



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR
MID-TERM EXAMINATION 2023-2024
ENGLISH

Class: VII
Date: 01-10-2023

Time: 2½ Hours
Max. Marks: 80

General 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 (20 marks)**, **Section B-Grammar (20 marks)**, **Section C-Writing (15 marks)**, and **Section D-Literature (25 marks)**.
 - (iv) Attempt one section at a stretch and then move to the next section.
 - (v) Use of correction fluid (whitener) is prohibited.
- Note: This question paper consists of 6 printed pages.**

SECTION A – READING (20 Marks)

Q 1. Read the passage and answer the following questions:

(10 Marks)

Where Have All the Sparrows Gone?

- (1) They were once everywhere. Chirping and flapping their wings at the window sills, on top of cupboards, and on the branches of trees. Where have all the little sparrows gone? This is the most frequently asked question about sparrows these days.
- (2) The association between humans and sparrows dates back to several centuries and no other bird has been associated with humans on a daily basis like the house sparrow. It is a bird that evokes fond memories of childhood. The nests of sparrows dotted almost every house in the neighbourhood as well as public places like bus stands and railway stations, where they lived in colonies and survived on food grains and tiny worms.
- (3) A study conducted by the Andhra University, Vishakhapatnam, highlighted the fact that the population of house sparrows had fallen by over 60 percent even in the rural areas of coastal Andhra Pradesh. A survey conducted by the British Trust for Ornithology showed that the population of house sparrows in Britain has declined by about 58 percent since 1970.
- (4) Certainly, there is no single reason for the decline of the sparrows. Mobile tower radiation and excessive use of chemical fertilizers are aggravating the problem and have been identified as potent sparrow killers.
- (5) It is said that sparrow chicks, which require insect food for their survival in their early days, have not been getting adequate supply from their parents. This has triggered the large-scale death of chicks, leading to a gradual decline in their population.
- (6) Urban landscape too, has been dramatically altered over the years. No longer are sparrows able to find the tiny nooks, crannies, and holes where they used to build their nests.
- (7) Typically, sparrows were never an issue of concern for us with their diminutive presence in our household. Perhaps, it is this diminutive presence because of which even their gradual disappearance has gone unnoticed. Mohammed Dilawar is rightly called the Sparrow Man of India as he has been successful in drawing the attention of the world towards the declining number of sparrows.
- (8) Sparrows are an important bioindicator and their decline is a grim reminder of the degradation of the urban environment and the danger from it to humans in the long run.

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions. (1x10=10)

I. Choose the correct option. (1x4=4)

1. A survey conducted by the British Trust for Ornithology showed that:
 - a) house sparrows evoke fond memories of childhood.
 - b) there is no single reason for the decline of the house sparrows.
 - c) the population of house sparrows in Britain has declined by about 58 percent since 1970.
 - d) the population of the house sparrow has grown significantly.

2. What has triggered leading to a gradual decline in their population?
 - a) Chicks not getting adequate supply from their parents
 - b) Mobile tower radiation
 - c) Degradation of the urban environment
 - d) None of these

3. 'Their degradation is a grim reminder of the degradation of the urban environment'. Substitute the underlined word with the most appropriate option from the following.
 - a) gloomy
 - b) mild
 - c) fruitful
 - d) pleasant

4. The synonym of '**more than required**' as given in paragraph 4 is _____.
 - a) miserly
 - b) excessive
 - c) adequate
 - d) insignificant

II. Answer the following questions briefly. (1x3=3)

1. Which memories do people have of the sparrows?
2. Who is known as the 'Sparrow Man of India'?
3. Why are sparrows no longer able to find the tiny nooks, crannies, and holes where they used to build their nests?

III. Complete the following sentences. (1x2=2)

1. According to the passage, the sparrows survived on _____.
2. The scientific study of birds is called _____.

IV. State whether the following statements are True or False: (1/2x2=1)

1. The decline of house sparrows is not an auspicious sign. -----
2. The association between humans and house sparrows dates back to several centuries as sparrows were the first messenger birds trained by humans. -----

Q 2. Read the poem and answer the following questions:

(1x10=10)

IN LONDON TOWN

It was a bird of Paradise,
Over the roofs, he flew.
All the children, in a trice,
Clapped their hands and cried, How nice!
Look - his wings are blue!
His body was of ruby red
His eyes were burning gold
All the grown-up people said,
What a pity the creature is not dead,
For then it could be sold!
One was braver than the rest,
He took a loaded gun;
Aiming at the emerald crest,
He shot the creature through the breast,
Down it fell in the sun.

It was not heavy, it was not fat,
And folk began to stare.
We cannot eat it, that is flat!
And such outlandish feathers as that
Why, who could ever wear?
They flung it into the river brown.
A pity the creature died!
With a smile and with a frown,
Thus they did in London town:
But all the children cried.

___By Mary E. Coleridge

I. Choose the correct option.

(1X5=5)

1. The grown-ups were materialistic as -----.

- a) they wanted to eat the bird and sell its feathers
- b) they wanted to throw the bird into the river
- c) they wanted to have that bird as their pet
- d) they wanted to train and exhibit the bird

2. The adults do not have -----.

- a) cruel feelings
- b) the innocence of children
- c) the wealth of the world
- d) peace of mind

3. The children were different from the grown-ups as the children -----.

- a) stared at the outlandish bird in disgust
- b) frowned when the bird died
- c) were kind and liked the bird just as it was
- d) they liked the bird only for its emerald crest

4. The word 'outlandish' here means

- a) not very beautiful
- b) unusual and strange
- c) ordinary
- d) dull

5. The literary device used in the line 'His eyes were burning gold' is -----

- a) Simile
- b) Metaphor
- c) Alliteration
- d) None of the above

II. Answer the following questions briefly.

(1X5=5)

- 1. Why did the grown-up people shoot the bird down?
- 2. What did the children do when they saw the bird?
- 3. Why did the children cry?
- 4. Which are the precious stones that the poet used to describe the bird in this poem?
- 5. List down two pairs of rhyming words from the poem.

