

**O.P. JINDAL SCHOOL, SAVITRINAGAR****Half Yearly Examination (2023-2024)****Class/Section: IX/ ' \_ ' \_'****MM: 80****Subject: English****Time: 3 Hrs.**

Name- \_\_\_\_\_

Roll No. \_\_\_\_\_

*(Fifteen Minutes Extra will be given for reading the Question Paper.)***General Instructions:**

1. The question paper contains THREE sections-(A)READING, (B)GRAMMAR and WRITING and (C)LITERATURE.
2. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each question.

**Section A: (Reading Skill)****Q1. Read the following passage carefully.**

(1) Many of us believe that 'small' means 'insignificant'. We believe that small actions and choices do not have much impact on our lives. We think that it is only the big things, the big actions and the big decisions that really count. But when you look at the lives of all great people, you will see that they built their character through small decisions, small choices and small actions that they performed every day. They transformed their lives through step-by-step or day-by-day approach. They nurtured and nourished their good habits and chipped away their bad habits, one by one. It was their small day-to-day decisions that added up to make tremendous difference in the long run. Indeed, in matters of personal growth and character building, there is no such thing as an overnight success.

(2) Growth always occurs through a sequential series of stages. There is an organic process to growth. When we look at children growing up, we can see this process at work the child first learns to crawl, then to stand and walk and then finally to run. The same is true in the natural world. The soil must first be tilled and then the seed must be sown. Next, it must be nurtured with enough water and sunlight and only then will it grow into trees laden with ripe fruits.

(3) Gandhi understood this organic process and used this universal law of nature to his benefit. GANDHI GREW IN SMALL WAYS, in his day-to-day affairs. He did not wake up one day and find himself to be the 'Mahatma'. In fact, there was nothing much in his early life that showed signs of greatness. But from his mid-twenties onwards, he deliberately and consistently attempted to change himself, reformed himself and grew in some small ways every day. Day by day, hour by hour, he risked failure, experimented and learnt from mistakes. In small as well as large situations, he took up the responsibility rather than avoiding it.

(4) This is a common factor in the lives of all great people: they exercise their freedoms and choices in small ways that make great impact on their lives and their environment. Each of their small decisions and actions, add up to have a profound impact in the long run. By understanding this principle, we can move forward, with confidence, in the direction of our dreams. Often when our ideal goal looks too far from us, we become easily discouraged, disheartened and pessimistic. However, when we choose to grow in small ways, by taking small steps one at a time, our achievement becomes easy.

**Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below.****A) Answer by choosing the most appropriate options:****(1x6 = 6Marks)**

- I. What does the writer mean by saying 'chipped away at their bad habits'?
- a) Steadily gave up bad habits.
  - b) Slowly produced bad habits.



- c) Gradually criticized bad habits.
- d) Did not like bad habits.

II. Which of the following statements is true in the context of the third paragraph?

- a) Gandhi became great overnight.
- b) Gandhi showed signs of greatness in childhood itself.
- c) Every day Gandhi made efforts to change himself in some small ways.
- d) Gandhi never made mistakes.

III. How do small actions help in our lives?

- a) They help in building characters.
- b) They nourish good habits.
- c) They chipped away bad habits.
- d) All of the above.

IV. What according to the writer is the universal law of nature?

- a) Everything takes time to grow.
- b) Nothing can change in a day.
- c) Both (A) & (B).
- d) Neither (A) nor (B).

V. Pick out the word/phrase which is similar in meaning to 'purposely' (Para 3)

- a) Intentionally
- b) In small ways
- c) Deliberately
- d) Consistently

VI. Pick the right option in which the word 'Principle' has been used in the same way as in para 4 of the passage.

- a) He was a man of principle and good to his word.
- b) The ambassador refused on principle to agree to the terms of the accord.
- c) By one count, rice is the principle source of calories for about half the planet.
- d) Wilson constructed various forms of electric wave detector depending on this same principle.

**B) Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words.**

**(2x2 =4 Marks)**

I. How did Gandhiji become Mahatma'?

II. What important lesson for life you can learn from the passage given.

**Q2. Read the following passage carefully.**

(1) Royal Bengal Tiger is the largest, fiercest, and powerful member of the Big Cat family in India. Royal Bengal Tigers, also known as Indian Tiger and Bengal Tiger, constitute a large population of the tiger family in the world. It is the National animal of India and is found mostly in India, China, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Burma.

