

**Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir**

**Mid-Term Examination**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (ANSWER KEY)**

Class: IX Time: 3 Hours

Date: 17-09-2023 Max. Marks: 80

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| General Instructions:  (i) The Question Paper contains THREE sections-READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE  (ii) Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part. |

**1. Read the following text (10 m)**

There are various beliefs prevalent in society as to what should be eaten and what should not be eaten to keep healthy. If one has high blood pressure one is told to cut down on or stop consuming sodium. A new study from Boston University reveals that low sodium does not actually cause low blood pressure. A little salt is part of a healthy food plan. The study has shown that the people with the lowest intake of sodium along with the ones who have the highest intake of sodium have a greater risk of heart disease than the people in the middle.

There is a theory that drinking milk post-infancy is unnatural. It is true that humans are the only species to drink milk as adults. Research shows that we have genetically evolved to adapt to it. Milk products actually play an important role in keeping us healthy. Dairy products are rich in whey, protein, linoleic acid, and calcium.

Fat in general is not a bad thing. The scientific community is still debating the benefits of saturated fats. The other types of fats taken in moderation are good for us. Plant-based fats such as monosaturated fats found in foods like almonds, avocado, and omega-3 fatty acids found in fish offer many health benefits. These fats may reduce inflammation and improve the quality of blood.

It may seem that diet products such as light salad dressing are healthier, but often they are not. Healthy food like this used to be popular, but many of these products remove the fat and replace it with added sugar. Large amounts of added sugar in the diet may be even more damaging to health than excessive dietary fat. A major study from the CDC showed that people who consumed a lot of sugar were more than twice as likely to die from heart disease. If you opt for a higher food, check the ingredients and food labels to make sure that the fats have not been replaced with added sugar. We must study the reports of various researchers before adopting any new mode of eating or food habit otherwise the result of the food plan may be the opposite of what is expected.

**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above**

(i)they are rich in protein and calcium.

(ii) People with lowest intake of salt and those with highest intake of salt

(iii) (a)Improve the quality of blood.

(iv) (a) Lowest and highest, (d) remove and add

(v) A lot of added sugar in diet

(vi) (b) 3 and 5

(vii) -Food with added sugar (any food that is unhealthy)

-It can lead to many health issues

-it increases the risk of cardiovascular diseases, obesity and so on

(viii) Tone is critical. wants us to be more cautious while opting for food items. Certain foods may seem to be healthy but they are really not. Healthy food like light salad used to be popular, but many of these products remove the fat and replace it with added sugar.

*It may seem that diet products such as light salad dressing are healthier, but often they are not.*

**2**. Read the following text (10 m)

1. In the year ended December 2016, 3.5 million overseas visitors arrived in New Zealand. But how many visitors are in New Zealand on any given day of the year? The question has practical importance. Visitors to New Zealand create demand for goods and services, including transportation, accommodation, and tourist activities. They also have an impact on local   
  
  
infrastructure. Knowing how many visitors New Zealand on any given day might be civil defense or flu pandemic planning.

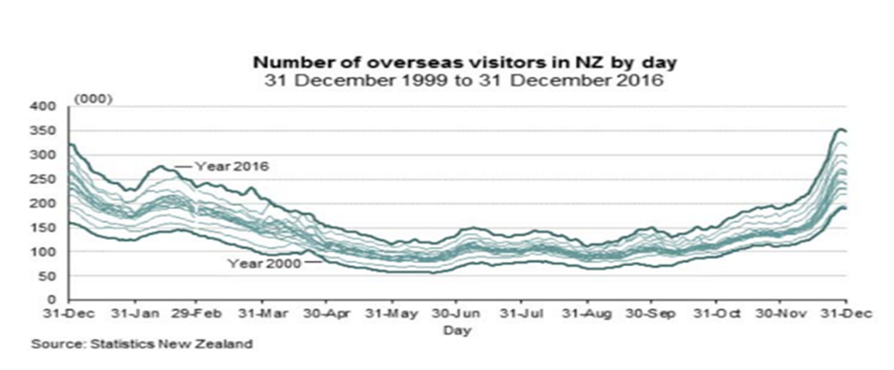
2. The following data explores the seasonal fluctuations of visitors to New Zealand and New Zealand residents travelling overseas. This is based on short-term trips -those travelling for less than 12 months.

