



Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir
Pre- Midterm Examination ((2026-2027))

Sub: ENGLISH

ANSWER KEY

Class: VII

Max. Marks: 30

Date: 20.5.26

Time: 1 hour

General Instructions:

- ✓ All questions are compulsory.
- ✓ The question paper consists of four sections:
 - Section A - Reading – 8 Marks
 - Section B - Writing – 4 Marks
 - Section C - Grammar – 7 Marks
 - Section D - Literature – 11 Marks
- ✓ Attempt one section at a stretch and then move to the next section and number your questions correctly.
- ✓ While attempting MCQs, write the correct option number along with the answer.
- ✓ Use of correcting fluid (whitener) is prohibited.
- ✓ This paper consists of 8 printed pages.

	SECTION A-READING	8 Marks
Q.1	Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: The Cloud-Seed Miracle	4 Marks
	1. In the heart of the Whispering Grove, where sunlight danced through eternal leaves and the air hummed with soft melodies, lived the Murmurlings. These delicate beings were not made of flesh or stone but of shimmering light and sound. Each Murmurling was a living note in the grove's symphony, their forms rippling like liquid starlight, emitting gentle chimes that wove the air into colours only they could see. They existed in perfect harmony, nurturing Glimmer blooms—flowers that bloomed in hues of sapphire and gold, feeding on the collective joy of their caretakers. 2. One crisp dawn, as dew-kissed petals unfurled, a stranger arrived. A lost cloud-seed, typically born in the distant Azure Peaks where thunder gods forged storms, had drifted into their grove on wayward winds. It was unlike anything they had seen: a tiny, dull grey speck, trembling faintly as if homesick for its stormy cradle. The Murmurlings paused their daily chorus, their lights flickering with curiosity rather than alarm. They didn't fear it, nor did they probe it with scientific scrutiny. Instead, they gathered in a luminous circle, their gentle chimes blending into a soothing lullaby. The cloud-seed, starved of its native tempests, began to quiver. Slowly, almost imperceptibly, it absorbed their collective happiness—the pure, selfless joy of beings who lived for beauty and connection. 3. The transformation was magical. The grey speck swelled, its surface shifting to a faint pearl sheen, then a luminous silver that mirrored the grove's canopy. With a soft pop, it burst into a shower of new, vibrant Glimmer bloom seeds, scattering across the fertile soil like stardust. The Murmurlings didn't claim credit or boast of their accomplishment. They simply watched, their forms rippling with profound satisfaction, as the new seeds took root. The grove, once a serene haven, now brimmed with amplified beauty, its symphony richer, its colours deeper.	

	4. In that moment, the Murmurlings understood a deeper truth. True happiness lies not in accumulation or achievement, but in the shared experience of beauty, connection, and the simple act of contributing to the well-being of the whole. By giving without expectation, they had not only saved a stranger but multiplied their own joy. In a world obsessed with individual success, this story reminds us that genuine fulfilment arises from communal giving—nurturing others' potential often amplifies our own in unexpected, beautiful ways. 1. In the 2nd paragraph, the story says the seed changed "almost imperceptibly." What does this mean? A) The change was very fast and exciting. B) The change was so slow and small that you could barely see it. C) The change happened all at once with a loud noise. D) The change did not actually happen. 2. The story talks about the Murmurlings' "collective happiness." What does the word "collective" mean here? A) Happiness that belongs to just one person. B) Happiness that is hidden away. C) Happiness that is shared by everyone in the group. D) Happiness that is lost or missing. 3. Choose the best word from the passage to complete the sentence below. The Murmurlings lived in perfect -----, working together to nurture the Glimmer blooms. Answer: harmony 4. Based on the ending of the story, what does the author mean by "communal giving"? Ans: "Communal giving" refers to sharing resources, kindness, or support with others in a group or community without expecting anything back, which ultimately benefits everyone.	(1) (1) (1) (1)
Q. 2	Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:	4 Marks
	The Mystery of the Clockmaker's Secret 1. The ancient town of Oakhaven was famous for its clock tower, a structure that had stood for three hundred years. Its chime was the heartbeat of the town, but one Tuesday morning, the clock stopped at exactly 4:12 AM. Inspector Elias, a man known for his keen eye and quiet demeanor, was called to the scene. The townspeople were anxious, fearing that the sudden silence was an omen of bad luck. 2. Elias climbed the narrow, spiral staircase to the clockroom. The room was layered in dust, yet he noticed something odd: near the main gear, a single, modern fountain pen lay on the wooden floor. It was a stark contrast to the centuries-old machinery. He picked it up, noting that the ink was still fresh. He looked at the gears and saw a small, deliberate obstruction—a hardened piece of wax wedged between the teeth of the primary wheel.	

