

O. P. JINDAL SCHOOL, SAVITRINAGAR

Half Yearly Examination (2023-24)

Class/ Section: VII.....

MM:80

Subject: English

Time-3 Hrs

Name-.....

Roll No....

Fifteen minutes extra time will be given for reading the question paper.

General Instructions:

1. This question paper is divided into three parts: A, B and C. All questions are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION-A

READING SECTION-20 MARKS

Q1. Read the passage Carefully.

(1x10=10 marks)

Bamboo is perhaps the most useful plant in the world. It grows almost in all tropical and subtropical countries. The only continents in which bamboo does not grow are Europe and Antarctica. In India it grows extensively in the north east and the Western Ghats. There are varieties of bamboos that grow to a height of 40 metres, and others that reach a height of only a metre. Bamboo is among the fastest growing plants of the world; one plant in Japan recorded a growth of 120 centimetres in one day! You could almost see it growing. The bamboo is a variety of grass with a woody, many jointed stem. The stem itself is hollow and is connected to a rhizome network which spreads out beneath the surface of the soil. Roots grow out of this network of rhizome and help the plant to absorb and distribute food and water from the soil. Many species of bamboo flower once in several years and then die. One species flowers regularly once in 120 years; bamboo of that species all over the world flower together in the same year, and then die.

Bamboo is a versatile plant. Men have found several uses for it. Bamboo shoots are staple diet in many Asian countries. The shoots are pickled or stewed, and served as delicacies. The fleshy fruits of one species of bamboo in Assam are eaten raw or cooked. When there is a drought, bamboo seeds are used as substitute for rice. The commercial uses of a bamboo are astonishing. India produces over 3 million tonnes of bamboo annually, and nearly half of it is turned into paper. Another important use of bamboo is in housing. Instead of costly timber, bamboo can be used in the construction of houses. In Columbia bamboo used in house structure is covered with plaster. Bamboo can even replace steel in many of its uses. Concrete reinforced with bamboo has sufficient strength for most uses. In Assam suspension bridges have been built using bamboo. With its network of rhizomes and roots, bamboo plays an important role in the prevention of soil erosion.

On the basis of reading of the above passage answer the following questions.

I Choose the most correct options. (Any six)

1. Where does bamboo grow?

- a) Tropical countries
- b) Subtropical countries
- c) Both a and b
- d) None of these

2. In which of these continents bamboo does not grow?

- a) Asia and Africa
- b) Europe and Antarctica
- c) South America and Europe
- d) Australia and Asia

3. What was the height of the fastest growing bamboo plant in Japan?

- a) 140 centimetres
- b) 40 centimetres
- c) 120 centimetres
- d) 95 centimetres

4. What kind of plant is bamboo?

- a) It is a tree.
- b) It is a climber.
- c) It is a grass.
- d) All of these

5. How are shoots of bamboo used for food?

- a) Its shoot is stewed.
- b) Its shoot is pickled.
- c) Both a and b
- d) Its shoot is eaten raw.

6. Which word in the passage means 'important part of something'?

- a) rhizome
- b) delicacies
- c) concrete
- d) staple

7. Which word in the passage means 'having many different uses'?

- a) timber
- b) versatile
- c) astonishing
- d) none of these

II. Answer the following questions in short.

- 1) Write any two uses of bamboo.
- 2) How bamboo plays an important role in preventing soil erosion?
- 3) What are used as substitute for rice during drought?
- 4) In which part of India bamboo grows extensively?

Q2. Read the following passage carefully.

(1x10=10 marks)

Every moment of life is precious. Time is the essence of life. It is the wealth given to us by nature. Everyday all of us get 24 hours; nothing less, nothing more. Now, it is upto us how we use it. People who know how to make the best use of every moment easily open the doors of success in their lives and those who misuse get failures one after the other. There is a saying that spent time and spent words cannot come back. Everybody is tied by the limits of time; even God respects the boundary of time. Work wins appreciation only when it gets completed in a requisite time frame. Beyond the time allotted, work loses all its utility however, good may have been its quality. Just as falling of rain after the crops have dried up have no use; likewise when time is past the deadline, the work loses its importance and value.

