



**OXFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL, RANCHI**  
**SA-1 EXAMINATION**  
**SESSION 2016-2017**

**Class –VIII**  
**Sub - English**

**Time : 2.30 Hrs**  
**F.M.: 90**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class &Sec** \_\_\_\_\_

**Roll No** \_\_\_\_\_

**Section - A (Reading -20 marks)**

I. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

The two men started up the street, arm in arm. One, his egotism enlarged by success, was beginning to outline the history of his career. The other, submerged in his overcoat, listened with interest.

At the corner stood a drugstore, brilliant with electric lights. When they came into the glare each of them turned simultaneously to gaze upon other's face.

The man from the West stopped suddenly and released his arm.

"You're not Jimmy Wells," he snapped.

"Twenty years is a long time, but not long enough to change a man's nose from a Roman to a pug."

"It sometimes changes a good man into a bad one," said the tall man. "You've been under arrest for ten minutes, 'Silky Bob'. Chicago thinks you may have dropped over our way and wires us she wants to have a chat with you. Going quietly, are you? That's sensible. Now, before we go to the station here's a note I was asked to hand you. You may read it here at the window. It's from Patrolman Wells."

The man from West unfolded the little piece of paper handed him. His hand was steady when he began to read, but it trembled a little by the time he had finished. The note was rather short.

*Bob, I was at the appointed place on time. When you struck the match to light your cigar I saw it was the face of the man wanted in Chicago. Somehow I couldn't do it myself, so I went around and got plainclothes man to do the job. Jimmy.*

A. (1X5=5)

1. What was there at the corner of the street?
2. What happened when they came near the electric light?
3. What can a long time of twenty years do?
4. What does the tall man mean when he says "Going quietly, are you?"
5. What did the tall man give Bob? Who had written this?

B. Fill in the blanks with suitable words: (1X2=2)

1. I listened to his story \_\_\_\_\_ interest.
2. He handed \_\_\_\_\_ to me the book which my friend had sent.

(1/2X2=1)

C. Find the words from the passage which mean the following:

- i) at the same time.
- ii) to give a verbal description of essential things.

II. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

The pictures of a giant panda appear quite frequently on leaflets and posters. This cuddly looking, black and white animal is the official symbol of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). For many people, the giant panda has become a symbol for everything that is worth conserving in nature. The giant panda closely resembles a bear probably because million of years ago, the two shared a common ancestor, the civet. Today, giant pandas are found only in the bamboo forests of Central China and in small numbers in Tibet. Bamboo forests provide them food, shelter as well as safety.

Giant pandas spend most of their time wandering in the elusive bamboo forests, chewing bamboo shoots. As they feed only on bamboo shoots and that too in huge quantities, there isn't always enough food for

them. Though they can survive for long periods without their staple food, many are known to have died of starvation.

Giant pandas are playful animals and can make a variety of sounds like chirping, huffing, snorting, bleating and even barking. Due to excessive hunting and destruction of their natural habitat, these exotic animals are nearing extinction. They can be seen only in zoos where we hope they can breed more of their kind.

It is not an easy thing to take care of giant pandas in a zoo, for it would be difficult to find food to feed them. Besides, they don't breed easily in a zoo. When a baby panda is born, it is very tiny and weighs only 140 g. The giant panda is a good mother. She feeds and nurses the baby lovingly. She is often found to cradle, stroke and play, with her precious cub. She also guards the infant closely it carefully in her teeth or paw if necessary. When the cub is about 18 months old and weighs about 45 kilograms, it is ready to live on its own.

A. Fill in the blanks with correct information from the passage: [1/2 X 4 = 2]

1. Today, giant pandas are found only in the bamboo forests of \_\_\_\_\_
2. Giant pandas can make \_\_\_\_\_
3. A panda cub weighs \_\_\_\_\_
4. When the cub is about 18 months old \_\_\_\_\_

B. Answer the following questions : ( 1 X 3 = 3)

1. Which organization uses the giant panda as its symbol?
2. Why is it difficult to take care of a giant panda in a zoo?
3. How does a mother panda look after her young one?

C. Find words from the passage which mean the following: (1/2 X 4 = 2)

1. very often
2. to look like someone.
3. to be able to live
4. unusual

III. Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow by selecting the most appropriate option. (1x5=5)

The sun descending in the west,  
The evening star does shine  
The birds are silent in their nest  
And I must seek for mine

The moon like a flower  
In heavens high bower  
With silent delight  
With and smiles on the night

Farewell, green fields and happy grove,  
Where flocks have took delight:  
Where lambs have nibbled, silent move  
The feet of angels bright;

Unseen they pour blessing  
And joy without ceasing  
On each bud and blossom,  
And each sleeping bosom.

They look in every thoughtless nest

Where birds are covered warm;  
They visit caves of every beast,  
To keep them all from harm:

If they see any weeping  
That should have been sleeping,  
They pour sleep on their head,  
And sit down by their bed.

