. Give necessary details like date, time, venue etc.

4. It is often seen that the children of all ages are influenced by what is shown on social media sites and television channels. They form their opinions based on the same, be it about their food, lifestyle choices or the brands they wish to buy. Taking ideas from the same, along with your own views /ideas, write a Speech based on "The Impact of Social Media on Teenagers" in 100-120 words. Sign yourself as Nimit / Neha. (8)

OR

"You are Namit/Neha. Write an Article for your school magazine highlighting 'the Benefits of Time Management' and how it can transform the life of a person's. (Word limit: 100-120 words)

5. The following passage had not been edited. There is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet. (1×4=4)

	INCORRECT	CORRECT
My Exercises begin on five o'clock in the morning.	a) _____	_____
It has been so since the last twenty years	b)_____	_____
except for the three years which I was	c)_____	_____
very ill. I wake up at the sound of Chirping birds.	d)_____	_____

6. A. Rearrange the following words/phrases into meaningful sentences: (1×4=4)

i) Life / makes / exercise / regular / healthier / your

ii) Tomorrow / I / will / meet / you / at / the / park

B. Put punctuation mark whenever necessary in the given sentence:

i) what's your favourite book

ii) I had eggs toast and orange juice for breakfast

7. Read the following dialogue and then complete the report by transforming the sentences into reported speech: (1×4=4)

Parinity: I am planning to buy a new car.

Priyanka: Which car do you want to buy?

Parinity: I want to buy the latest model of any popular company.

Priyanka: It is a good decision.

Parinity told Priyanka that (a)_____. Then Priyanka asked her (b)_____. Parinity replied that (c)_____the latest model of any popular company. Priyanka told (d)_____ a good decision.

Q8. Choose the correct word from the options given below to complete the following passage. (1x3=3)

The new policy (a)_____ (has been implemented / is being implemented / was implemented) since last year. The company (b) _____ (will launch / is launching / launches) a new product next month. The teacher asked the students if they (c) _____(know / knew / knows) the answer.

Q9. Do as directed (1x3=3)

a) Only education _____ (could/ should/can) render confidence and voice to a girl child. (Fill in the suitable Modal)

b) One of her relatives _____ (conducted / conducts / was conducting) yoga sessions for the elderly people every Sunday. (Fill a suitable verb according to the subject)

c) A galloping horse is a delightful sight. (Identify whether the underlined word is a Gerund/Participle/Infinitive)

SECTION – C (LITERATURE) 30 Marks

Q10.Attempt ANY ONE extract out of the two given below: (1x4=4)

We sighed with relief and tucked her up
Poor Granny! For her it was like a brief season in hell
'Confined to her bedroom while every breeze'
Whispered of summer and dancing leaves.

1.Name the poem and the poet.
2.Why did the narrator and family sigh in relief?
3. Why did Granny find it a brief season in hell?
4.How did she get rid of this season in hell?

OR

All this pain of a young boy,
My mother you transformed into pious strength
With kneeling and bowing five times
For the grace of the Almighty only, My Mother.

a) Name the poem.
b) Who is the young boy in line 1?
c) How was the pain transformed into pious strength?
d) 'Kneeling and bowing' in line 4 refers to----------.

Q11.Attempt ANY ONE extract out of the two given below:- (1x4=4)

'He hoped that an earthquake would reduce the school building to dust, but that good building– Albert Mission School– had withstood similar prayers for over a hundred years now. At nine o'clock Swaminathan wailed, 'I have a headache'.

(a) Name the writer of the story 'Father's Help'.
(b) Briefly state Swami's opinion about school building.
(c) Mention the excuse made by Swaminathan to avoid going to school.
(d) Find a word from the passage which means the same as 'cried in pain'.

OR

'She ate the caviar and she ate the salmon. She talked gaily of art, literature and music. But I wondered what the bill would come to. When my mutton chop arrived she took me quite seriously to task.'

(a) Mention two things from the extract that the lady ate for luncheon.
(b) Write down the lady's interest in discussion with the narrator.
(c) Discuss how the narrator felt while the lady was enjoying her luncheon.
(d) Find a word from the passage which means the same as 'merrily'.

Q12. Answer ANY SIX of the seven questions of the following. (30-40 words) (2x6=12)

(a)Describe the reaction of the woman on the narrator's choice of food at Foyot's. (The luncheon)
(b) Why was Swaminathan late for school? Who forced him to go to his school late? (Father's Help)
(c)How did the bearded man got wounded? How he was saved?. (Three Questions)
(d) State the actions done by Swami to make the contents of the letter true. (Father's Help)
(e)Write down the routine of the young Kalam before sunrise. (My Mother)
(f) Explain 'brief season in hell' for Granny and also write her idea to move out of it. (Granny's Tree Climbing)
(g) *My mother acted as a source of inspiration to me*. How? (My Mother)

Q13.. *Knowledge gained through experience is far more superior to and many times more useful than theoretical knowledge*.
Discuss the above statement in light of hermit's action of not telling the actions verbally but practically. (4marks)

OR

'Life is full of challenges, but it's important to remain hopeful'. Discuss this statement with reference to 'My Mother' by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. (70-80 words)

Q14. . Imagine yourself as Samuel. Write a diary entry relating your experience with Swami and his strange behaviour in the school. (6 marks)

OR

Imagine yourself as the narrator of 'The Luncheon'. You had a miserable experience with the lady. On returning home you thought deeply about the incident and realized that you were at fault. Write a letter to your friend explaining how you could have avoided spending beyond your means and struggling for a month. (100 words)

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D.A.V. PUBLIC SCHOOLS

(BIHAR ZONE)

Half-Yearly Examination : 2025 – 2026

Class – VIII

Satyendra Kr. Singh
Answer Sheet
18-09-25

Time – 3 Hrs. **Subject – ENGLISH** **F.M. – 80**

General instructions:

- **This paper consists of three sections: A, B & C (Reading, Writing & Grammar and Literature).**
- **Please check that this question paper contains 14 questions.**
- **Attempt all the questions.**
- **Don't write anything on the question paper.**
- **All the answers must be correctly numbered as in the question paper and written in the answer sheet provided to you.**
- **Ensure that questions of each section are answered together.**

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SECTION - A (READING) 20 MARKS.