When iron is hot, it can be cast into whichever shape we want. Once it gets cold nothing can be made out of it. however much we may beat the same. In the same way a person who has learnt to wisely use his time and has understood how to cast himself according to the need of the time has actually learnt the true mantra of life. Shakespeare wrote in one of his plays, "I wasted time, and now doth time waste me". It is true that a person who wastes even a little bit of time loses wonderful opportunities that he could have otherwise availed of utilizing that time. All the great leaders have one thing in common. They wisely utilize every moment of their time. When other people are busy in wasting time in laziness, great men are busy in making plans for the future. There is no person in history who wasted his time and still managed to achieve greatness. Therefore there is great need to manage time wisely. 'Careful time management' refers to careful planning of time and sincere execution of this plan. This is the only mantra to attain success in any endeavour. A simple change in outlook and some modification in one's daily routine can result in a big jump forward towards greater achievements.

On the basis of reading the passage answer the following questions.

I Choose the correct option. (Any six)

1. When does work win appreciation?

- a) When it is not completed.
- b) When it is completed in requisite time frame.
- c) When it is completed late.
- d) None of these

2. What does quote of Shakespeare mean?

- a) Time is precious.
- b) Time should be utilized wisely.
- c) We should not waste time.
- d) All of these

3. What do great men do when people are busy in wasting their time lazily?

- a) They also spend time lazily.
- b) They spend time in talking.
- c) They are busy in thinking about past.
- d) They are busy in making plans for future.

4. What is the successful mantra to attain success in any endeavour?

- a) playful work
- b) spending too much money

c) careful time management

d) a thorny path

5. What do all leaders have in common?

a) They manage their time wisely.

b) They meet many people in one day.

c) They read many books in a day.

d) They eat a healthy diet.

6. Which word is opposite in meaning to 'awful' in the passage?

a) wonderful

b) modify

c) common

d) none of these

7. Which word means 'understanding and enjoying value of something' in the passage?

a) attain

b) appreciation

c) manage

d) achievement

II. Complete the following sentences.

- a) A person who wastes even a little bit of time
- b) Even the God
- c) A simple change in outlook and daily routine can result.....
- d) When time is past the deadline.....

SECTION-B

GRAMMAR & WRITING (20 MARKS)

Q3. Answer the following by choosing the most correct option. (Any ten) (1x10=10 marks)

1. 'Kolkata is the biggest of all the cities in India'. (What is the degree of comparison in the given sentence?)

a) Positive

b) Comparative

c) Superlative

d) Rotative

2. You can take road. (Choose the correct determiner.)

a) his

b) much

c) either

d) many

3. 'The Mehras us their new car.' (Choose the correct transitive verb to fill in the blank.)

a) is

b) showed

c) are

d) made

4. 'These days most people email instead of writing letters.' (Fill in the blank with present continuous tense.)

a) am using

b) are using

c) is using

d) were using

all the necessary details like date of activity, last date of giving names, topic, venue, name of the person to whom participant's name can be submitted, date of screening etc. (50 to 60 words)

Q5. Write a paragraph in about 80-90 words on 'Disadvantages of life in a big city' using the given hints and also your own ideas. **(5 marks)**

Life in a big citymany disadvantages.....tension and hurry.....expensive life.....crowded streets....lot of traffic and traffic jams....no fresh air....unnatural life

OR

Write a paragraph in about 80-90 words on 'Swami Vivekanand' using the given hints and also your own ideas.

real name -Narendranath Dutta, born on 12 January, Bengal Presidency, British India (present day -Kolkata, West Bengal, India)

Religion- Hinduism, Education- Vedanta yoga, University of Calcutta, Founder of- Ramakrishna Mission in 1897- provides charity, social work and education, Guru- Ramakrishna Paramhansa, in 1893 travelled to USA, gave a speech in Chicago, famous after that, philosopher and social reformer, greatly respected in India, a patriotic saint, birthday celebrated as National Youth Day

SECTION-C

LITERATURE (40 Marks)

Q6. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow. (1x5=5 marks)

Meanwhile the envious neighbour peeped in at the window when the boiled beans were being ground.

"Goody me!" cried the old hag, as she saw each dripping of sauce turning into yellow gold, until in a few minutes the tub under the mill was full of shining mass of gold. So the old couple was rich again.