(2) The biological name of this Big Cat is Panthera Tigris, which comes under the Felidae family under Mammalia category.

(3) No two Bengal tigers look alike! Every Bengal Tiger has a unique stripe pattern. Their colour ranges from yellow to light orange, with stripes from dark brown to black. Some of the Bengal Tigers are white in colour. The tail is orange in colour with black rings. Unlike the other White Tigers that have blue eyes, Bengal Tigers have yellow irises. They live for 10 to 15 years.

(4) Being fierce in nature, Royal Bengal Tigers are not much friendly in nature and live a solitary life, except in winters when they can be seen in a group of 3 or 4. Bengal tigers are fast runners and good swimmers. Tigers attack their prey in a stealth mode. They are usually spotted in swamps, mangroves, and grasslands.

(5) Royal Bengal Tigers have very sharp memory, they never forget the faces. Their memory is

sharper than humans and other animals.

(6) We can find the largest population of Royal Bengal Tigers in India. As per the latest tiger census report 2017, there are 3,786 Royal Bengal Tigers in India. India has more than 75% of the total tiger population in the world. Along with India, neighbouring countries to India holds a somewhat decent population of Royal Bengal Tiger in the world The latest census of the tigers in India and neighbouring countries are shown in the table.

S. No.	Name of country	Minimum	Maximum
1.	Bangladesh	300	460
2.	Bhutan	80	460
3.	China	30	35
4.	India	2500	3800
5.	Nepal	150	250

(7) To know about the latest tiger population is always government's concern, as they want to save this majestic animal from getting extinct. India has lost 97% of its Royal Bengal Tigers population in the last century. The main reason is Hunting, Poaching, Urbanization, Habitat loss and Illegal Wildlife Trade. Poaching means to illegally trade the tiger made products like tiger skin, tiger made jewellery, etc. These skin and jewellery are sold for millions in the international market. Poaching has reduced the number of tigers to just 3,800 from 1,00,000 in the starting of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below.

A) Answer by choosing the most appropriate options:

(1x6 =6Marks)

I. Pick out the characteristic(s) of Bengal Tigers.

- a) Fast runners
- b) Attack in stealth mode
- c) Good swimmers
- d) All of these

II. When was the latest survey of tigers conducted according to the passage?

- a) 2010
- b) 2017
- c) 2019
- d) 2020

III. In which country the number of tigers ranges from 80 to 460 ?

- a) Bangladesh
- b) Bhutan
- c) China
- d) Nepal

IV. Which pair of countries has approximately same number of maximum tigers?

- a) Nepal and Bangladesh
- b) Bhutan and Bangladesh
- c) China and Nepal
- d) Bangladesh and India

V. Pick out the option(s) that correctly state the reason for reduction in the population of the tigers?

- a) Poaching
- b) Climatic changes
- c) Epidemic
- d) Soil erosion

VI. Pick the right word which is similar in meaning as 'Solitary'.

- a) Accompanied
- b) Sociable
- c) Lonesome



d) Gregarious

**B) Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words.**

**(2x2=4 Marks)**

I. Describe in your own words 'the latest census of the tigers in India and neighbouring countries' as shown in the table.

II. Why did the population of Royal Bengal Tiger has decreased in India in the last century?

**Section B: (Grammar and Writing)**

**Q3. Attempt ANY TEN of the following questions.**

**(1x10=10Marks)**

I. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence.

Ashok fell off the ladder when he \_\_\_\_\_ the roof.

- a) is mending
- b) was mending
- c) mended
- d) has mended

II. Fill in the blanks with appropriate determiners from the given options.

\_\_\_\_\_ of the students got \_\_\_\_\_ chocolates from the teacher. (each, some / each, any)

III. Fill in the blank with correct verb form.

My parents had gone out for a walk when I..... home this evening.

- a) came
- b) will come
- c) have come
- d) come

IV. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct demonstrative.

..... coasters are made of glass.

- a) This
- b) That
- c) These
- d) There

V. Complete the slogan.

.....only weapon to fight injustice is education.

- a) The
- b) A
- c) An
- d) There

VI. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

This is a European lady I was talking about.

Error- .....

Correction- .....

VII. Choose the correct verb form from those in the bracket:

She \_\_\_\_\_ unconscious since four o'clock. (is, was, has been, will have been )

VIII. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete this advertisement.

