



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Post Midterm Examination (2023-24)

Class: VIII

Subject: English

Max Marks: 30

Time: 1 hour

Instructions:

- (i) All questions are compulsory.
- (ii) Please write down the serial number of the question before attempting it.
- (iii) The question paper consists of four sections. Section A-Reading (10 marks), Section B- Grammar (5 marks), Section C- Writing (5 marks) and Section D- Literature (10 marks).
- (iv) Attempt one section at a stretch and then move to the next section.
- (v) Use of correcting fluid (whitener) is prohibited.

SECTION A: READING (10 marks)

Q1. Read the given passage carefully. Based on understanding of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the correct option. (1×5=5)

1. The Road to success is not straight, there is a curve called failure, a loop called confusion, speed bumps called friends, caution lights called family, and you will have flats called jobs. But, if you have a spare called determination, an engine called perseverance, insurance called faith and a driver called god, you will make it to a place called success!
2. Despite all our planning and preparation, unexpected challenges are certain to arise. The bumps in the road are unavoidable, but you will never get to your destination if you aren't willing to drive over them. The difference between a disaster and triumph lies in whether or not you're prepared and willing to weather the storm. If you're ready, those bumps will become stepping stones.
3. The key thing to realize is that working harder is same as working smarter. How do you work smarter? You just need to have the right skills. People want improved circumstances and a better life without an improved self. They want victory without paying the price or making efforts. It really cannot happen without the other. Any improvements that have not been generated by improving yourself are superficial and short-lived. If you want to have a better future, you have to change yourself. Stop worrying about the various challenges that will come your way. Just believe in yourself and use them as stepping stones.
4. 'Success' is getting whatever you want out of life without violating the rights of others." It is not an accident. Success is the result of our attitude and our attitude is a choice. Hence success is a matter of choice and not chance.
5. Today success represents a holistic and positive attitude to life. Attitude is everything. Success is not restricted within some kind of brick-and-mortar premises. It assumes the

individuality of a complete act executed with perfection; material achievements do not define life. We don't remember sports stars for the products they endorse but for the spirit of achievement they represent. In the abundance of positive attitude underline the grandeur of a truly rewarding.

6. Success can be measured from two standpoints - the external and the internal. Externally it is the measure of a job well done and recognition. Internally it is the feeling of achievement and wholeness derived from the completion of a task or fulfilment of desire.

Choose the correct option to answer the questions based on the above passage and graphics.

1. The author refers to determination as _____.

- a) Speed bumps
- b) Flats
- c) A spark**
- d) Insurance

2. Bumps become stepping stones when _____.

- a) you are willing to drive over them**
- b) willing to avoid them
- c) cursing the authorities
- d) taking an alternative route

3. Difference between disaster and triumph lies in _____.

- a) sulking and moving forward
- b) not being prepared to face disaster
- c) dreading to face failure
- d) willing to weather the storm**

4. Which of the following statements is true in the context of the passage?

- a) Success is a matter of chance and not a choice
- b) Material achievements define life
- c) The road to success is straight
- d) Success is getting whatever you want out of life without violating the rights to others**

5. Pick out the synonym of the word "abundance"?

- a) scarcity
- b) fruitlessness
- c) plenty**
- d) rare

QII Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

(1X5 = 5)

Reading is a fundamental skill that plays a vital role in our lives. It's not just about deciphering words on a page but about the doors it opens, the knowledge it imparts, and the worlds it allows us to explore. Reading is an essential tool for learning, expanding our horizons, and fostering imagination.

When we read, we acquire knowledge. Whether it's reading textbooks, newspapers, or online articles, we gain information that helps us understand the world. Books, in particular, are a treasure trove of knowledge. They contain the wisdom of generations, the discoveries of great minds, and the stories of diverse cultures. Reading books can educate us on history, science, literature, and countless other subjects. It's like having a mentor, guiding us through the complexities of life.

Reading also broadens our horizons. It exposes us to different viewpoints, perspectives, and experiences. When we read about characters from various backgrounds or explore far-off lands through the pages of a novel, we step into their shoes and see the world from a different angle. This broadening of perspective fosters empathy and understanding, making us more tolerant and open-minded individuals.

Furthermore, reading fuels our imagination. Whether it's a fantasy novel, a science fiction story, or a compelling mystery, books transport us to other worlds and challenge us to envision the unimaginable. Our minds become the canvas, and words paint the pictures. It's a magical experience that ignites creativity and inspiration.