1. The evening star rises when
  - a) the birds leave their nests
  - b) it is midnight
  - c) it is dawn
  - d) the sun descends in the west
2. Here, 'bower' represents
  - a) a potted plant
  - b) a framework that supports climbing plants
  - c) a bouquet of flowers
  - d) a flower vase
3. The poet compares moon to
  - a) a flower
  - b) a bird in the nest
  - c) an evening star
  - d) an angel
4. Birds nest is described as 'thoughtless' because
  - a) the angels are blessing the birds to be happy
  - b) the birds are covered in the warmth of their nest.
  - c) it is made without any thought
  - d) the occupants are asleep without any care.
5. The figure of speech used, in the line "In heaven's high bower" is
  - a) metaphor
  - b) Personification
  - c) Alliteration
  - d) Simile

**Section-B (Writing-25 marks)**

1. You are the Head Boy/ girl of your school. Draft a notice informing the students about the tree plantation campaign launched by the school. Every student is expected to take part in it in one way or the other. (5)
2. Write a speech for the morning assembly of your School on the topic 'Don't be afraid of failure'. (6)
3. Vidya feels very strongly about the falling standards of behavior of the people in her city She is disturbed by the uncivil ways-whether it is a neighborhood construction running your house or the noises made throughout the night by a wedding party or haphazard parking blocking the entrance—all these make life in a city unbearable. She feels that most people do not know how to live in a metropolis and have no concern for others. She decides to write an article on the uncivil behavior of the people to be published in a local magazine. Write Vidya's article in about 120-150 words. (7)

**OR**

"Earth is the home for all living and non-living beings .We have inherited it from our forefathers, we are to pass it on to the coming generations."

In the light of this observation write an article on "Environmental Pollution".

4. Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper explaining how the presence of hawkers and vendors at traffic signals distracts the drivers and often causes accidents.

**OR**

Write a letter to the local Municipal Office complaining about the dumping of refuse on a road close to your school. Mention about the problems caused and request that the rubbish be cleared immediately. (7)

**Section-C (Grammar - 25 marks)**

- I. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs. (1/2X8=4)

- a) By next Monday , the laborers\_\_\_\_\_ this well for six days. (dig)
- b) Aida \_\_\_\_\_ her room for the past hour. (paint)
- c) Janet \_\_\_\_\_ karate Class every Saturday. (attend)
- d) He \_\_\_\_\_ many foreign countries before he returned home.(visit)
- e) I \_\_\_\_\_(expect) fifty guests at the party , but only thirty \_\_\_\_\_ .(come)
- f) We \_\_\_\_\_our breakfast half an hour ago.(finish)
- g) I \_\_\_\_\_a strange noise .(hear)

- II. Fill in the blanks with suitable phrases. (1X3=3)

- a) I heard \_\_\_\_\_.
- b) Only a man \_\_\_\_\_ buys a car.
- c) He ran\_\_\_\_\_.

- III. Join together each of the following pairs of sentences by means of Relative Pronoun. (1/2X3=1 1/2)

- a) The apple pie was delicious. It was served.
- b) Sanjana's father is a well - known diplomat. He works at the Indian Embassy in Dubai.
- c) Show the road. The road leads to Delhi.

- IV. Each of the following sentences has an error in the use of Pronouns and Adjectives correct them:- (1/2X 5=2 1/2)

- a) The two men struck one another.
- b) You are better than him.
- c) I borrowed a book of your's
- d) My pen is Superior than yours but my bag is inferior than yours.
- e) Whom do you think has torn this book?

- V. Fill in the blanks with suitable Clauses. (1X3=3)

- a) Do not go \_\_\_\_\_(Adverb Clause).
- b) I cannot understand \_\_\_\_\_(Noun Clause)
- c) An author \_\_\_\_\_ lived in that cottage (Adjective clause)

- VI. Give words denoting the group of the following: (1/2X4=2)

- a) stairs      b) cotton      C) camels      d) school children

- VII. Fill in the blanks with appropriate Prepositions- ( 1/2X4=2)

- a) I have applied \_\_\_ the post of a receptionist.
- b) Susan has excelled\_\_\_all of the subjects.
- c) I am obliged\_\_\_you for your help.
- d) People have become accustomed\_\_\_noise.

VIII. Do as directed:-

(1X7=7)

1. Besides having a salary, he also has a private income. (Use not only.....but)
2. That is the man. He gave me a dog. It went mad. (Combine simple sentences into one complex sentence)
3. Give me the book and I will read it. (Change from compound to complex)
4. He was too late to hear the first speech. (Remove too)
5. Very few Indo-Anglian novelists are as great as R.K Narayan.  
(Change the degree of Comparison without changing the meaning)
6. The doctor is hopeful that she will soon recover. (Replace the clause with a phrase.)
7. I expect to meet Sheena to-night. (Convert it to a complex sentence)

**Section- D (Literature -20 marks)**

1. Answer the following questions briefly.

(1X5=5)

- i) What kind of a reception did Scrooge get in Fred's home?
- ii) What does the cat do after drinking the milk?
- iii) Why did Mr. Stelling leave Tom and Philip alone after introducing them ?
- iv) What did the mosquito say to persuade Creep to let him bite the king ?
- v) According to the narrator, who does the dusk hour belong to?

II. Answer the following questions.

(2 X 3=6)

- i) What Christmas cheer did scrooge bring to Bob Cratchit ?
- ii) Philip felt complacent or self-satisfied because he knew he was far more knowledgeable than Tom. But why do you think he felt bitter at the same time?
- iii) What image does the author use to describe Helen's world before the arrival of her teacher.

III. Answer the following questions with the reference to the context--

A. "I guessed vaguely from my mother's signs and from the hurrying to and fro in the house that something unusual was about to happen, so I went to the door and waited on the steps." (1x2=2)

- i) From which lesson is the above extract taken? Why does the speaker guessed vaguely from her mother's signs?
- ii) What was the unusual thing which was about to happen?

B. "I'm the guardian of the house".

(1x3=3)

- i) Name the poem and the poet.
- ii) Who is the speaker in the above lines? To whom was this said?

iii) Which figure of speech is used in the poem? Give one example from the poem to justify.

IV. Give the character sketch of—

Anne Sullivan

(1x2=2)

**OR**

Norman Gortsby

V. Give the meaning of the following words:

(1/2 X4=2)

i) munificence

ii) malice

iii) languor

iv) barbarian

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