



Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir

Post Mid-Term Examination

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Class: IX

ANSWER KEY

Time: 3 Hours

Date: 30-11-2023

Max. Marks: 80

General Instructions:

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

Section A: READING SKILLS (20 marks)

Reading Comprehension Through Unseen Passages

1	Read the following text	10 M
(1)	The seasonal problem of water taps running dry is plaguing most of our major cities. With the bigger rivers flowing in trickles and ponds and wells reduced to clay pits, village women in remote areas have to fetch every drop of water for drinking, cooking, washing and so on, across large distances. This has only worsened a perennial problem, that of widespread pollution of water, rendering it unfit for human consumption. The monsoons and the attendant floods will not solve this problem.	
(2)	The Delhi Administration is seriously worried about the threat to civic health posed by the polluted waters of the Yamuna. Two main tanks are to be set up to treat sewage. At present, only 60 per cent of the 200 million gallons of the city's sewage receives any kind of treatment before it is dumped into the river which supplies water not only to this city but to innumerable towns and villages downstream. The Ganga, the Yamuna, the Kaveri, in fact, all our important rivers serving many urban conglomerations, are fast becoming a major source of diseases.	
(3)	A comprehensive bill introduced in the Parliament recently envisages the setting up of central and state boards for the prevention and control of water pollution. But it will obviously take some time before legislation is passed and effectively implemented. Meanwhile, the problem continues to swell. According to a survey of eight dwelling countries conducted a couple of years ago, 90 per cent of all child deaths were due to water-borne diseases. It is the same unchanged story today.	
(4)	In a country like India, a burgeoning population continuing to use the open countryside as a lavatory means that with every dust storm and rain, humans' excreta laden with germs and parasites find their way to ponds, shallow wells and even the streams and rivers. Only 18 per cent of the rural folk have access to potable water.	
(5)	A new threat that has already assumed alarming proportions is industrial waste which is generally dumped untreated into the nearest river. For instance, for every kilogram of process hide, 30-40 litres of foul-smelling, wastewater has to be disposed of. There are at least 900 licensed tanneries in the organised sector. Putrefied paper and jute waste, metallic waste from strawboard and textile mills, sulphur, ammonia, urea, metallic salts and corrosive acids all find their way to the rivers of India.	

(6)	It is important not only to make new laws to ensure the purity of water but also to realise the urgency of implementing them ruthlessly if we are to avoid a national health disaster cutting across the barrier between towns and the countryside.	
Answer the following questions, based on the passage above		
i.	Why does the writer say that ‘this has only worsened a perennial problem?’ (a)There is climate change and increasing floods. (b)More and more is becoming unfit for human use. (c)The water table has gone down. (d)There is no more clean water.	1
ii.	Based on your reading of the text, list two reasons why the writer says that According to a survey of eight dwelling countries conducted a couple of years ago, 90 percent of all child deaths were due to water-borne diseases. (Answer in about 40 words) Ans: 1) Use of open countryside as a lavatory causing rain, storm, etc. to transport the infections human excreta to ponds, rivers etc. 2) Putrefied paper, metallic wastes from mills, Sulphur, ammonia, urea, metallic salts and corrosive acids all find their way to the rivers of India.	2
iii	Complete the sentence appropriately. Only 18 percent of the rural folk have access to potable water because _____. Ans:Water bodies continue to be dumped with sewage and human excreta laden with germs.	1
iv.	The passage includes some words that are opposites of each other. From the sets (a)-(e) given below, identify two sets of antonyms. (a)Reduce and swell (b)Prevention and control (c)Burgeoning and becoming (d)Running and plaguing (e)Town and countryside	1
v.	Complete the sentence appropriately. The need of the hour to avoid a national health disaster is to _____ Ans: To make laws and implement them vigorously.	1
vi.	Which new threat is the writer talking about in Paragraph 5? Answer in about 40 words. Ans: Industrial waste which is generally dumped untreated into the nearest river is the rising threat that the author is talking about. With so many licensed tanneries, wastes like putrefied paper and jute waste, metallic waste from strawboard and textile mills, Sulphur, ammonia, urea, metallic salts and corrosive acids all find their way to the rivers of India.	2
vii.	Select the option that corresponds to the following relation below. A new threat that has already assumed alarming proportions is industrial waste which is generally dumped untreated into the nearest river. (Paragraph 5) (a)The crime rate is at its peak mainly caused due to inequality, financial burden and overexposure to television. (b)Human behaviour is often affected by the people around them. (c)Happiness can be found in even the smallest of things in life, said a wise person. (d)In order to be successful, one needs to have patience and perseverance	1
viii.	The writer expresses his concern when he says only 18 percent of the rural folk have access to potable water. State one point that supports the above statement.	1