Moreover, reading is a skill that transcends academic boundaries. It's not just about scoring well on tests; it's about developing critical thinking, analytical skills, and the ability to communicate effectively. A person who reads regularly is likely to have a broader vocabulary, better writing skills, and an improved ability to express their thoughts and ideas.

In our modern digital age, reading has taken on new forms. E-books and audiobooks have made it more accessible and convenient. With just a few clicks or taps, we can access a vast library of literature. However, there's something timeless and intimate about holding a physical book, flipping its pages, and smelling the scent of paper and ink.

In conclusion, reading is not just a hobby; it's a cornerstone of education, personal growth, and cultural enrichment. It empowers us with knowledge, broadens our perspectives, ignites our imagination, and equips us with essential skills. Whether we're reading for pleasure, information, or self-improvement, reading is a journey that enriches our lives and shapes us into more informed, empathetic, and creative individuals.

Q1. What are some of the benefits of reading mentioned in the passage?

- a. **Acquiring knowledge**
- b. Physical exercise
- c. Developing writing skills

d. Enhancing video game proficiency

Q2. How does reading broaden our horizons and foster empathy?

- a. By encouraging isolation
- b. By exposing us to different viewpoints and experiences**
- c. By promoting narrow-mindedness
- d. By making us less tolerant

Q3. What role does reading play in developing critical thinking and communication skills?

- a. It has no impact on critical thinking or communication skills
- b. It broadens horizons but does not impact skills
- c. It expands vocabulary, improves writing skills, and enhances communication abilities**
- d. It only helps with imagination but not critical thinking or communication

Q4. What are the advantages of reading physical books compared to digital formats?

- a. Physical books are more expensive
- b. Physical books are more environmentally friendly
- c. Physical books offer a timeless and intimate experience**
- d. Physical books are easy to carry.

Q5. How does reading enrich our lives and shape us as individuals, according to the passage?

- a. Reading has no impact on personal growth
- b. Reading makes us less informed and less creative
- c. Reading empowers us with knowledge, broadens our perspectives, and equips us with essential skills**
- d. Reading only fosters creativity but not empathy

SECTION B- GRAMMAR (5 marks)

QIII. Change the following sentences into passive voice. ($\frac{1}{2} \times 5 = 2\frac{1}{2}$)

- 1. The football match has been won by them.
- 2. By whom was the poem written?
- 3. The passengers were disturbed by them.
- 4. English is taught to us by Mr.Dev.
- 5. The patient is being helped by the doctor.

Q IV Change the following sentences into reported speech. ($\frac{1}{2} \times 5 = 2\frac{1}{2}$)

- 1. They said that they had gone out the previous day.
- 2. The teacher instructed the students to do their homework.
- 3. Ramesh asked me whether I was reading that book.
- 4. He requested his sister to speak slowly.
- 5. My uncle told Sheela that he had a surprise for her.

SECTION C- WRITING (5 marks)

QV. Format – 2 marks, Content 3 marks

SECTION D-LITERATURE (10 marks)

QVI. Please read the following passages and answer any one. (1X3=3)

1. *'She was an interesting girl...Can you tell me – did she keep her hair long or short?'*

a. Whom did the speaker ask this question to?

Ans: The speaker asked the question to the man who entered the speaker's compartment after the girl left.

b. Why did the speaker ask this question?

Ans: The speaker wanted to know more about the girl.

c. What happened immediately after this? How is that the most important part of the story?

Ans: The man told the speaker that the girl was blind. It's the most important part of the story because none of the characters knew that the other couldn't see.

OR

2. *"...I almost get a creepy feeling that they will all walk in through that window...."*

a. Who is the speaker here?

Ans: Vera is the speaker here.

b. Whom is the speaker addressing? Who is being referred to here?

Ans: The speaker is addressing Mr. Nuttel. She is referring to her aunt's husband and her brothers.

c. When is this statement made?

Ans: The statement is being made while Mr. Nuttel is waiting for Mrs. Sappleton.

QVIII. Answer any THREE of the following questions in one or two sentences. (1x3=3)

1. Why had Mr. Nuttel come down to the 'rural retreat'?

Ans: Mr. Nuttel was suffering from some ailment of the nerves and had come to rural retreat to recover.

2. How has the speaker personified autumn in the poem?

Ans: The speaker has personified Autumn as a winnower, a reaper, a gleaner and a cider-presser.

3. How did the narrator learn that his companion wore slippers?

Ans: The speaker knew the girl wore slippers from the way they slapped against her heels.

