

NEW AL WUROOD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, JEDDAH

Affiliated to CBSE – New Delhi, No:5730008



HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION (2017-2018)

Subject: ENGLISH

Date: 08.06.2017

Set: A

Time: 2 ½ Hours

Class: VIII

Max. Marks: 80

The question paper is divided into three sections:

Section A: Reading - 20 Marks

Section B: Writing & Grammar - 35 Marks

Section C: Literature - 25 Marks

General Instructions:

- 1. Please check that this question paper contains all the printed pages.*
- 2. All answers must be written in the provided answer sheet.*
- 3. Read each question carefully and follow the instruction.*
- 4. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.*
- 5. Do not split sections.*

SECTION A- READING – 20 Marks

1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

1. The dog is almost a saint. He cannot speak; hence, he can never tell a lie. He is honest and straightforward. A dog willingly accepts his master's superiority and subjects himself to his authority. But, we should not be deceived by this act of a dog. He does not consider himself a slave. He expects his master to be fair and just he expects to be loved and respected. He looks upon his master as his lord, but he wishes to maintain his dignity.

2. A dog can be taught to do almost anything with friendly encouragement and patience. Corporal punishment inflicted upon an intelligent dog is an undignified thing to do. The dog can read his master's thoughts; can understand his vacillating nature, his varying moods and many a time even foretell his decisions. He knows when he is unwanted and keeps out of his master's way. When his lord is anguished or worried, he knows it is time to comfort him. He creeps up to him quietly, lays his head on his lap and seems to be telling his master 'Let the others be, let them abandon you. I am

here by your side, let's take a walk together. I am here to be your friend and help you fight your enemy.'

3. Alas! The life of a dog is short. Most of us have sometime or the other mourned for a lost friend and vowed never to keep another dog to replace him. But you could reconsider. We love the dog, not a dog. They all are more or less the same. They all are capable of loving you and all are capable of exhibiting their loyalty to you. It was for a reason that the simile – as faithful as a dog – was frame, rather it should read – as faithful and loving as a dog. A dog cannot be faithful unless he loves you. And, before he does that, you need to love and understand him.

A. Answer the following questions.

(8 Marks)

- (i) Which two qualities are common among all dogs?
- (ii) What does a dog expect from his master?
- (iii) Why is it said that corporal punishment on a dog is an undignified thing to do?
- (iv) Why is a dog considered a man's best friend?

B. Find words in the passage that mean the same as the following.

(2 Marks)

- (i) predict (Para 2)
- (ii) leave(Para 2)

2. Read the following passage carefully.

Dignity of Labour

A train once stopped at a small station in West Bengal. Luggage in hand the passengers came out of the compartments. All villagers were in the habit of carrying their load themselves.

Soon the railway station was empty. All the passengers except a young man had left. He appeared to be a town-dweller, as he wore western trousers and a modern jacket. He had a cigarette in his mouth and a small suitcase in his right hand. He placed it on the platform, looked both sides and urgently called, "Coolie, Coolie!" But there was no one there to respond to his call. The young man lost his patience and began to curse the railways for being careless about the passenger's comfort.

Just then, a middle aged sober gentleman walked up to this young man and said, "Well dear sir, you seem to be in trouble. You have this small suitcase and you cannot carry it. May I help you?" He picked up the suitcase and headed for the exit. "This is a small village. There is no coolie at the station. We all manage by ourselves here".

The young man replied, "I have come here to collect some specimens of plants that grow in this area. I shall finish my job during the day and return in the evening to my town. You are a nice person. Could you introduce yourself?"

The gentleman smiling, said, "Well, son, I am called Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar. I am a mere servant of the people. I'm here for a week to help some villagers who have problems." He handed over the young man's suitcase when asked to do so near a thick assortment of plants and smiled.

The young man asked, "How much do I pay you for your labour?"

Ishwar Chandra replied, "Nothing, except your promise that you will never shirk small tasks, as no work is too low."

A. Answer the following questions by selecting the most appropriate options from the ones given below. (6 Marks)

(i) The young man was upset because:

- (a) all carried their own luggage.
- (b) his bag was very heavy.
- (c) he had no company.
- (d) he found no one to carry his luggage.

(ii) The villagers carried their own luggage as:

- (a) no coolies were there.
- (b) people did not like paying the coolies.
- (c) they did not like others to carry their luggage.
- (d) none of the above.

(iii) The young man appeared like a:

- (a) man from a village.
- (b) man from a town.
- (c) man from another planet.
- (d) humble man.

(iv) The young man lost his patience because:

- (a) he was not able to carry his luggage.
- (b) he lost his luggage.
- (c) the railways were careless about the passenger's comfort.
- (d) he was asked extra money by the coolies.

5. Rewrite the sentences into *indirect speech* as shown in the example. (4 Marks)

e.g. She said, "I am reading."
She said that she was reading.

- a) He said, "I know a better restaurant."
- b) She said, "I don't know where my shoes are."
- c) He said, "I won't tell anyone."
- d) Jessica told me, "Don't play football in the garden."

6. Complete the sentences by supplying appropriate *prepositional phrases*. (4 Marks)

- a) There are lots of birds nesting _____.
- b) After school, the children played football _____.
- c) Come _____ with me.
- d) When he saw the dog staring at him, he ran _____.

7. Rewrite the following sentences using *gerunds* appropriately. One has been done for you as an example. (4 Marks)

e.g. Always check the oil, before you start the car.
Always check the oil, before starting the car.

- a) To praise all alike is to praise none.
- b) To see is to believe.
- c) To talk loudly is bad manners.
- d) He is afraid to hurt your feelings.
- e)

8. Change the *voice* of the following sentences. (4 Marks)

- a) A thunderstorm often turns milk sour.
- b) The boy invited all his friends.
- c) Will you ever forget those happy days?
- d) They laughed at his warnings.

9. Rearrange the following words/phrases to make meaningful sentences. (4 Marks)

- a) to/this inn/came/a stranger/wintry day/one
- b) head to foot/wrapped up/from/was/he
- c) of/his face/hid/every inch/ his/hat
- d) people / from /all / stared at / the / him / corners

SECTION D- LITERATURE –25 Marks

10. Read the extract and answer the following questions. (3Marks)

a) ‘Oh, you unlucky man! There is no pleasure for you in this world, and there will be none in the world to come. You drunkard! You will be in hell. Oh, you unhappy one!’

- a. Who is the speaker of the above words?
- b. Who does the speaker address?
- c. What changes do these words of rebuke bring about in the listener?

11. Answer any four of the following questions in 20 – 30 words. (8 Marks)

- a. Why could Gangi not draw water from the thakur’s well?
- b. Where do the echoes fade away?
- c. Why did Steve Jobs think that learning practical tasks was important for children?
- d. Why does the poet infer that something went wrong in the farmhouse?
- e. Why did Steve Jobs visit India?

12. Answer any one of the following questions in 50 – 60 words. (4 Marks)

- a) Olga emerges as the hero at the end of the story ‘The Beggar’. Justify.
- b) ‘From Tinker to Visionary....’ What lessons do you learn from the life of Steve Jobs?

13. Attempt any two of the following questions in 80 – 100 words. (10 Marks)

- a) Write the character sketch of Bruno.
- b) Write about Bruno and his friends.
- c) Berlin to Auschwitz, what changes are brought in?