	Ans: The given statement is supported by the fact that due to the presence of open lavatory, all water bodies like ponds, shallow wells, streams and rivers get polluted with germ filled human excreta.													
2.	Read the following text	10 m												
(1)	Celebrities advertising products is nothing new, in fact, it has been part of our lives for years. Back in the 2000's, you couldn't sit through a commercial break without seeing the teen pop icon of that time, Britney Spears, endorsing Pepsi. The Pepsi legacy was later continued by the most famous celebrity Beyonce. She was paid millions to promote the carbonated drink, which outraged health advocacy groups. Many concerned people questioned her ethics, as to why she was supporting a drink that plays a major role in causing obesity.													
(2)	With the growing importance of social media in a shopper's purchase journey, companies are evolving and stepping up the endorsement game across different channels. With celebrities vouching for promoting their products, brands can increase awareness, trust, and familiarity, which are important variables in the purchase decision-making process.													
(3)	Consumers feel more sympathetic towards a brand if their products are promoted by a celebrity they admire or relate to. It's a simple psychological effect: people believe that purchasing a product that's promoted by a celebrity they admire, will allow them to emulate the celebrity's desired traits or attract similar people into their lives. They will associate the celebrities' success, beauty, athletic skill, etc. with a particular product.													
(4)	Research by Nielson conducted in 2015 broke down the level of trust in advertising formats by different generations. It found that celebrity endorsements resonate more strongly with Generation Z (ages 15- 20) and Millennial (ages 21-34) audiences. Brands are taking advantage of that by increasingly utilising the social media communities of celebrities. Social media is a way for consumers, in particular, those of younger demographics, to engage and build intimate connections with the celebrities they follow, making it the place for these celebrities to plug a company or a product on their personal social media accounts.													
(5)	While celebrity endorsements certainly help to attract consumers, their direct influence on the consumers' purchasing decisions is inconclusive. As consumers are becoming better educated and have faster access to information, blind faith in celebrity endorsement is beginning to wane. They will be attracted to a brand because of a celebrity but they will quickly move away if the product does not perform. It's the quality of your product that will keep consumers coming back, not a celebrity link.													
(6)	A brand needs to tell the consumer why a product makes sense for them as individuals and what problem they can solve with it, not solely rely on a real-life Barbie doll, athlete or pop-culture icon. If they can't, their products will lose value over time and consumers will be the first ones to turn their backs.													
	<table border="1"> <caption>CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Age Group</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Age 15-20 (Gen Z)</td> <td>16%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Age 21-34 (Millennials)</td> <td>14%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Age 35-49 (Gen X)</td> <td>8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Age 50-64 (Boomers)</td> <td>7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Age 65+ (Silent Gen)</td> <td>2%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Age Group	Percentage	Age 15-20 (Gen Z)	16%	Age 21-34 (Millennials)	14%	Age 35-49 (Gen X)	8%	Age 50-64 (Boomers)	7%	Age 65+ (Silent Gen)	2%	
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Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.														
i.	Complete the following sentence appropriately. Blind faith in celebrity endorsement is beginning to wane because	1												
	Ans: Consumers are getting better education and have faster access to information.													