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: **(1x8=8 Marks)**

I. It is an indisputable fact that the world has gone too far with the innovation of new technologies such as mobile phones, the internet and so on, due to which people are able to tour the cosmos virtually sitting at one place using their smart devices or other technological gadgets. Though mobile internet access is oftentimes hurried and short, it can still provide common internet features like alerts, weather data, emails, search engines, instant messages, and game and music downloading.

II. Due to the easy access of smart phones, communication has been very effective and instant. People are able to convey their message all around the globe to their loved ones without spending hefty sums of money. Adults are always fond of such gadgets and they always welcome and adopt such new technology readily.

Further, young people have been able to broaden their minds and improve their skills by doing research on the Internet. For instance, they use smart phones to look up any new word they come across. As we know that most of the universities have online teaching provision and smartphones assist the students to complete their assignments on time.

III. The mobile phone has been a lifesaver for a lot of people in case of an emergency. Likewise, use of smartphones can be of vital importance in preventing crimes in the society by providing information to the security forces in time.

IV. Nonetheless, for the young the use of mobile phone can be like an addiction and they can misuse it. Young people are also prone to getting involved in undesirable activities on the Internet. This might have adverse effect on their academic performance. Therefore, young people should always be monitored and made aware of its bad outcomes.

P.T.O.

V. Also a major contributor to its popularity is the availability of prepaid or pay as you go services from a phone shop or an online store. This allows subscribers to load text or airtime credits to their handsets by the use of their credit cards, debit cards or by buying a prepaid card from the network they subscribe to.

This plan also doesn't commit a particular customer to a contract. If prepaid card is not that appealing to you, then you can opt to subscribe using the pay by month plan.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions.

i) The reason why communication today has become very effective and instant, is because of the

(a) Improved mobility system **(b)** easy access of smart phones

(c) growing organization **(d)** increasing number of vehicles

(ii) Young people with smart phones in their hands are needed to be monitored because they can

1. Waste time **2.** Be negligent

3. Misuse the gadget **4.** Be indulged in undesirable activities on Internet

5. Disobey their parents

(a) 1 and 3 **(b)** 2 and 4 **(c)** 3 and 4 **(d)** option 4

(iii) Choose the option that correctly states the two meanings of 'virtually', as used in Para 1.

1. Correctly **2.** Almost

3. More or less **4.** Similarly

5. Online

(a) 1 and 4 **(b)** 2 and 5 **(c)** 3 and 4 **(d)** 4 and 5

(iv) The world has gone too far in terms of:

(a) computers **(b)** mobile phones **(c)** security **(d)** television

(v) What does the phrase 'hefty sums of money' mean in the passage?

(a) little money **(b)** large amount of money

(c) penniless **(d)** treasury

(vi) The mobile phone is considered a lifesaver in case of... Emergency

(vii) The passage suggests grown-ups that they should encourage the use of new technology by the young people. (True/False) False

(viii) Find a phrase in Para 2 which means 'search for information using book, computer, etc'.

The easy access of smart Phones

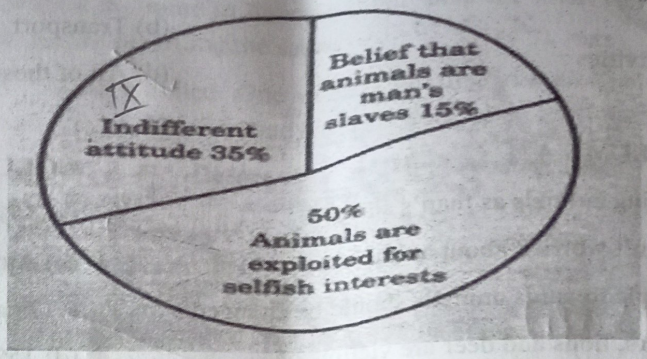
2. Read the following passage and the questions that follow: **(1x12=12 Marks)**

Human Views of Animal Welfare

1. Man suffers from a distorted complex. He always considers animals as inferior beings only fit for exploitation. Man has been using domestic and wild animals for his selfish ends. Many animal lovers joined together to form the 'Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

2. The society has been working for the well-being and welfare of animals for many years. Its main aim is to change the attitude and thinking of people towards animals. It is quite sad that animals continue to be ill-

treated, tortured and killed according to the whims of the people. About 15% of the people entertain the belief that animals are man's slaves. They use, misuse and torture them accordingly. About 50% of the people exploit animals for selfish ends.



3. Horses and oxen are used for transport, carrying loads and in agricultural activities. Dogs, cats and many birds are domesticated for fun, entertainment and convenience. Wild animals like elephants, tigers, lions and deer are victims of poaching and killing. Animals are forced to do acrobatic feats in circus shows. Unfortunately, about 35% of people don't think about the animals at all. They are totally indifferent to them.

4. The Government and the animal lovers must work together to bring a change in the attitude of the people. Animals should not be killed and poached for fun, furs or financial gains. They should be treated with kindness, care and sympathy. Cruelty towards animals must be legally punished

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions.

(i) In the line "... fit for exploitation", the word `exploitation' does not refer to:

(a) abuse
(b) ill-treatment
(c) oppression
(d) utilization

(ii) The following options are marked Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option.