1. Who has been referred as 'old hag' in the above lines?

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) the good old man | b) the wicked old man |
| c) the good old man's wife | d) the wicked man's wife |

2. What is the process that is taking place in the above lines?

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| a) boiling of rice | b) making of bean sauce |
| c) preparing of dough | d) baking of pastry |

3. What is the meaning of 'hag' in the given extract?

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| a) young | b) witch |
| c) ugly and unpleasant | d) used for protection |

4. What was turning into yellow gold?

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| a) rice sauce | b) tomato sauce |
| c) bean sauce | d) none of these |

5. Which adjective is used for the neighbours?

- a) good
- b) envious
- c) careful
- d) treacherous

OR

Mridu crept upto the window. Lalli was sitting a little distance away, awkwardly holding her violin and bowstring. Her elbows jutting out and her eyes glazed with concentration. Infront of her, with most of his back to the window, was the bony figure of the music master. He had a mostly bald head with a fringe of oiled black hair falling around his ears and an old fashioned tuft. A gold chain gleamed round his leathery neck and a diamond ring glittered on his hand.

1. Where did Mridu creep upto?

- a) upto the wall
- b) upto the door
- c) upto the window
- d) upto the ceiling

2. What was Lalli holding in his hand?

- a) her violin
- b) her glass
- c) her book
- d) her pen

3. Who was sitting in front of Lalli?

- a) her mother
- b) her paati
- c) her brother
- d) her music teacher

4. What kind of figure did the music teacher have?

- a) a healthy figure
- b) a scary figure
- c) a bony figure
- d) all of these

5. Which word in the extract means 'clumsily or uncomfortably'?

- a) bowstring
- b) awkwardly
- c) fashioned
- d) glazed

Q7. Read the given extract and answer the questions that follow.

(1x5=5 marks)

There's a dusty old window around at the side

With three cracked panes of glass

I often think there's someone staring at me

Each time that I pass,

I'll peep through that window one day.

1. What is the condition of the window as described in the extract?

- a) Its panes are cracked.
- b) It is dusty.
- c) It creaks.
- d) Both a and b

2. What does the poet want to do?

- a) He wants to clean the window.
- b) He wants to peep through the window.
- c) He wants to change the cracked panes.
- d) None of these

3. Which word in the extract means 'broken'?

- a) cracked
- b) peep
- c) staring
- d) all of these

4. What does the poet often think each time when he pass ?

- a) There is an alien.
- b) Someone wants to talk to him.
- c) Someone is staring at him.
- d) Someone is smiling at him.

5. Which word in the extract means 'a piece of glass in a window'?

- a) dusty
- b) stare
- c) pane
- d) often

OR

Pull your socks up

Stand up straight

Say thank you

Don't interrupt

No one thinks you are funny

Take your elbows off the table

Can't you make your own

Mind up about anything?

1. Which poem has the extract been taken from?

- a) The Rebel
- b) Chivvy
- c) The Squirrel
- d) None of these

2. What are the instructions given to the child in the given extract?

- a) to say thank you
- b) not to interrupt
- c) to take elbows off the table
- d) all of these

3. Which is the correct posture taught in this extract?

- a) to pull socks up
- b) to stand straight
- c) to keep elbows on the table
- d) none of these

4. Which phrase in the extract means 'to take decisions of our own'?

- a) No one thinks
b) Say thank you.
c) Make up your mind.
d) Take elbows off the table.

5. Which word in the extract means 'stop someone from doing or saying something'?

- a) off
b) interrupt
c) pull up
d) funny

Q8. Answer these questions in short. (30 to 40 words) (any four) (3x4=12 marks)

1. How are the trees useful for the children in the poem 'Trees'?
2. What is the secret that Meena shares with Mridu in the backyard?
3. Write any three things that rebels do differently from the poem 'The Rebel'?
4. What three things did Gopal do before he went to buy his hilsa fish?
5. Why was the beggar in a hurry to leave from Rukkumani's house after getting Gopu Mama's chappals?

Q9. Answer these questions in short. (30 to 40 words) (any two) (3x2=6 marks)

1. What were the questions asked by Golu from different animals?
2. Give a reason to show that Kari enjoyed his morning bath in the river.
3. Why do ants want alien creatures to live in their anthills?

Q10. The unconditional love of old couple made them rich. Explain. (90 to 100 words)

(6 marks)

OR

What is the moral of the story 'Gopal and the Hilsa Fish'? (90 to 100 words)

Q11. What are the different commands for an elephant to learn? (90 to 100 words) (6 marks)

OR

What happened when Golu reached the Limpopo river? (90 to 100 words)