	(c) will (d) ought to																
ii	<p>Read the conversation between a master and his worker. Complete the sentence by reporting the worker's reply correctly.</p> <p>Master: How are you feeling now? worker: I am feeling better but I am not completely fine.</p> <p>The master asked his worker how was he feeling then? The worker replied that he was feeling better but _____. was not completely fine.</p>	1															
iii	<p>Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option to complete the sentence.</p> <p>My mother _____ my clothes at this time.</p> <p>(a) is washing (b) was washing (c) has washing (d) will be washing.</p>	1															
iv	<p>Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line.</p> <p>A little political thinkers think that liberty and equality can't go together.</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Option No.</th> <th>Error</th> <th>Correction</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>(a)</td> <td>A little</td> <td>Some</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(b)</td> <td>think</td> <td>thinks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(c)</td> <td>can't</td> <td>couldn't</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(d)</td> <td>that</td> <td>those</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Option No.	Error	Correction	(a)	A little	Some	(b)	think	thinks	(c)	can't	couldn't	(d)	that	those	1
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v	<p>Complete the given sentence, by filling in the blank with the correct option:</p> <p>Many researchers _____ how small business owners can be successful beyond the initial few years in business</p> <p>(a) have studied (b) has studied (c) had studied (d) is studied</p>	1															
vi	<p>Transform the following direct speech into reported speech:</p> <p>He said, "Ravi, why are you sounding so depressed today?"</p> <p>Ans: He asked Ravi why he was sounding so/very depressed that day.</p>	1															
vii	<p>Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the sentence.</p> <p>The news I heard just now is so strange that you _____ not believe it.</p> <p>(a) will (b) could (c) might (d) shall</p>	1															
viii	<p>Identify the error in the given sentence, from a story published in a popular magazine and supply the correction.</p> <p>The man went out for no other reason than to have the pleasure of feeling the rain over his body, and when he returned, he was thoroughly wet.</p> <p>Use the given format for your response.</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Error</th> <th>Correction</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Ans: Error: over Correction: on</p>	Error	Correction			1											
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ix	<p>Select the correct option to fill in the blank for the given line.</p> <p>However honest he _____, I do not trust him.</p> <p>(a) is</p>																

	(b) may be (c) might be (d) could be	1				
x	Sushila shared some information with Uma about a visit to a zoo. Report Uma's question. Did you see the Royal Bengal Tiger? Ans: Uma asked Sushila if/whether she had seen the Royal Bengal Tiger.	1				
xi	Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs given in the brackets. Make hay while the sun _____ (shine). Ans: Shines	1				
xii	Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction. There are a little countries in the world where the population is not growing fast. Use the given format for your response <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="padding: 2px;">Error</th> <th style="padding: 2px;">Correction</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="height: 20px;"></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> Error: a little Correction: a few	Error	Correction			1
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WRITING		10	
Note: All details presented in the questions are imaginary and created for assessment purpose.			
4 A	You are Raghav/ Radha. You recently lost an expensive wristwatch belonging to your grandfather. You are now feeling afraid to confess. Express your feelings through a diary entry. Date and Day, Time, Dear Diary, Name: 2 marks Content: 3 marks	5	
OR			
4 B	Your school celebrated Sports Day on 20 th February. The famous cricketer Suresh Raina was the Chief Guest for the occasion. Write a description about the event in 100-120 words. Language and sentence structure 2.5marks , Presentation 2.5 marks		
5A	You saved your pocket money to buy one of your favourite books. You decided to read it on Sundays. But one day on your way back from school you lost the book in your school bus and couldn't find it. You posted a notice on the notice board and finally someone returned it to you. Write a story in 150-200 words about the whole experience. Heading: 1 mark , Paragraphing: 1 mark . Content 3 marks	5	
OR			
5 B	Write a story developing the idea further given in the outline in your own words. <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Outline: Window display in toy shop—Diwali season—theft—alarm sounded—no clues found—police non-plussed—little boy spots the difference in window display leading to arrest.</td> </tr> </table> Heading: 1 mark , Paragraphing: 1 mark . Content: 3 marks	Outline: Window display in toy shop—Diwali season—theft—alarm sounded—no clues found—police non-plussed—little boy spots the difference in window display leading to arrest.	
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SECTION D: 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.	“During the annual Shri Sita Rama Kalyanam ceremony, our family used to	

	arrange boats with a special platform for carrying idols of the Lord from the temple to the marriage site, situated in the middle of the pond called Rama Tirtha which was near our house”.	(My Childhood)
i.	Which ceremony in the village used to take place annually? (a) Rama Tirtha (b) marriage ceremony (c) Rama Sita Kalyanam (d) Kalyanam	1
ii.	What was the role of the family of Abdul? Ans: Arranging boats with a special platform for carrying idols of the Lord from the temple to the marriage site	1
iii.	This ceremony is an example of communal harmony of an Indian village. Explain. Ans: Indian villages are famous for communal harmony. Here, Abdul Kalam’s family, though Muslims, is participating and cooperating with a Hindu festival. Moreover, they are one of the organisers of the festival. (Any other relevant answer)	2
iv	Whose idols are carried to the marriage site? Ans: Idols of Rama and Sita	1
OR		
	Einstein was deeply shaken by the extent of the destruction. This time he wrote a public missive to the United Nations. In it he proposed the formation of a world government. Unlike the letter to Roosevelt, this one made no impact. But over the next decade, Einstein got ever more involved in politics- agitating for an end to the arms build-up and using his popularity to campaign for peace and democracy. (A Truly Beautiful Mind)	
i.	What does the phrase ‘the extent of the destruction’ refer to? Ans: Refers to the Dropping of Atomic Bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.	1
ii.	What did he write in the letter to Roosevelt? What was its impact? Ans: He warned about the possibility of making a bomb and the extent of destruction it might cause. His words did not fail to have an effect. The Americans developed the atomic bomb in a secret project of their own, and dropped it on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945.	2
iii.	The meaning of the word ‘missive’ is _____ (a) a notice (b) a report (c) a letter (d) an invitation	1
iv.	What was the impact of the missive to the UN? Ans: No impact at all	1
7	Read the given extracts and answer the questions for ANY ONE of the two, given.	5
A.	And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow Dropping from the veils of the morning to where the cricket sings; There midnight’s all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow. And evenings full of the linnet’s wings. (The Lake Isle of Innisfree)	
i.	The rhyming scheme of the stanza is _____ Ans: abab	1