Assertion (A): The society has been working for the well-being and welfare of the animals for many years. Main aim should be to change the attitude & mindset towards animals.

Reason (R): The government and the animal lovers must work together to bring a change in the attitude of the people.

(a) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
(b) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
(c) Both (A) and (R) are true.
(d) Both (A) and (R) are false.

(iii) Complete the following:

Cause	**Effect**
About 15% of the people entertain the belief that animals are man's slaves.	They use, misuse and torture animals

(iv) It is very disappointing that animals are still:

(a) ill-treated

(b) tortured

(c) killed

(d) All of these

(v) For what activities do people use horses and oxen?

(a) Carrying loads

(b) Transport

(c) Agricultural activities

(d) All of these

(vi) Match the followings:

COLUMN A	**COLUMN B**
(i) People considering animals as man's slaves	(a) 35%
(ii) People who aren't worried about animals	(b) Attitude and thinking
(iii) _____ of people towards animals should be changed	(c) Poaching and killing
(iv) Elephants, tigers, lions and deer are victims of _____	(d) 15%

Choose the correct option.

(a) 1-C 2-D 3-B 4-A

(b) 1-D 2-A 3-B 4-C

(c) 1-D 2-C 3-B 4-A

(d) 1-B 2-A 3-C 4-D

(vii) Which of these animals are victims of poaching and killing?

(a) Lions

(b) Tigers

(c) Elephants

(d) All of these

(viii) Animals should not be used in circus to earn one's livelihood. (True/False) VIII True

(ix) What percentage of people is indifferent towards animals?

(a) 35% (b) 15% (c) 45% (d) 30%

(x) 'Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals' aims to change the attitude of man towards..... X animal

(xi) What does the word 'indifferent' in para 3 mean? XI not interested: Not thinking: aloof.

(xii) What is the opposite of the word 'cruelty' in pare 4? XII Kindness

Section –B (Writing and Grammar) 30 marks

3. You are Sugandha/ Sohan, the head girl/head boy of The Aspirants Public School, Hazaribagh. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words informing the students about an inter-house speech competition organised by your school. Invent all the necessary details. **4 Marks** 4M

OR

Write an e-mail to your friend describing your favourite game that you enjoy the most in not more than 50 words. Include details about any of your memorable moment from that game you've had. 4M,

4. 'NATURE IS THE BEST PHYSICIAN'- With this profound quote in mind, write an article discussing the role of the nature in helping someone heal/ overcome many problems and how embracing it thoroughly can enrich one's life. Write within a word limit of 100-120 words. You can take ideas from The Reader Unit-4 'Nature'. **8 Marks** 8M.

P.T.O.

OR

You are Avantika/Atul residing in Saket Nagar, U.P. You observe water logging issue in your city as a major problem. It doesn't only raise health related problems but also huge traffic problem. Write a letter to the editor of The Hindu to address the same in their daily and help the issue sorted along with awareness among fellow citizens and authorities regarding the same.

5. The following passage has not been edited. One word is missing in each line. Write the missing word along with the words before and after it. The first one has been done as an example. **(1×4=4 Marks)**

		Before	Missing word	After
One of my friends lives Mumbai.		lives	in	Mumbai
He been living there since 2015	(a)	he	has	been
He says that living there not easy	(b)	there	is	not
People have to face a lot problems	(c)	lot	of	problems
daily meet their needs.	(d)	daily	to	meet

6. Rearrange the following words/phrases into meaningful sentences. **(1×4=4 Marks)**

A) Is/the/of/invention/necessity/mother. (A) Necessity is the mother of invention.

B) If/want/done/you/a/thing/do/well/yourself/it. (B) If you want a thing done well do it yourself

C) Catches/bird/the/early/an/worm. (C) The bird catches an early worm.

D) Aspires/IAS/Raghav/be/officer/an/to. (D) Raghav aspires to be an IAS officer.

7. Given below is a story outline. Using the hints given below write a story in your own words.

(1×4=4 Marks)

Once upon a time… a crow..... very wise… .. Once very thirsty …..so It was looking for water….searched nearby area… couldn't find waterbody… saw pebbles … put inside… drank water….quenched thirst.

8. Choose the correct form of verb to complete the following passage. **(1×3=3 Marks)**

Nothing (a) … (happen/haapens) without any reason. Everything (b) …. (has/had) its proper reason. But people(c) … (tends/tend) to fail to understand that chief reason behind.

9. Do as directed. **(1×3=3 Marks)**

(a) The coach told the players that they had made their country proud that day.

(a) The coach said to the players, 'You have made your country proud today. (Change into indirect speech.)

(b) We must follow the traffic rules while driving otherwise we may be fined. (Use the appropriate modal verb.)

(c) 'Raman and his brothers' is (is/are) the new shoe store in the market. (Choose correct verb.)

SECTION-C (LITERATURE) 30 Marks

10. Attempt ANY ONE extract out of the two given below. **(1×4=4 Marks)**

1 With my expert assistance, he soon finished the chore;

2 Made her a tree-top with windows and a door.

3 So Granny moved up, and now every day

4. I climb to her room with glasses and a tray.
5. She sits there in state and drinks sherry with me,
6. Upholding her right to reside in a tree.

(A) The above extract has been taken from ..... composed .....

(i) My Mother by A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.

(ii) Granny's Tree Climbing by Ruskin Bond.

(iii) Three Questions by Leo Tolstoy.

(iv) Father's Help by R.K. Narayan.

(B) What does the phrase 'upholding her right to reside in a tree' suggest about Granny's character?

(i) Granny was independent, spirited and unconventional.

(ii) Granny was an amiable lady.

(iii) Granny was an army officer.

(iv) She was very old.