• In 2016, the number of overseas visitors in New Zealand ranged from 112,000 on 31 August to354,000 on 29 December.

• In contrast, in 2016 the number of New Zealand residents temporarily overseas ranged from 72,000on 1 March to 235,000 on 29 December.

• In both cases, the late December peak reflects an upsurge in travellers visiting friends and family, as well as an upsurge in those visiting for holidays.

3. There are strong seasonal patterns in visitor numbers (see figure below). In recent years the number of visitors in New Zealand peaked in the week of 27 December to 2 January. The peak day was 29 December in 2011-13and 2016, and 28 December in 2014 and 2015

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4. At that peak in 2016, the number of overseas visitors in New Zealand was 354,000. This compares with a peak of 191,000 in 2000. Since 2000, the number of visitors in New Zealand has increased across every day of the year, but more during the summer months (December to March).

5. The number of visitors in New Zealand tends to be at its lowest in late August, early September, and mid-June. On 31 August 2016, there were an estimated 112,000 overseas visitors in New Zealand. This is 242,000 less than the peak reached on 29 December.

6. The seasonality of visitor numbers presents challenges to the tourism sector. These challenges include:

• Managing the peak summer influx of visitors

• Marketing New Zealand as a destination at other times of the year, in order to spread visitor numbers throughout the year.

**Answer the following questions, based on the passage above**

(a) (i) health

(b) 235,000

(c) 1. Managing the peak summer influx of visitors

2. Marketing New Zealand as a destination at other times of the year, in order to spread visitor numbers throughout the year.

(d) (b) from December to March.

(e) (a) 28 December

(f) house: roof: mountain: Peak.

(Clue: Just like the roof is a top of a house, similarly top of a mountain is...)

(g) vii. In 2016, the number of overseas visitors in New Zealand ranged from 112,000 on 31 August to354,000 on 29 December.

• In contrast, in 2016 the number of New Zealand residents temporarily overseas ranged from 72,000on 1 March to 235,000 on 29 December.

• In both cases, the late December peak reflects an upsurge in travellers visiting friends and family, as well as an upsurge in those visiting for holidays.

(h) (c) 242,000

**SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (20 marks)**

**GRAMMAR**

**3. Complete ANY TEN of twelve of the following tasks, as directed. (1x10)**

i. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence.

If we \_\_\_\_\_ one more batsman in our team, we would have won the match.

(a) had had

ii. Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line.

The swimmer was tired but he \_\_\_\_\_ reach the shore before he collapsed.

(b) could

iii. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line:

Have you ever learn from a mistake you have made?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Option | Error | Correction |
| (a) | learn | learnt |

iv. Complete the given sentence, by filling in the blank with the correct option:

I bought a new car last year, but I \_\_\_\_\_ my old car yet, so at present I have two cars.

(b) have not sold

v. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

A good business letter is one that get results.

Use the given format for your response.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Error | Correction |
| get | gets |

vi. Use the correct modal to complete the sentence.

He said I **can** use his car whenever I wanted.

vii. Ram and Shyam are discussing their plans for the weekend. Fill in the blank to complete the dialogue below by choosing the correct options.

Ram: What are you doing this weekend, Shyam?

Shyam: I don’t have any special plan.

Ram: How do you like the idea \_\_\_\_\_.

(b) of going for a picnic to the Dal Lake?

viii. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence.

If only he \_\_\_\_\_ us the truth in the first place, things would not have gone wrong.

(c) had told

ix. Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line.

If I dyed my hair green, everybody \_\_\_\_\_ laugh at me.

(a) would

x. Complete the given sentence, by filling in the blank with the correct form of the verb in the bracket.

As he was crossing the road, a car \_\_\_\_\_(knock) him down.

**Knocked**

xi. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket.

The woman in the pool \_\_\_\_\_ (swim) well yesterday.

**Swam**

xii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

I met her by chance then I gone to get some Medicine that Sister Amy used to give.