SECTION B - GRAMMAR (20 Marks)

Q3. Choose the correct form of the verb that agrees with the subject.

(1x8=8)

- 1. Neither shelter nor food ----- (was/were) available in the flood-affected villages.
- 2. Some of the wild berries ----- (taste/tastes) good.
- 3. There ----- (was/were) twenty pigeons near the bus stop.
- 4. Two kilograms ----- (is/are) not much of a weight.
- 5. Each of the girls ----- (has/have) an account in this bank.
- 6. The jury ----- (prefer/prefers) to take a while before announcing its judgment.
- 7. The officials, who visited our office this morning, ----- (was/were) very rude.
- 8. The dancer and the teacher ----- (was/were) present at the venue.

Q4. Complete the sentences using the correct form of tense as directed.

(1x5=5)

- 1. The school organizes a musical concert to raise money for charity. (Change into Present Continuous Tense)
- 2. My brother was cleaning the car this morning. (Change into Simple Past Tense)
- 3. He will be going for a walk at 6.00 am in the morning. (Change into Simple Present Tense)
- 4. Gagan is leaving for Mumbai tomorrow. (Change into Simple Future Tense)
- 5. Rema works in London. (Change into Past Continuous Tense)

Q5. Identify the kind of tense for each statement.

(1/2x4=2)

- 1. The train was running late regularly during the last week.
a) Simple past b) Past continuous c) Present continuous
- 2. This stock of food will be enough for you for a month.
a) Simple Future b) Future continuous c) Simple present
- 3. My elder brother has a car.
a) Simple past b) Simple present c) Simple future
- 4. Our school is hosting the National Sports Meet next month.
a) Future continuous b) Past continuous c) Present continuous

Q6. Complete the sentences using the correct articles-a/an/the. Put 'X' where no article is required. (1x5=5)

Tea is (i) ----- popular and refreshing beverage. (ii) ----- U.K. is probably (iii) ----- largest consumer of tea. Having a cup of tea in the morning has become (iv) ----- integral part of modern life. Millions of (v)----- people relax over a cup of tea every day.

SECTION C - WRITING (15 Marks)

Q7. You are Avinash/Apoorva, a student of Sunshine Public School, Karol Bagh, New Delhi. Write a letter in **120-150** words to the Principal of your school sharing your concern regarding cases of bullying in the school. Give examples of children being bullied and suggest what could be done to prevent it. **8 marks**

Q8. Taking help from the information given below and inventing your own ideas, write a story in about **180 to 200** words. Give a suitable title and a moral to it. **7 marks**

Outline:

An old man ----- three sons ----- was wealthy ---- worried ----- sons would splurge all his savings after his death -----wanted to test them ----- silver coin to each ----- told them to invest in a good way -----ensure a bright future and fill a room ----- the eldest one, Hari bought sacks or cotton wool ---- kept it in a store ----- the middle one Ram bought hay and -----feed the cattle for months to come -----youngest son Sohan bought a candle and lit it in a room ----- light could fill the entire room -----also bought a book -----believed that knowledge helps ignite minds-----the old man----- rewarded Sohan-----realised the value of knowledge-----asked to -----guide his brothers -----on the right path

SECTION D - LITERATURE (25 Marks)

Q9. Answer the questions with reference to context. (3x2=6)

A. 'That's only for memsahibs...'

- a) Who said these words and to whom?
- b) What was the speaker talking about?
- c) Explain the purpose of the speaker's statement.

**B. 'And 'somebody's mother' bowed her head
In her home that night, and the prayer she said,'**

- a) What prayer did she say?
- b) For whom was she praying?
- c) What do these lines tell us about the theme of the poem?

Q10. Match the following words with their synonyms. (1x4=4)

A	B
1. ridiculous	a) cheering to welcome
2. precariously	b) old and torn
3. hailing	c) silly and unreasonable
4. ragged	d) in a way that is not safe or certain
	e) lacking in cheer or gloomy

Q11. Choose the correct option.

(1x4=4)

1. **The word 'wry' means:**
a) worry and sadness b) amused but annoyed c) happy and contented d) hurry
2. **The word 'throng' means:**
a) torn b) thorn c) meadow d) crowd
3. **The word 'peered' means:**
a) neglected or ignore b) looked closely or carefully at something c) grasped tightly
d) torn and tattered
4. **The word 'strewn' means:**
a) spread or lying over a surface b) worry c) narrow valley d) a group of bushes

Q12. Answer ANY FIVE of the following questions in short:

(1x5=5)

1. Whose voice do you hear on summer afternoons? Where does he go when he is tired?
2. Who was Ram Bharosa? Why did Binya and Bijju visit him?
3. What did the people in the street do for the old woman?
4. Who was Polynesia? How did she help Doctor Dolittle?
5. Where is the poem, 'The Fog', by William Henry Davies, set?
6. Why does the Cricket's song sound like the Grasshopper's?

Q 13. Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in detail:

(3X2 =6)

1. Explain what the speaker means when he says, 'The poetry of earth is ceasing never'.
2. Why did Doctor Dolittle's patients stop going to him? What did the Cat's-meat-Man advise Doctor Dolittle to do?
3. Why was the old woman afraid to move? What did the schoolboy do for the old woman?