(C) Which figure of speech is used there in the fifth line? – (She sits... .. . with me.) (C) Alliteration

(D) Choose a word from passage which is opposite in meaning of "Novice". (D) expert

OR

I remember the war days when life was challenge and toil-
Miles to walk, hours before sunrise,
Walking to take lessons from the saintly teacher near the temple.
Again miles to the Arab teaching school,
Climb sandy hills to Railway Station Road,
Collect, distribute newspapers to temple city citizens,
Few hours after sunrise, going to school.
Evening, business time before study at night.
All this pain of a young boy,
My Mother you transformed into pious strength
With kneeling and bowing five times
For the Grace of the Almighty only, My Mother.

(A) The above extract has been taken from... composed by...

(i) Father's Help by R.K. Narayan.

(ii) My Mother by A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.

(iii) Granny's Tree Climbing by Ruskin Bond.

(iv) Three Questions by Leo Tolstoy.

(B) What does it mean by bowing five times?

(i) Doing exercise.

(ii) Offering prayer to the God (Allah).

(iii) Practising archery.

(iv) Taking revenge.

(C) What are the struggles discussed in the above extract? (C) miles to walk, before

(D) Which war the poet is talking about? (D) 2nd World War

(1×4=4Marks)

11. Attempt ANY ONE extract out of the two given below.

'If you had not pitied my weakness yesterday and had not dug these beds for me, but had gone your way, that man would have attacked you and you would have repented for not having stayed with me? So the most

important time was when you were digging the beds; and I was the most important man; and to do me good was your most important business.'

(A) 'You' and 'I' in the above extract refer to whom respectively?

(i) King Hermit (ii) Soldier King

(iii) Hermit King (iv) King Soldier

(B) Who did dig the beds and for whom?

(i) Hermit for his son (ii) Servant for his master

(iii) King for hermit (iv) Son for his father

(C) Who would have attacked the king? (C) the bearded man, king's enemy...

(D) What was the most important time? (D) To do good

OR

His conscience bothered him; he wasn't at all sure if he had been accurate in his description of Samuel. He could not decide how much of what he had said was imagined and how much of it was real. He stopped for a moment on the roadside to make up his mind about Samuel: he was not such a bad man after all. Personally he was much more genial than the rest.

(A) Why did he stop on the roadside?

(i) To buy Ice-cream. (ii) To say good bye to his father

(iii) To make up his mind about Samuel. (iv) Because conscience bothered him.

(B) Why was Swami bothered?

(i) Father was very angry.

(ii) He was not sure if he had been accurate in his description of Samuel.

(iii) He was not a good boy.

(iv) Mother scolded him.

(C) Choose a word from the passage which is an antonym of 'real'. (C) imagined

(D) Choose a word from the passage which is similar in meaning as 'friendly and pleasant'. (D) genial

12. Attempt ANY SIX short answer type questions out of the seven given below. (2×6=12 Marks)

(A) Why did the king go to the wise hermit? Why did he go there alone and dressed like a commoner? (Three Questions)

(B) Why did the narrator and his family 'sigh in relief'? (Granny's Tree Climbing)

(C) Why didn't Swami hand over the complaint letter to the headmaster in the morning? (Father's Help)

(D) Why did the poet have to walk so much early in the morning? (My Mother)

(E) How did the narrator plan to manage his expenses after giving a lavish lunch to the lady at the Foyot's? (The Luncheon)

(F) What impression did the narrator gather of the woman when he met her? (The Luncheon)

(G) How did Swami's father react when Swami told him that he was not going to school? How different was his reaction from that of Swami's mother? (Father's Help)

Half Yearly Mock / Practice Paper

Subject: English

General Instructions **Time Allowed: 3 hours**

Maximum Marks: 80 marks

Sections: This paper is divided into four sections:

Section A: Reading (20 Marks)

Section B: Writing (12Marks)

Section C: Grammar (18Marks)

Section D: Literature (30 Marks)

Section A: Reading Skills (20 Marks)Passage 1 (8 Marks)

Read the following passage carefully:

1.The rise of social media has sparked an intense global discussion about its true impact on modern communication. On one hand, supporters argue that these digital networks have democratized information, allowing anyone with an internet connection to share ideas instantly. It bridges geographical distances, keeping families connected across continents and allowing marginalized groups to find supportive communities. For small business owners, social media acts as an affordable marketing tool to reach customers worldwide without a massive budget.

2.Conversely, a growing number of critics point out the severe mental health consequences associated with continuous scrolling. Studies show that excessive usage among teenagers frequently leads to anxiety, poor sleep quality, and feelings of inadequacy due to constant social comparison. Additionally, the rapid spread of misinformation and "fake news" on these platforms has eroded public trust in traditional journalism. Instead of uniting people, algorithmic echo chambers often isolate individuals by only showing them content that aligns with their pre-existing biases. The challenge ahead lies in maximizing global connectivity while minimizing psychological and societal harm.

Answer the following questions based on the passage

Q1. What benefit does social media provide to small business owners? (1 Mark)

A) It eliminates the need to pay corporate taxes

. B) It acts as an affordable marketing tool to reach global customers.

C) It automatically manufactures physical goods for them.

D) It helps them hire employees without interviewing them.

Q2. State one mental health issue frequently associated with excessive social media use among teenagers. 1

Q3. Which of the following positive aspects of social media are mentioned in the text? (Select all that apply) 1

A) It democratizes information for people worldwide.

B) It completely replaces the need for schools.

C) It helps marginalized groups find supportive communities.

D) It guarantees absolute truth in online reporting.