	3."Someone didn't want this clock to chime," Elias muttered. He looked toward the window and saw a faint smear of blue paint on the glass ledge. He recalled seeing a sign painter working on the neighbouring building the previous day. Elias tracked down the painter, whose apron was stained with that exact shade of blue. When confronted, the painter confessed immediately. He had been hired by a wealthy collector who wanted the clock to stop so he could steal a rare, hidden compartment inside the frame, which only opened when the gears remained still. 4.Elias recovered the stolen mechanism, but the mystery taught him a lesson about human nature. People often assume that problems in life are caused by supernatural forces or grand, unexplainable errors. However, most mysteries, like the stopped clock, are simply the result of greed masked by carefully planned deception. As the gears began to rotate once more, the Inspector left the tower, satisfied that the truth was never as complicated as the legends surrounding it. 1. What does the word "obstruction" mean in the 2nd paragraph of the passage? A) A helpful tool B) Something that blocks progress C) A secret message D) A decorative piece 2. What is the most suitable synonym for "deception" as used in the final paragraph? A) Honesty B) Hard work C) Trickery D) Mystery 3. Choose the best word from paragraph 2 to complete the sentence below. The Inspector found a ----- pen on the floor, which looked out of place among the old gears. Answer: fountain 4.Assertion (A): Inspector Elias was able to solve the mystery of the stopped clock quite quickly. Reasoning (R): He relied on physical clues like the pen and the blue paint to identify the culprit. A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A. B) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A. C) A is true, but R is false. D) A is false, but R is true.	(1) (1) (1) (1)
	SECTION B -WRITING	4 Marks
Q. 3	You are deep-cleaning your room when you pull your heavy desk away from the wall. Behind it, you find a small, dusty box you haven't seen in at least five years. Inside lies an object you once considered your "greatest treasure." Write a diary entry in 100-120 words explaining:	

	• <i>What the object is and how it looked when you first touched it today.</i> • <i>The specific memory of the day you lost it (or realized it was gone).</i> • <i>Why this object meant so much to the "younger you" compared to who you are today.</i> FORMAT-1; CONTENT-3	
	SECTION C - GRAMMAR	7 Marks
Q. 4	Here is a dialogue set in a professional kitchen during a busy dinner rush. Identify the kind of sentence for each underlined line from the dialogue. Mention the correct no. against your answer for each dialogue (Declarative, Interrogative, Imperative, or Exclamatory). Chef Marco: The salmon is perfectly seared and ready for plating. Leo: Where is the garnish for the steak? (1. _____) Chef Marco: Check the refrigerator under the prep station immediately. (2. _____) Leo: I can't find the rosemary anywhere! (3. _____) Chef Marco: Stay calm and look behind the butter. (4. _____) Leo: Oh, I see it now; it was hidden behind the lemons. Chef Marco: Did you remember to preheat the oven for the soufflé? (5. _____) Leo: What a gorgeous crust this bread has! (6. _____) Answer: 1. Interrogative 2. Imperative 3. Exclamatory 4. Imperative 5. Interrogative 6. Exclamatory	(½ x6=3)
Q. 5	For each sentence below, identify the Subject and identify the Predicate. 1. High above the mountain peaks soared the majestic eagle. Subject- Predicate- 2. Both the rusty bicycle and the broken skateboard were discarded in the garage. Subject- Predicate- Answer Key 1. Subject: The majestic eagle Predicate: soared high above the mountain peaks. 2. Subject: Both the rusty bicycle and the broken skateboard Predicate: were discarded in the garage.	(1x2=2)
Q. 6	Read the lines below and identify the part of speech for the four words written in bold.	(½ x4=2)