Use the given format for your response.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Error | Correction |
| gone | went |

WRITING (10)

**Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.**

4 A. Format 2 marks, and content 3 marks

**OR**

4 B. Title 1 marks, Language 2 marks, and style 2 marks

5 A. Appropriate title 1 mark, application of elements of a short story 1.5 mark, content 3.5 marks

**OR**

5 B. Appropriate title 1 mark, application of elements of a short story 1.5 mark, content 3.5 marks

**SECTION C: LITERATURE TEXTBOOK AND SUPPLEMENTARY READING TEXT (40 marks)**

6. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two, given. (5)

A**.** *But the same old nightmare came; the butcher with a knife and a rope who came nearer and nearer, with that dreadful smile, while she could not move, only stand still, crying out “Grandma!”. She woke shivering to see her father beside her bed, a candle in his hand. “What is the matter?” he said*.

i. Kezia/The Little Girl

ii. Kezia invariably experiences her father’s reprimanding and harsh behaviour, she feels that her father is huge like a giant. She avoids being in his presence. Her experience with her father creates a fear in her subconscious mind, it even leads to stammering problem. Possibly the reason for her nightmare about a butcher is her stressed relationship with her father. (Any appropriate answer)

iii. The butcher appeared with a knife and a rope in her dream, who came nearer and nearer, with a dreadful smile

iv. shivering

OR

**B.** *As he gradually recovered from the ghastly experience, he began to reason with himself and finally concluded that it must have been some sort of auto suggestion, some trick that his subconscious had played on him.*

(i) Who recovered from the ghastly experience?

**(b) Mahendra**

(ii) What was the ghastly experience?

Mahendra heard a wailing and looked out of the window and saw in the moonlight a dark cloudy form clutching a bundle.

(iii) Justify the conclusion reached in the extract.

Mahendra after the ghastly experience broke into a cold sweat and fell back on the pillow, panting. He reasoned with himself and concluded that his subconscious had played on him.

(iv) What did Iswaran witness before*?*

Iswaran had seen ghosts at night especially a female ghost with a fetus in its arms.

7. Read the given extracts and answer the questions for **ANY ONE** of the two, given. (5)

A. When the humid shadows hover

Over all the starry spheres

And the melancholy darkness

Gently weeps in rainy tears,

What a bliss to press the pillow

Of a cottage- chamber bed

And lie listening to the patter

Of the soft rain overhead!

(i) Give the synonym of ‘melancholy’

(b) sad

ii. Name the figure of speech in line 3 of the extract.

Transferred Epithet

iii. What is so blissful about listening to the patter of the soft rain?

Blissful are the memories of childhood, like a cool cream on a burn wound. Blissful is the

disappearance of the worries of the troubled adult mind at the rhythmic pitter-patter of the raindrops on the tin roof of the cottage. Also blissful is the soothed feeling of tension-less,

stress-free contentment, away from the turbulences of everyday life.( Any two points)

iv. How does the poet describe the falling rain in the poem ‘Rain on the Roof?

The poet first describes the falling rain as the tears of clouds. However, as he listens to the

patter of rain on the shingles, it provides him immense pleasure. The poet loves to hear the

melodious sound of nature. He considers it a rare happiness to listen to the patter of the rain on

the roof. Rain brings to his mind memories of long-gone days of his childhood and his mother.

OR

B. Wind, come softly.

Don’t break the shutters of the windows.

Don’t scatter the papers.

Don’t throw down the books on the shelf

i. The figure of speech used in the above extract is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(d) Anaphora

ii. Give another word from the extract for the expression ‘to spread all over’.

scatter

iii. What is the tone in which the words have been spoken?

The speaker is reprimanding/accusing the wind.

iv. What does the poet ask the wind to do?

The poet asks the wind to blow slowly/ come softly.

8. Answer **ANY FOUR** of the following in about 40-50 words each. (4x3=12)

i. “I took the one less travelled by.” What do we come to know about the poet from this line? Do you agree with his decision? (The Road Not Taken)

This line reveals the adventurous nature of the poet because when he had to decide to make a choice, he did not take the beaten track. He chooses the path which is not frequented. He decides to leave the first road for some other day knowing that he will not get a chance to go back to it. Yes/No with reason….

ii. Bismillah Khan refused to start a Shehnai school in the U.S.A. Justify his stand.