Q4. Algorithmic _____ chambers often isolate individuals by only showing them content that matches their pre-existing biases. 1

Q5 Critics believe that social media has strictly improved public trust in traditional journalism. (1 Mark T/F)

Q6 Match the terms in Column A with their impacts in Column B (3 Marks)

Column A (Term)	Column B (Impact)
(i) Digital networks	(a) Erosion of public trust in journalism(
ii) Misinformation	(b) Bridge geographical distances
(iii) Constant comparison	(c) Feelings of inadequacy

Choose the correct option:

A) (i)-b, (ii)-a, (iii)-c **(B)** (i)-c, (ii)-b, (iii)-a| (**C)** (i)-a, (ii)-b, (iii)-c **(D)** (i)-b, (ii)-c, (iii)-a

Passage 2 (12 Marks)Read the following passage carefully:

1.Tourism is a powerful economic engine for developing nations, providing vital infrastructure, creating jobs, and funding heritage preservation projects. For many remote coastal or mountain communities, travelers are the primary source of income, allowing locals to sustain their traditional arts, crafts, and culinary traditions. Countries invest heavily in building airports, roads, and luxury resorts to capture a share of the highly lucrative global tourism market.

2.However, unregulated "overtourism" has led to severe cultural and environmental degradation. Popular global destinations are frequently overwhelmed by crowds, driving up local housing costs and forcing long-term residents out of their own neighborhoods. Environmentally, the massive influx of visitors strains local waste management systems, accelerates the destruction of fragile coral reefs, and pollutes freshwater resources. Historic landmarks often suffer irreversible physical wear and tear from thousands of daily footsteps

3.In response to these crises, the concept of "Ecotourism" or sustainable travel has gained significant momentum. This approach shifts the focus from mass consumption to responsible exploration that actively conserves the environment and improves the well-being of local communities. Sustainable travelers choose eco-certified accommodations, respect local cultural customs, and minimize plastic waste. Ultimately, the future of tourism depends on a balanced framework where economic profits do not come at the expense of a destination's soul and ecology

Answer the following questions based on the passage:

Q1. What is the main focus of "Ecotourism"?

(**2**Mark)

A) Generating the highest possible financial profit for foreign corporations

B) Traveling as fast as possible to visit multiple countries

C) Responsible exploration that conserves the environment and supports local well-being

D) Restricting all forms of travel to prevent physical wear on landmarks

Q2. Mention two infrastructure projects that countries build to attract global tourists. (2 Mark)

Q3What are the negative consequences of overtourism discussed in the passage? (Select all that apply)

(2 Mark)

A) Lowering the overall cost of local housing

B) Straining local waste management systems

C) Damaging fragile coral reefs and freshwater resourcesD) Forcing long-term residents out due to rising costs

Q4. Tourism allows remote communities to sustain their traditional arts, crafts, and _____ traditions.1

Q5. Ecotourism completely bans travelers from visiting historic places." State whether this statement is true or false and give one reason for your answer. (2 Marks)

Q6. (Column Match with MCQ) Match the travel models in Column A with their characteristics in Column B: 2

Column A (Model)	Column B (Characteristic)
(i) Regular Tourism	(a) Focuses on responsible exploration and conservation(
ii) Overtourism	(b) Provides a powerful economic engine and creates jobs
(iii) Ecotourism	(c) Drives up housing costs and overwhelms local resources

Choose the correct option:

A) (i)-a, (ii)-b, (iii)-c **B)** (i)-b, (ii)-c, (iii)-a

C) (i)-c, (ii)-a, (iii)-b **D)** (i)-b, (ii)-a, (iii)-c

Section B: Writing (12 Marks)

Q3. Short Writing Task (Any One): (4 Marks)

(A) You are Rohan/Ridhima, the Head Boy/Girl of DAV Public School. Write a Notice informing students about an upcoming Inter-House Debate Competition to be held next month. Include details like date, time, venue, and topic.

OR

Between Two Friends (4 Marks)Context: Anita and Abhishek meet unexpectedly at the market. Complete their conversation.Anita: Hello Abhishek! Where (a) _____?

Abhishek: Hello Anita! I have just been to the railway station to book a ticket for my father.

Anita: I see. When (b) _____ to Delhi?

Abhishek: He is leaving on the 18th of this month. My sister told me that (c) _____

Delhi too.Anita: Yes, I have to go, but not now. I will probably go in May because (d) _____ there.

Abhishek: Oh, I see! All the best for your interview then!

OR

The locality surrounding your school is experiencing severe issues due to regular, open garbage dumping, creating unhygienic conditions. Write an email to the Municipal Commissioner of your city drawing attention to this issue.

Q4. Long Writing Task (Any One): 8 Marks)

In the chapter "Enterprise", one seed decides to take a risk and grow towards the sunlight, while the other chooses to stay safe under the soil and eventually gets eaten by a bird. Taking inspiration from this story, write an article for your school magazine in 120–150 words on the topic: "No Risk, No Gain: The Importance of Stepping Out of Your Comfort Zone." 8

OR

B. You are Rohan/Ridhima, a student of Class VIII at DAV Public School. You feel that while modern technology has made life faster, it has also reduced face-to-face family time and outdoor play. Writing a speech for the morning assembly, express your views on the topic "Changing Times: Balancing Progress and Values." (Word limit: 120–150 words).

SECTION C : GRAMMAR 18

5.The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet.Passage

	Error	Correction
Scaling Mount Everest are a monumental feat.	(a)	
Climbers must to endure freezing temperatures	(b)	
and harsh winds. Each of the mountaineers	(c)	
carry oxygen tanks to help them breathe.	(d)	

6. Rearrange the following jumbled words/phrases to form meaningful sentences. 4

a.health / important / regular / for / exercise / good / is the / earth / b.around / moon / revolves / c.thebooks / provide / knowledge / us / a / wealth / d.of / should / rules / traffic / everyone / follow / the

7.**Read the conversation below and complete the passage that follows. 4.**

Mehak: If we don't submit the science model today, our internal marks will suffer.Varun: Don't worry! Let's request the teacher to give us an extension until tomorrow.Mehak: Will she agree to our request? She looked very strict yesterday.Varun: I am certain she will, provided we show her our half-finished work.