Are you looking for more books to read? Due to popular demand, we..... back our 'Buy One Get One Free' offer next weekend!

- a) brings
- b) brought
- c) will bring
- d) were bringing

IX. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the given instruction:

Hurry up! We only have .....time before the coach leaves.

- a) few
- b) a little
- c) little
- d) a few

X. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction:

The Children cheers loudly when their captain scored the winning goal.

**Error**

- a) scored
- b) cheers
- c) when
- d) winner

**Correction**

- scoring
- cheered
- by
- winning

XI. Identify the tense used in the given sentence.

Everyone shall be reaching by tomorrow.

XII. Fill correct determiner to complete the following sentence.

Eating out is expensive here. There aren't .....cheap restaurants.

- a) much
- b) few
- c) some
- d) any

**Q4. Attempt any one of the following in about 100 to 120 words.**

**(5×1=5 Marks)**

Given below are some notes on Dr. Radhakrishnan, former President of India and a great Indian Scholar and Philosopher. Use the information to write a short descriptive paragraph on him.

- ❖ Birth: Born in Tirutani near Madras, 1888
- ❖ Family: Belonged to a poor brahmin family
- ❖ Education: Graduated from Madras Christian college
- ❖ Teaching: Taught philosophy at Madras, Career Mysore and Calcutta Universities
- ❖ Later life: Indian Ambassador to the U.S.S.R in 1949; vice-President of India in 1952; President of India from 1962 to 1967.
- ❖ Works: Written many books: The Hindu Way of life, The Indian Philosophy, Eastern Religion and Thought are among his famous books.
- ❖ Death: 1975

**OR**

**A Book Fair was organised in your city in the month of August. Describe the fair using the following hints.**

- ❖ When was it organised
- ❖ Where was it organised
- ❖ Purpose of the fair
- ❖ Arrangements



- ❖ Who all participated people [attended the fair]
- ❖ What was special about it
- ❖ How many people attended the fair

**Q5. Attempt any one of the following in about 100 to 120 words.**

**(5×1=5 Marks)**

Write a story with the help of the following outline. Give it a suitable title also.

Ahmad went to watch Diwali Mela with his parents. He wanted to enjoy a ride in the merry go-round. His father .....

**OR**

**Complete the story using the outline given below. Also give it a suitable title.**

Dark night – quiet jungle – sound of footsteps – followed footprints trail – reached lonely house – hidden behind trees – entered – shocked to see – woke up in bed.

**Section C: (Literature)**

**Q6. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.**

**(1×5=5 Marks)**

At the urging of a colleague, Einstein wrote a letter to the American President, Franklin D. Roosevelt, on 2 August, 1939, in which he warned: "A single bomb of this type... exploded in a port, might very well destroy the whole port together with some of the surrounding territory." His words did not fail to have an effect. The Americans developed the atomic bomb in a secret project of their own, and dropped it on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945.

I. Einstein wrote to the American President, Franklin D. Roosevelt, on the request of his .....

- a) one close friend
- b) Japanese
- c) colleague
- d) Americans

II. He wrote to the American President, Franklin D. Roosevelt to warn him against the .....

- a) secret project
- b) atomic bomb
- c) explosion in a port
- d) surrounding territory

III. An atomic bomb was developed secretly by the.....

- a) Americans
- b) Japanese
- c) Hiroshima and Nagasaki
- d) Franklin D. Roosevelt

IV. According to the passage Americans attacked Japan on.....

- a) August, 1939
- b) August, 1993
- c) August 1945
- d) August 1495

V. The word in the passage that means shattered or burst violently is .....

- a) destroy
- b) territory
- c) exploded
- d) dropped

**OR**

But it was for your b-b-birth day." Down came the ruler on her little, pink palms. Hours later, when grandmother had wrapped her in a shawl and rocked her in the rocking-chair, the child clung to her soft body. "What did God make fathers for?" she sobbed.

I. Who is responding in the first line and to whom?

- a) The father is responding to Kezia.
- b) The mother is responding to Kezia.
- c) Kezia is responding to her father.

d) Kezia is responding to her grandmother.

II. How did the father react?

- a) The father got angry and beat her.
- b) The father became happy and kissed her.
- c) The father just gave her a smile and went away.
- d) The father gave no reaction.