	The mysterious detective walked quietly into the old room. He searched the floor for a clue, but unfortunately found nothing. Suddenly, shadows flickered against the wall. Answer Key mysterious- Adjective quietly - Adverb but - Conjunction flickered - Verb	
	SECTION D - LITERATURE	11Marks
Q.7	Answer the following questions with reference to the context. <i>One day a funny kind of man Came walking down this street He wore a shoe upon his head And hats upon his feet. He raised the shoe and smiled at me, His manners were polite; But never had I seen before Such a funny sounding sight.</i> 1. The poet describes the man as a "funny sounding sight." In this context, what does the word 'sight' refer to? - The man's ability to see. - Something that is heard. A person or thing that is seen (especially something unusual). - A beautiful sunset. 2. Directions: Below are two statements. Choose the correct option. Assertion (A): The man in the poem is considered "funny" or unusual by the narrator. Reason (R): The man follows social norms by wearing hats on his head and shoes on his feet. - Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A). - Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is NOT the correct explanation of (A). (A) is true, but (R) is false. - Both (A) and (R) are false. 3. How does the poet contrast the man's unusual appearance with his behavior? Support your answer with evidence from the poem. Answer: While the man's appearance is ridiculous because he wears "a shoe upon his head" and "hats upon his feet," his behavior is surprisingly normal and gentlemanly. The poet notes that his "manners were polite" and he even "raised the shoe and smiled" as a respectful greeting.	(1x3=3)
Q.8	Choose the correct word for their meanings given in the sentences below. 1. The shy cat <u>moved unsteadily</u> in its new home. a. slogged	(½x4=2)

	b. staggered c. jogged d. hopped 2.The predator hid behind <u>a dense group of bushes and trees</u> to survive the hunter’s trap. a. forest b. animal c. thicket d. woodcutter 3.The <u>dry leaves make a light sound</u> marking the arrival of autumn season. a. rustle b. hustle c. castle d. whimsical 4. To win the race, the children <u>jumped on one foot</u> until they reached the finishing line. a. climbed b. squatted c. crawled d. hopped	
Q.9	Answer ANY TWO questions briefly. 1. What does the reaction of the funny man to the poet’s question tell us about him? Ans: His reaction—hopping away on his head instead of answering—shows that he is playful, unpredictable, and enjoys being funny rather than logical. 2. How did the River know so much about Jahnavi? Ans: The River knew so much about Jahnavi because she came to the riverside almost every day. The River watched her, listened to her, and understood her feelings. 3.Why was Jahnavi’s dream to go to school, important to her? Ans. Jahnavi eagerness to attend school, her disappointment at not being able to, and her joy when she finally gets the chance to listen to the teacher, shows how important her dreams of getting an education are. She defies societal expectations by wanting to go to school when it wasn’t the norm for girls in her community.	(1x2=2)
Q.10	Answer ANY TWO questions in detail. 1. Describe the interaction between the poet and the funny man when he offers a bun. Ans: When the funny man offers a bun, he does so very politely, saying he will “present” a rose and addressing the speaker as “Your Highness.” He holds the currant bun to the speaker’s nose as if it were a flower. The speaker is surprised and staggers back, but responds cleverly, saying they have never smelled such a rose before. The interaction is playful and humorous, as the man treats a bun like a flower and the speaker replies with amused confusion.	(2x2=4)

2. How does the conversation between Jahnavi and the River make the story more appealing?

Ans: It brings the river to life as a talking friend. It shows Jahnavi's feelings and questions in a natural way. It adds magic and teaches lessons through their gentle talk. The conversation makes the story magical and interesting. It shows Jahnavi's feelings, dreams, and fears in a fun way, and the River acts like a wise and caring friend.

3. How do you think the river can help Jahnavi in fulfilling her dream?

Ans. In a literal sense, the river, being a natural entity, cannot directly help Jahnavi in the practical steps of going to school. However, in the story, the river plays a significant role in helping Jahnavi emotionally and perhaps indirectly in pursuing her dream. The river provides Jahnavi with a sense of comfort and reassurance. It tells her not to be scared and listens to her. This emotional support can give her the courage and confidence to pursue her desire for education.

All the Best