Mehak expressed her concern to Varun that if they didn't submit the science model that day, (a) _____. Varun calmed her down and suggested that (b) _____ until the next day. Mehak skeptically enquired (c) _____ to their request, adding that she had looked very strict the previous day. Varun assured her of his certainty that she would, provided (d) _____ her their half-finished work.

Fill in the Blanks - Verb Forms & Subject-Verb Agreement (3 Marks)

8.. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs given in the brackets.

1.Neither the teacher nor the students _____ (was/were) present at the meeting yesterday.

2.The jury _____ (has/have) finally reached a unanimous decision on the case

3.The news about the sudden economic changes _____ (is/are) quite shocking.

9.Do as Directed (3 Marks)

Rewrite the sentences according to the specific instructions given in the brackets.

1He was very tired. He could not complete the assignment.(Combine the sentences using 'too... to')

2.She completed her graduation. She immediately started looking for a job. (Combine using the appropriate word 'As soon as')

3.It is absolutely mandatory for students to wear their uniforms on Mondays. (Rewrite the sentence using a suitable Modal Verb)

Literature Section [30 Marks].

10.**A** Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: 1×4=4 marks

As he walked along, his conscience pricked him. He was not at all sure if his description of Samuel had been accurate. He felt he had mixed up the real and the imagined.

Q1. Analyse Swami's psychological conflict in this scene. What does his hesitation to deliver the letter reveal about his true character? 1

Choose the single best option that comprehensively explains his internal state: Which statement best captures the exact nature of Swami's internal dilemma as he walks to school?

A) He is terrified of being severely beaten by Samuel the moment he hands over the letter

B) He is torn between his fear of his father's anger and the guilt of falsely accusing an innocent man.

C) He is planning a new excuse to give to the headmaster so he can avoid delivering the letter entirely

D) He is angry that his mother did not support his headache excuse in front of his strict father.

2. What does Swami's guilty conscience tell us about his underlying moral character? 1

A) He is a malicious child who enjoys creating complex plots to get his teachers fired

(B) He lacks a moral compass and only feels bad because he knows he will eventually be caught.

(C) He is fundamentally well-intentioned but highly impulsive, possessing a sensitive conscience that reacts to injustice.

(D) He is highly disciplined but occasionally suffers from sudden bouts of school anxiety.

3.What does the phrase "his heart sank" indicate from a psychological perspective? 1

4.Why did the character's conscience prick him? 1

OR

Twenty years had passed and I had known her since. When I caught sight of her, I was put in mind of the past and I made a little swift mental note of the fact that in twenty years a human being can undergo some remarkable changes."

(a) Who is the narrator talking about here?

(b) What remarkable change had come over her?

(c) How did the narrator feel upon seeing her this time?

(d) What is the tone of the narrator when he remarks on these "remarkable changes"?

(A) Sympathetic and worried

(B) Angry and vengeful

(C) Ironical and quietly satisfied

(D) Shocked and disappointed

11.I **remember the war days when life was challenge and toil—Miles to walk, hours before sunrise,Walking to take lessons from the saintly teacher near the temple. Again miles to the Arab teaching school on the hill...And then to the railway station to collect and distribute newspapers.**

1. What do these lines tell us about the poet's childhood? 1

2.In narrating his early life, Kalam often juxtaposes the stark physical toil of his morning routine with the profound emotional nurturing of his mother. What is the primary literary and thematic effect of this juxtaposition? 2

A. It exaggerates his physical struggles to gain sympathy from the reader.

B. It creates a monotonous narrative rhythm that reflects the boredom of his childhood.

C. It portrays his mother as the primary cause of his physical suffering.

D. It highlights the contrast between external material hardship and the eternal, protective shield of maternal love.

3.Ultimately, how did the trinity of his gruelling routine, cross-cultural learning, and the physical toil of his youth synthesize to shape A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's future resilience and character? 1

(A) It created an early sense of occupational exhaustion, causing him to separate his scientific ambitions from his emotional and spiritual upbringing.

(B) It instilled an intense drive for material prosperity, pushing him to permanently leave his humble island background behind.

(C) It forged an unbreakable psychological and moral foundation, where early discipline and pluralistic empathy prepared him for the complex demands of scientific and national leadership.

(D) It limited his educational growth by confining his early perspective solely to the local affairs and socio-economic struggles of Rameswaram

OR

Ever since childhood, she'd this giftFor being happier in a tree than in a lift;And though, as years went by, she would be toldThat climbing trees should stop when one grew old

Q1. What was the 'gift' Granny possessed?

2.Where was Granny happier—in a tree or in a lift?

3. What advice did people give her as she grew older?4 Identify the rhyme scheme of this extract.

12 Short Answer Questions (30–40 words) [2×6= 12 Marks]

Answer any six out of the following questions 30 -40 words

A.In the poem "Granny's Tree Climbing", why did the doctor recommend one week of bed rest for Granny, and how did she feel about it?

B. What were the three questions that the King wanted answers to, and why did he feel knowing them would ensure his success?

C. Contrast the narrator's actual financial state with the false impression of prosperity he tried to project in "The Luncheon".

D. Why did Swami change his mind about delivering his father's letter to the Headmaster in the morning?

E.Describe how the hermit helped the King discover the answers to his questions without directly speaking them.