ii.	Which of the following lines has the same figure of speech used in the phrase ‘the veils of the morning’? (a) I'm a riddle in nine syllables (b) creeping as quietly as a mouse (c) While these fleas flew, freezy breeze blew. (d) I heard the ripple washing in the reeds	1
iii.	Who is the poet of the poem from where the extract is taken? Ans: William Butler Yeats.	1
iv.	How does the poet describe Innisfree in the above extract? Ans: In Innisfree, peace drops from the veils of the morning where crickets sing. There, midnight is a glimmer and noon a purple glow. Evenings are full of linnet’s wings.	2
OR		
B	Then good Saint Pater grew angry, For he was hungry and faint, And surely such a woman Was enough to provoke a saint. <p style="text-align: right;">(A Legend of the Northland)</p>	
i.	The rhyme scheme of the stanza is _____ (a) abcd (b) abcb (c) abab (d) aabb	1
ii.	How did she provoke the saint? Ans: He provoked the saint by not giving him a cake after making him wait for a long time.	1
iii.	Who is Saint Peter? Ans: He is the Apostle/ A disciple of Jesus	1
iv.	Saint Peter cursed the woman. Would you blame him for doing so? Open ended question: A convincing answer in 30-40 words should be considered.	2
8.	Answer ANY FOUR of the following five questions, in about 40-50 words	4x3=12
i.	What are the main features of the mechanical teachers and their classrooms that Margie and Tommy have in the story? <p style="text-align: right;">(The Fun they Had)</p> Value points: Margie and Tommy were taught by mechanical teachers. Each teacher was adjusted according to the level of the learner. They did not have classmates. The learning process was mechanical, dull and boring for them.	3
ii.	How was Abdul treated by the wife of his science teacher when he was invited to have a meal? <p style="text-align: right;">(My Childhood)</p> Value points: Science teacher’s conservative wife couldn’t think of having a Muslim boy eating from her ritually pure kitchen. She refused to serve Kalam in her kitchen. But when he came again, she herself received him and served food with her own hands.	3
iii.	What thoughts crossed the doctor’s mind when he saw the snake looking into the mirror? <p style="text-align: right;">(The Snake and the Mirror)</p>	3