(The sound of music)

A student of had asked him to start a Shehnai school in the U. S. A. He asked him whether he can replicate the temples of Banaras and Dumraon to the U. S. A, so that he would feel like in India. He even asked whether he could transport the river Ganga to the U. S. A. This shows that he was very much attached to his birthplace and the river Ganga. He never wanted to leave his proud culture and country for any materialistic benefit.

iii. ‘And the melancholy darkness gently weeps in rainy tears.’ What does the melancholy darkness mean and what does it do? (Rain on the Roof)

The melancholy darkness stands for the clouds. The poet imagines that the clouds covering the sky are in a state of depression. The poet further imagines that the clouds are weeping in a gentle manner and their tears are falling down as raindrops.

iv. “Father’s great speech for the Port Authority had been lost.” What had happened to father’s speech? (The Little Girl)

Father’s speech had been tom to pieces by Kezia, the little girl. She was making a pin cushion as a gift to her father, for his birthday. As she was not able to find anything to stuff it with, she tore the speech and stuffed it in her cushion.

v. What is the theme of the poem “Wind”?

The theme of the poem is that we should have a strong body and mind, so that in times of adversity

or difficulties, we are able to combat all odds. We should be willing to face challenges and overcome them with ease. There will always be someone waiting round the corner to overpower and defeat us if we are weak.

9. Answer **ANY TWO** of the following three questions in about 40-50 words each. (2x3=6)

i. The man who had rescued the child was compassionate and kind. Discuss. (The Lost Child)

The man who had rescued the child had a heart full of goodness. He did not ignore the painful shrieks of the boy calling for his parents. Risking his own safety, he bent down in the crowd to rescue the child from getting trampled. He forgot his own purpose of visiting the shrine and did his best to comfort and soothe the scared boy. He talked to him very kindly and inquired about his parents. When he did not get any response from the child, he did not lose patience. Instead, he tried to make him feel at ease by offering him the little things that children love. The man sincerely tried to pacify the child so that he could help him to find his parents. His character thus reflects the human values of kindness, compassion, care and love.

ii. Describe Iswaran’s amazing capacity to produce vegetables, etc. in the lesson ‘Iswaran the Storyteller’.

Mahendra had a cook. His name was Iswaran. He was quite attached to Mahendra and went wherever Mahendra was transferred. Iswaran was a good cook. He had an amazing capacity to

produce vegetables from nowhere and cook them. Even at a place where there were no shops visible for miles. he was able to cook vegetables. He would conjure up delicious dishes made with fresh vegetables within an hour of reaching that place.

iii. Animals should be treated with love and respect. Comment on this statement with reference to the lesson ‘The Adventures of Toto’.

It is right that animals should be treated with love and respect. It is not right to show cruelty towards them. Even wild animals should be treated with care. In the story The Adventures of Toto’, we find grandfather showing love and kindness towards animals. He had set up a mini-zoo in his house where he had kept a number of animals. He also tried to give Toto a comfortable life. Since pet animals give us company, we should look after them with love and concern.

10. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. (1x6=6)

A. Describe in brief, the adventures of Toto, the monkey.

The author’s grandfather was a great lover of animals. He had made a zoo at home in which he would keep animals and gave them a lot of care. In his zoo, one could see a tortoise, a pair of rabbits, a tame squirrel and pet goats. One day he saw a pretty monkey. The monkey was a pet animal of a Tonga driver. The Tonga driver used to keep the red monkey tied with the feeding trough but it looked extremely tragic there. When the grandfather saw the monkey, he was so fascinated that he purchased the monkey from the Tonga driver for five rupees. However, Toto’s presence was not revealed at home because the grandmother disliked the new arrival of animals at home. Toto was extremely insidious and destructive. When the writer and his grandfather concealed Toto in a closet and fixing him to a peg, he broke the peg, tore wallpapers and author’s blazer and caused ruin in the room. The following day,when he was kept in the servant’s room with different other animals, he didn’t give them a chance to rest throughout the night. In this way, he never let other animals live in