F.Swami ‘s father was authoritative, old-school patriarchal figure whose approach to parenting backfires. Comment

G.Comment on the twist of the story ‘The Luncheon”.

Value Based Questions

13.Answer these questions in 70 -80 words. 4

How does Swami’s changing perception of Samuel throughout the day reflect his inner **guilt?**

OR

Granny’s refusal to grow old gracefully or give up her passion shows a unique perspective on aging. What values can we learn from Granny’s determination to live life on her own terms?Answer: Ruskin Bond’s poem

1**4**.IThe woman in The Luncheon repeatedly says, "I never eat anything for luncheon," yet she orders the most expensive items on the menu. Discuss the contrast between her words and her actions. What values or character flaws does this behavior 4

OR

II.How did the mother’s care and piety influence young Abdul Kalam during difficult times? Explain illustrating textual evidence.

Answer the questions given below, ; ANY ONE

1**5.** Imagine you are the King. After spending a day helping the hermit and forgiving your enemy, you return to your palace. Write a diary entry reflecting on the previous day’s events and the true meaning of the three answers you discovered. 120 words 6

OR

Imagine you are the lady passenger. After your lavish lunch at Foyot’s, write a letter to a friend recommending the restaurant, detailing the "light snack" you had, and praising the narrator’s hospitality.

D A V PUBLIC SCHOOL

CRRC MEDICAL ROAD, GAYA

H.W. Sample paper for Diwali and Chhath Pooja

Class- VIII FM-80marks

SUBJECT- ENGLISH TIME- 3 hrs

SECTION-A (Reading) (20 marks)

A.1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:-

i. In the suburbs, some people live uneventful lives without any reason, just like Rickie. He grew up surrounded by mundane surroundings the cloudy skies above and the concrete underfoot. His idea of society was limited to the strangers living in identical houses nearby. This dull existence was not necessary, but it suited his father, Mr. Elliot.

ii. Mr. Elliot, a lawyer, shared Ricki's frail appearance, with a weak body, hollow cheeks, and a thinning head of hair. His voice was smooth yet had a hint of cynicism that could make others uncomfortable. His eyes, once unkind and fearful, no longer troubled the world.

Iii.He married a woman with a beautiful voice and a gentle demeanour. Despite initial resistance from his family, they accepted her gracefully. However, their marriage soon soured due to Mrs. Elliot's inability to create a beautiful home environment. When she bought a carpet that clashed with the room's décor, Mr. Elliot laughed it off, claiming he couldn't stay, and left.

iv. He occasionally visited his family in the suburbs but spent most of his time in his small yet tastefully decorated house in town. Rickie admired his father's refined taste, especially his ability to arrange flowers elegantly in lead frames. Despite his mother's hopes, Rickie only got to help once before he accidentally spilled water on the carpet. Mr. Elliot chuckled at the incident, showing his characteristic nonchalance, and soon stormed out of the house, leaving Rickie to ponder his father's discerning taste.

1. Mr. Elliot is described as _____. (1)
   a) Boring and self-serving b) mundane and uneventful
   b) Elegant and refined d) feeble and kind

2. According to the passage, the family's life in the suburbs is described as_____. (1)
   i) Dull and chosen for Mr. Elliot's convenience.
   ii) Unwelcoming and Mr. Elliot wants to leave.
   iii) Poor but friendly for Rickie's upbringing
   iv) Tough on Mrs. Elliot, but she tolerates it for her husband.
3. What led to tension in Mr. and Mrs. Elliot's marriage? (1)
   i) Mrs. Elliot's incapacity to make their home beautiful
   ii) Mr. Elliot's busy work schedule
   iii) Financial troubles
   iv) Interference from family members
4. How did Rickie feel about his father leaving the house abruptly? (1)
   i) Envious b) Confused
   iii) Angry d)Indifferent
5. What is the significance of the description of Mr. Elliot's father's house compared to his own? (1)
   i) Highlights dissatisfaction
   ii) Emphasises aesthetic contrast
   iii) Suggests desire for simplicity
   iv) Indicates urban preference
6. Which word is a synonym for '' unexpectedly'' in the passage? (2)
7. Complete the given statement by filling the blank: (2)
   Rickie admired his father's ability to _____elegantly.
8. State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE. (1)
   Mr. Elliot's departure from his family home was abrupt and unexpected.

A.2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. With the next round of the Commonwealth Games coming up this year, sports fans are already speculating about the likely winners from India. While chance appears bright in some sporting activities, in others the picture appears dismal. Chances of India throwing up a few surprises is always discussed among sports lovers. Most game watchers predict that while India can add more to its medals tally in the shooting events, the chances of improving her status in the swimming category appear slim, despite the potential of creating good swimmers in this country.

2. One sport in the country with tremendous potential but pathetic performance is swimming. The country is flooded with talented swimmers and coaches whose potential is not fully utilised

due to red-tapism and bureaucratic hurdles. In spite of being a country full of rivers and canals, swimming has failed to capture the imagination of Indians at large. The Government, on its part, has done very little to boost the sport.

3. All those persons, who are interested in swimming, realize that bad quality of water is one rampant problem with almost 90% of swimming pools. As for schools, it requires exorbitant sums of money and the schools cannot afford it. A handful of the privileged few, who enjoy this luxury, fall in the category of the elite. These are out of reach of the common man.

4. Where do the Indians stand today in comparison with international swimmers? The history of swimming in India has not been too bright. International winners have excellent facilities in terms of coaching is one setback Indians have suffered in all the arenas of sport. Thanks to the petty gains and trivial polities, the good ones are dropped like a hot potato and the blue-eyed ones taken over for participating in international matches. Except for the metros, the country is deprived of good Olympic-size swimming pools.

