



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: XI	Department: ENGLISH	Date of submission:
Worksheet No:	Topic: HOLIDAY HOMEWORK	Note:

SECTION 'A'

(Reading)

(20 marks)

1. Read the passage and on the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below: (12)

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 a 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. Gandhi understood this organic process and used this universal law of nature to his benefit.
3. 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, reform himself and grow in some small way 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. People have always marvelled at the effortless way in which Gandhi could accomplish the most difficult tasks. He displayed a great deal of self-mastery and discipline which was amazing. These things did not come easily to him. Years of practice and disciplined training went into making his success possible. Very few saw his struggles, fears, doubts and anxieties, or his inner efforts to overcome them. They only saw the victory, but not the struggle.
5. 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.

1.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer any five of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option :: (1 × 5 = 5)

- a. **The main idea in the first paragraph is that :**
- (i) Big things, big actions and big decisions make a person great
 - (ii) Small actions and decisions are important in one's life
 - (iii) Overnight success is possible for all of us
 - (iv) Personal changes are not important
- b. **What does the writer mean by saying 'chipped away at their bad habits'?**
- (i) Steadily gave up bad habits
 - (ii) Slowly produced bad habits
 - (iii) Gradually criticized bad habits
 - (iv) Did not like bad habits
- c. **Which of the following statements is true in the context of the third paragraph ?**
- (i) Gandhi became great overnight
 - (ii) Gandhi showed signs of greatness in childhood itself
 - (iii) Every day Gandhi made efforts to change himself in some small way
 - (iv) Gandhi never made mistakes
- d. **What is done by great people to transform their lives ?**
- (i) They approach life on a day-to-day basis
 - (ii) They build character in small ways
 - (iii) They believe in performing everyday
 - (iv) All of these
- e. **How can we grow in small ways?**
- (i) by getting disheartened
 - (ii) by dreaming little
 - (iii) by taking small steps one at a time
 - (iv) None of these
- f. **How can we achieve our 'ideal goals'?**
- (i) by taking big steps
 - (ii) by taking small steps, one at a time
 - (iii) by not taking any risk
 - (iv) by being pessimistic

1.2 Answer the following questions briefly :

(1 × 5 = 5)

- (a) How do small actions and choices impact our lives ?
- (b) Describe the organic process of growth through an example from the text.
- (c) What according to author, is the 'universal law of nature'?
- (d) How did Gandhi accomplish the most difficult task effortlessly?
- (e) Which things about Gandhi's life were not seen by most people?

1.3 Pick out the words / phrases from the passage which are similar in meaning to the following:

(1 × 3 = 3)

- (i) intentionally / purposely (Para 3)
- (ii) of deep significance; far-reaching (Para 5)

2. Read the passage and answer the questions given below: (8)

1. People tend to amass possessions, sometimes without being aware of doing so. They can have a delightful surprise when they find something useful which they did not know they owned. Those who never have to change house, become indiscriminate collectors of what can only be described as clutter. They leave unwanted objects in drawers, cupboards and attics for years in the belief that they may one day need them. Old people also accumulate belongings for two other reasons, lack of physical and mental energy and sentiments. Things owned for a long time are full of associations with the past, perhaps with the relatives who are dead and so they gradually acquire a sentimental value.
2. Some things are collected deliberately in an attempt to avoid wastage. Among these are strings and brown paper, kept by thrifty people when a parcel has been opened. Collecting small items can be a mania. A lady cuts out from newspapers, sketches of model clothes that she would like to buy if she had money. As she is not rich, the chances are that she will never be able to afford such purchases. It is a harmless habit, but it litters up her desk.
3. Collecting as a serious hobby is quite different and has many advantages. It provides relaxation in leisure hours, as just looking at one's treasure is always a joy. One doesn't have to go out for amusement as the collection is housed at home. Whatever it consists of - stamps, records, first editions of books, china - there is always something to do in connection with it, from finding the right place for the latest addition to verifying facts in reference books. This hobby educates one not only in the chosen subject, but also in general matters which have some bearing on it.
4. There are other benefits also. One gets to meet like-minded collectors to get advice, compare notes, exchange articles and to show off one's latest find. So one's circle of friends grows. Soon the hobby leads to travelling, perhaps a meeting in another town, possibly a trip abroad in search of a rare specimen, for collectors are not confined to one country. Over the years, one may well become an authority on one's hobby and will probably be asked to give informal talks in little gatherings and then, if successful, to larger audiences.

2.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognizable abbreviations (whenever necessary – minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it. (4)

2.2 Write a summary of the passage in about 80 words. (4)

3. Water supply will be suspended for eight hours (10 am to 6 pm) on March 6 for cleaning of the water tank. Write a brief notice in about **50 words** advising the residents to store water for a day. You are Karan Kumar/ Karuna Bajaj, Secretary, Janata Group Housing Society, Palam Vihar, Kurnool. (4)

OR

Your school, Akash Public School, Agra needs a canteen manager. On behalf of the Principal, write an advertisement in about **50 words** to be published in the classified columns of a local daily. Mention the educational and professional qualifications, other qualities required in the manager, who to apply to and the last date for the receipt of applications. (4)

4. "You are Neeta/Naveen of 43, Ram Nagar, Meerut, studying at a coaching centre in Lakshmi Nagar, Delhi. You need accommodation for yourself. Write a letter to the Manager of Paying Guest Service, 15 Aditya Complex, Lakshmi Nagar, Delhi inquiring about the details such as the type of accommodation, monthly charges facilities provided, etc. (6)

OR

You are Amit/Amita staying at Sunrise Apartments, Gymkhana Road, Pune. The main road leading to this colony has three open manholes causing frequent accidents at night. The street light is also not available. Write a letter to the Editor of "The Times of India" expressing your concern about the apathy of the authorities towards this situation. Also suggest ways to mobilize city dwellers, with the help of school children, for the cause for safe roads. (6)

5. Abundance of advertisements in newspapers, magazines and even on television is a wastage of both time and money of readers and viewers. You are Shobha/Sameer. Write an article in **150–200 words** on

the topic, 'Excessive Use of Advertisements in Media'. (10)