harmony with the other pets. He proved to be an expensive deal. One day the grandfather had to go to Saharanpur for work, he chose to take the monkey along with him. He took Toto in a solid bag made of canvas and shut the zip pleasantly so that Toto couldn’t get away. Toto made unsuccessful attempts to escape from the bag, which made the bag bounce and roll. This excited the interest of individual travellers at the railway station. At the Saharanpur railway station when grandfather was getting his ticket checked, Toto looked out of the bag and grinned at the ticket collector. As the ticket collector proclaimed that it was a dog, grandfather needed to purchase a fare ticket for 3 rupees for him. When at last grandmother came to know about Toto, he acknowledged him, it was given a place in the stable along with the donkey Nana. Toto did not coexist with Nana. The night Toto passed with Nana was full of disturbance. When Grandfather visited the stable, he found Toto fastened on to Nana’s long ears with his sharp little teeth. They could never become friends. Toto would take delight in washing up in warm water in the winter season. One day, he nearly bubbled himself when he hopped into a kettle of boiling water. One evening, Toto ate the family feast of pulao. He tossed the unfilled dish from the tree and it broke it into a few pieces. Toto’s mischief developed constantly, and grandfather realized that they couldn’t afford him at home. At last, he found the same Tonga driver and sold Toto back to him for an aggregate of three rupees.

OR

B. Iswaran was a great story teller, justify the statement by giving different examples from the story.

Iswaran was fond of reading popular Tamil thrillers. Their imaginative descriptions and narrating styles would fascinate him. He became a master storyteller by adopting the art of storytelling from these novels. He would always add suspense and surprise even to the smallest incident and could make up innumerable stories on different subjects. While describing, he would get so involved that

he would jump about on the floor. He would narrate the story in instalments and would purposely leave it unfinished midway. On returning, he would not pick it up right away till Mahendra reminded him to. In this manner he would involve his listener too. Every day, Iswaran would recount a new story filled with adventure, horror and suspense. Mahendra loved his stories and listened with rapt attention even if they were unbelievable. For example; Iswaran narrated the story of the tusker exaggeratedly. The Tusker, having escaped from the timber yard, stamped on bushes, tore up wild creepers and broke the branches at his will. The elephant became uncontrollable and entered the school ground. It created chaos there. Everyone in the school tried to escape. No one dared to face the tusker. In the meantime, Iswaran grabbed a cane from a teacher and moved towards the elephant. He hit its third toenail and the beast collapsed. He claimed that he had used the Japanese art to control the tusker. But this story seems totally implausible as it is very difficult to believe that a child can control a mad elephant. (Any 1 or 2 examples)

11. Answer **ANY ONE** of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words. (1x6=6)

A. What is the moral presented by the poet in the poem ‘The Road Not Taken’?

This is an inspirational poem and quite tricky. The poem presents an antithesis. The traveller comes to a fork and wishes to take both roads to travel, which is impossible. One of the roads is described as grassy and ‘wanting wear’, then he says that both the roads look the same. This represents the eternal dilemma of man: he finds the grass greener always on the other side. This poem is a call for the reader to forge his or her way in life and not follow the path that others have taken. This poem encourages self-reliance, reinforces the power of independent thinking and sticking to one’s

decisions. The poet does not moralise about choice, he simply says that choice is inevitable as one will never know till one lived the ‘difference’. So, there is nothing right or wrong about a choice, it is all relative. Whatever direction one takes one must pack it with determination and zest because one can never turn the clock back or relive that moment.

OR

B. What values of life strengthened Evelyn against the handicap of her deafness? What does her career teach to handicapped people?

Ans-Evelyn’s firm determination, her industrious nature, and her clarity of aim are well revealed in her statement. These values of her character have enabled her to overcome her handicap of deafness very bravely. Although she developed a hearing impairment at the young age of eight he has never let it become a stumbling block in her way to success. Firmly determined to lead the life of a normal person, Evelyn never gave up her passion for music. The encouragement and training provided by Ron Forbes paved the way for her advancement and she stuck to the path with unwavering confidence. It was this confidence and faith in her that made her dares to audition for the Royal Academy of Music, London where she received the topmost awards. Evelyn is a workaholic. This helped her to toil hard, in fact much harder than the classical musicians to bring percussion to the front stage in the orchestra. She believes that no goal is unachievable for those who work hard and are focused on the goal. With her earnest efforts, she moved from orchestra to solo performances and eventually became an internationally renowned percussionist owing to her command over many instruments. She had the courage and confidence to trample down her disability and move on without looking back. Her firm decisions, her sincere efforts, her passionate labour, and her untiring devotion to music are a source of inspiration for the people with challenges.