5. The government and sports organisations will have to make serious efforts to transform the future of Indian sports. Till then, it is a long, long wait.

a) What do spots fans predict about India's chances in the Commonwealth Games this year? (2)

b) What factors make for India's potential in swimming? What are the drawbacks? (2)

c) What problem do interested swimmers face in India? (2)

d) What is India's tally in the international swimming arena? (2)

e) Give the synonyms of the given words from the text: (2)

i) inundated (para 2) ii) improve (para2)

iii) unreasonable (para3) iv) shortage (para4)

SECTION-B(Writing& Grammar) (30 Marks)

B. 3. You are Reeta/ Rakesh, head girl/boy of your school. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words informing the students about an Inter-School Cultural Fiesta your school is to take part in. Include all necessary details. Put the notice in a box. (4)

Or

Write an email to your friend describing your plans for your trip to Nainital during Summer Vacation.

B. 4. You and your friends have formed a 'Friends of the Earth' club. Prepare a speech for the morning assembly on the topic 'Save Your Environment, Save Yourself.' Convey the message that the clock is fast ticking away and that we must recognize the urgency with which we need to act. Take ideas from the unit –4- Nature of your My English Reader. (8)

Or

Compassion was long considered of virtue but it seems like an anachronism (out dated) today. The present generation uploads only the value of self- gratification. Bearing in mind the above statement , write a letter to the editor of a leading daily showing your concern over this social problem and voicing your point of view opinion about the self-centered generation of modern times. You can take ideas from the Reader Unit-2 (Compassionate Souls).

B. 5.Given below are some instructions for studying the effect of heat on ice. Complete the following paragraph which describes how ice melts and freezes. The first one has been done as an example. (4)

a) take out a tray of ice.

b) heat it on an electric stove.

c) ice melt into clear water.

d) leave it for sometime.

e) place the tray back into the freezer.

f) notice how water again freezes to ice.

A tray of ice is taken from the refrigerator. If this tray of ice a)_____ on an electric stove, the ice (b)_____into clear water. It (c) _____for sometime. The tray (d) _____ in the freezer.

B. 6.Fill in the blanks with the appropriate form of the modals: (4)

Ruby: Papa, I have not seen Qutab Miner, we (i) _____visit it.

Papa: Yes, we(ii) _____ all go together next week and (iii)_____not forget it.

Ruby: (iv) _____ I remind you papa?

Papa: No child, I shall remember to plan the visit.

B. 7.Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb (Past Perfect Tense) given in brackets: (5)

a) The king_____ (leave) before the prince came.

b) My mother_____(finish) her chores before everybody woke up.

c) The waiter _____(serve) the coffee after everyone finished their meals.

d) When they _____(enter) the room, the music started.

e) My friend _____(purchase) the tickets before the distribution closed.

B. 8. In each of the following sentences, there is an error. Find out the error and provide the correction. Error Correction (4)

The quality of apples are not good.	a)_____	_____
Many of them is rotten.	b) _____	_____
Cause of worries are that the children	c)_____	_____
does not know the fact.	d)_____	_____

B.9 Rearrange the words to make meaningful sentences:- (1)

a) ship/ violently/the storm/rocked/ the

b) dad/ gift/ free/ a/ offered/ firm/by the/was

Section-C (Literature) (30 marks)

C. 9. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow: (4)

'Some, like the flame of her marriage fire,

Or rich with the hue of her heart's desire;

a) Whom does 'her' refer to?
b) List any two adjectives used by the poet to describe the bangles of the bride.
c) What colour do you think would appropriately describe 'heart's desire'? Why ?
d) The poet has compared the bangles of the Indian bride to her laughter as well as her tears. Why?

Or

'For modes of faith let graceless zealots fight'

a) Why do zealots fight?
b) Why are zealots called 'graceless'?
c) Whose life cannot be wrong? Why?

d) How can we help the zealots attain peace?

C. 10. Read the extract from the play and answer the questions that follow: (4)

'We had to do it, sir. We were only thinking of the bank.'

a) Who does 'sir' refer to? Who are 'we' here?
b) What did they have to do?
c) What was their reason for doing so?
d) Why were 'we' only thinking of the bank?

Or

'But, George, why have you changed suddenly?'

a) 'you' refers to whom?
b) What kind of a man was George earlier?
c) What changes have come over George?
d) What is the reason for these changes?

C.11. Attempt Any Six questions in 40-50 words: (12)

a) Why did the king go to the wise hermit? Why did he go there alone and dressed like a commoner? (Three Questions)

b) How did the poet's mother act as a source of inspiration to the poet. (My Mother)

c) In order to lead a successful life, a man has to tread a balanced way. (Couplets)

d) In the poem 'Bangle Sellers', how do the bangles symbolize happiness and warmth? (Bangle Sellers)

e) Though the narrator had to undergo inconvenience but after twenty years he finally sought revenge from the lady. Discuss. (The Luncheon)

f) 'Swami went to his seat with a bleeding heart.' Why was he so upset? What was tormenting him? (Father's Help)

g) 'Intelligence is using common sense to the full.' Discuss with reference to the story. (The Case of Sharp Eyed Jeweller)

13. Attempt any one question in 80-100 words: (4)

‘Knowledge gained through experience is far superior to and many times more useful than theoretical knowledge.’ (Three Question)

Or

‘There are many ups and downs in man’s life but one should not lose hope.’ Discuss this statement with reference to Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, who became the President of India. (My Mother)

14. Attempt any one question in 100-120 words: (6)

Imagine yourself to be the young lady. Write a diary relating how the jeweller’s vigilant assistant foiled your well-made plan to steal the ring. (The Case of the Sharp- Eyed Jeweller)

Or

Taking ideas from the third couplet, write a letter to a friend telling the importance of leading a balanced life. (Couplets)

‘