III. What did the grandmother do?

- a) She scolded the girl.
- b) She beat the girl.
- c) She wrapped the girl in a shawl.
- d) She told a story to the girl.

IV. Why did the girl say "What did God make fathers for"?

- a) Because she liked her father.
- b) Because she disliked her father.
- c) because she was sympathetic towards her father.
- d) None of these.

V. Name the author of the story.

- a) Karl Pilkington
- b) Katherine Schwarzenegger
- c) Khalil Gibran
- d) Katherine Mansfield

**Q7. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.**

**(1×5=5 Marks)**

Wind, come softly.

Don't break the shutters of the windows.

Don't scatter the papers.

Don't throw down the books on the shelf.

There, look what you did - you threw them all down.

You tore the pages of the books. You brought rain again.

I. Who is the poet of 'Wind'?

- a) Ruskin Bond
- b) T.S. Eliot
- c) Oscar Wilde
- d) Subramania Bharati

II. What does the poem 'Wind' teach us?

- a) That one must be coward
- b) That one must show one's responsibilities
- c) That one must be brave enough to face all the obstacles of life
- d) Both A and B

III. Which literary device has been used in 'You tore the pages of the books'?

- a) Similie
- b) Onomatopoeia
- c) Metaphor
- d) Personification

IV. What does the poet request the wind to do?

- a) To blow gently



- b) Not to destroy anything
- c) Not to throw books on the shelf
- d) All of these

V. What does the poet accuse wind of?

- a) Spoiling the rain
- b) Destroying the farmers' crops
- c) Bringing the rain
- d) All of these

OR

I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,  
 And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made:  
 Nine bean-rows will I have there, a hive for the honeybee,  
 And live alone in the bee-loud glade.

I. "I will go now" whom does "I" refer to?

- a) Refers to a visitor to the poet's house.
- b) "I" refers to the reader of this poem.
- c) "I" refers to the poet, William Butler Yeats.
- d) None of the above.

II. Where does the poet decide to go?

- a) The poet decides to go to his friend who lives to in countryside.
- b) The poet decides to go on a tour.
- c) The poet decides to go to another city.
- d) The poet decides to go to the island of Innisfree.

III. How does Yeats propose to live there?

- a) He propose to build there a small cottage of clay and wattles, plant nine rows of beans and keep a swarm of honeybees.
- b) He proposes to live there exactly as he is living in the city.
- c) He proposes to live there spending his time in prayers and reading religious books.
- d) None of the above.

IV. "And live glade." What does this line say about the poet?

- a) He loves a lonely life in the midst of natural beauty and peace.
- b) He loves living in a city with many things to do.
- c) He loves to enjoy himself in the company of friends.
- d) None of the above.

V. What is the rhyme scheme of the given lines?

- a) ABBA
- b) AABB
- c) AABA
- d) ABAB

**Q8. Answer any four of the following in 40-50 words each.**

**(4×3=12 Marks)**

I. Why was Margie doing worse in geography? What did the County Inspector do to help her?

II. Write the central theme of the poem 'Rain on the Roof'.

III. How is a 'Shehnai' different from a 'Pungi'? How did the 'shehnai' get its name?

IV. How does the poet resolve the dilemma in the poem 'The Road Not Taken'? Which road does he choose and why?

V. How old was Evelyn when she went to the Royal Academy of Music? Why was she nervous on her way to the academy?



**Q9. Answer any two of the following in 40-50 words each.**

**(2×3=6 Marks)**

I. How did the child realise that his parents were not with him? What was his immediate reaction?

II. Why does grandfather take Toto to Saharanpur and how? Why does the ticket collector insist on calling Toto a dog?

III. Sketch the character of Iswaran in your own words.

**Q10. Answer any one of the following in 100-120 words each.**

**(1×6=6Marks)**

I. Justify the statement 'The wind is a symbol of power and strength' in the light of the poem 'Wind' and tell how can we befriend it and survive in our struggle for existence?

II. Which values does the life of Einstein teach you?

**Q11. Answer any one of the following in 100-120 words each.**

**(1×6=6Marks)**

I. 'If there is a part of the brain especially devoted to mischief, that part was largely developed in Toto.'

Justify the statement. Why did even grandfather realise that Toto was not the sort of pet they could keep for long?

II. "A child longs for toys, sweets and other things but not at the cost of his parents." Comment in the light of 'The Lost Child'.