	Ans: The doctor thought that the snake was admiring its beauty. If it was a male snake, he might be thinking of growing moustache. If it was a female, it might be thinking about using eye shadow, mascara or wear a vermilion on her forehead.	
iv.	What was the opinion of the school headmaster about Einstein? (A Truly Beautiful Mind) Ans: The headmaster did not like Einstein. He thought that Einstein was a stupid boy. Once he told his father that whatever profession he chose for Einstein, he would never make a success in his life. He thought that Einstein was incapable of achieving anything in life.	3
v.	How will the poet enjoy his stay 'night and day' at Innisfree? Ans: The poet is fascinated by the beauty and peace at Innisfree. He finds it an ideal place. He shall hear the lake water lapping the shore with low sounds. At night, he shall look and enjoy the glimmer. He shall enjoy seeing the moon glow purple. His stay at Innisfree will be joyful.	3
9	Answer ANY TWO of the following three questions, in about 40-50 words.	2x3=6
i.	How did the king and his minister die in place of the guru and his disciple? (In the Kingdom of Fools) Ans. The king told the executioners to put to death the first and second man who come to them the next morning. That night, the king and the minister went secretly to the prison. They released the guru and his disciple. They disguised as the guru and the disciple. The next morning, the executioners killed them.	3
ii.	The two most precious things in the city were the Happy Prince and the swallow. Do you agree? Explain. Ans. The two most precious things in the city were the leaden heart of the Happy Prince and the dead swallow. The Happy Prince had sacrificed his precious and beautiful things to serve humanity and helped the poor. The swallow fulfilled the wishes of the happy prince. He sacrificed his self-interest in going to Egypt. He carried gold and jewels to the suffering people. He remained with the prince in the bad weather also. He died at the prince's feet. So, the angel was right when it took the leaden heart of the prince and the dead swallow to Heaven.	3
iii.	Justify the title of the story 'The Lost Child' 'The Lost Child' describes an episode in the life of a child who gets lost in a fair. All the incidents in the story are about this child. The writer focuses his attention on the contrast in the behaviour of the child before and after getting lost. The writer's understanding of the psychology of little children, especially during the absence of their parents, is reflected in this story. Hence, the title is very appropriate.	3
10.	Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.	1x6=6
A.	Which values does the legend of Saint Peter and the little woman teach? Ans:-The legend of Saint Peter and the little woman teaches the values of love, mercy, pity, charity, kindness, and a sense of sharing. The tale is based on the moral lesson that human beings must rise above selfishness and agreed to help people in need. They should be ready to share their blessings and joys with others. God is never happy with people whose interests are confined to themselves. It is inhuman to find somebody in need and not provide the required help. The story reveals that those who lack love and empathy and are not charitable will be punished by God or His messengers. If the little woman had shared food with Saint Peter, she would have enjoyed a happy, contented life. But her greed and selfishness resulted in her doom. She was deprived of all human comforts and was converted into a	6

	woodpecker who had to lead a life of hardship. The values of kindness, generosity and compassion are emphasised by this legend.	
OR		
B.	<p>Did the doctor find his encounter with the snake humourous or frightening or both? What aspects of human nature is revealed here?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(The Snake and the Mirror)</p> <p>Ans: The incident in the story is both frightening and humourous. When the snake landed on his shoulder, the doctor was so frightened that he could neither jump nor utter a cry. The element of humour in the story is that the doctor thinks of marrying a woman doctor with good medical practice. He wishes her to be fat so that in case a silly mistake is made by the doctor, she would not be able to run after him. When the doctor realises that there was no medicine for snakebite, he calls himself a foolish and stupid doctor. The reader smiles when the doctor saw the snake looking into the mirror. He wonders if it was admiring its own beauty. He guessed if it was trying to make an important decision about growing a moustache or using eyeshadow and mascara. It shows that some people have a tendency of keeping their calm even in the worst of situations.</p>	6
11.	Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words.	1x6=6
A.	<p>True happiness is found only in making others happy. Comment with reference to the story 'The Happy Prince'.</p> <p>Ans. There is fun, happiness and thrill of buying things for ourselves and enjoying life on your own but the real happiness gets from making others happy is far greater and deeper than any happiness. We can get them by doing things for others. There is a Chinese proverb, "Fragrance clings to the hand that gives roses". The fragrance of happiness clings to the heart that spread happiness to others. In the story, the happy prince could not see the misery of people. He lived a comfortable life inside the palace and never saw the misery and ugliness of the people around him but in the form of the statue when he witnessed the pathetic condition of the poor, he sacrificed all his precious things to serve the suffering humanity and got everlasting happiness in heaven.</p>	6
OR		
B.	<p>Decisions should be made with a cool and rational mind. Discuss with reference to the story "In the Kingdom of Fools".</p> <p>Ans. The story, "In the Kingdom of Fools" teaches us an important lesson that decisions should be made with a cool mind and rational thought. Hasty decisions always have dangerous consequences. The disciple got tempted by the cheap goods available in the Kingdom of Fools and did not heed his guru's advice. Instead of thinking rationally, he made a hasty decision to stay back. Ultimately, he fell a victim to the senseless judgement of the foolish king and came on the verge of losing his life. If he had taken some time to review his desire to stay back, he would have certainly realized the importance of the guru's advice. The king's and his minster's decision too were in haste that cost them their lives. If they too had reviewed their decision of going to the stake to fulfil their greed to be the king and minister in their next life, they would have certainly lived on as the king and the minister. Thus, the story emphasizes the value of making decisions wisely by weighing all the pros and cons. A hasty or a foolish decision can have disastrous consequences.</p>	6