



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

PRE -MIDTERM EXAMINATION (2026-2027)

REVISION –ANSWER KEY

ENGLISH

Class: VIII

Time: 1 hour

Date: 14 / 05 /2026

M.M: 30

General Instructions:

- ✓ *All questions are compulsory.*
- ✓ *The question paper consists of four sections:*
 - Section A - Reading - 10 Marks*
 - Section B - Writing - 4 Marks*
 - Section C - Grammar – 4 Marks*
 - Section D - Literature -12 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 printed pages.*

SECTION A-READING (10 Marks)		
Q. I	Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.	6
	<p>1. Travelling is a pleasure. Particularly for the young, the desire to see new places and get the feel of a new environment makes travel a wonderful experience. But do we make it trouble-free for others?</p> <p>2. Don't start a conversation with the co-passenger without first knowing his willingness to converse with you. He/ she might like to read or have a nap and not necessarily be in a mood to talk. Place your baggage in the rack above your seat. Don't encroach upon another's space. Also wait till the plane/ bus/ train comes to a stop to pull your luggage out.</p> <p>3. Be eco-friendly— remember that the place where you stand had been visited and has to be visited by thousands more. Carry a plastic bag for waste on sight-seeing trips; you can empty it later in a dustbin. "Sustainable Tourism" is the only way to protect the resource and beauty of the earth.</p> <p>4. If you want to enjoy the hospitality of friends or relatives residing in the place you visit, inform them in advance. Don't drop in like a bolt from the blue. Be considerate towards your hosts. Help your host/ hostess in domestic chores. Go on sight-seeing trips without troubling them to come to your help. Use your own toiletries and towels. Use the telephone of your host sparingly and only when necessary. Don't interfere in their domestic affairs unless you are asked to join. Don't expect your host to attend to your needs all the time.</p>	

Choose the correct option-

(i) We should not bother our fellow passengers...

- a. By changing the seat
- b. By starting the conversation
- c. Without knowing their willingness to converse**
- d. By encroaching upon another's space

(ii) The antonym for 'sparingly' is.....

- a. liberally**
- b. carefully
- c. necessary
- d. needful

(iii) In the para 4, the idiom "like a bolt from the blue" means:

- a. Something expected and ordinary
- b. Something sudden and surprising**
- c. Something planned in advance
- d. Something calm and peaceful

(iv) Select the option that applies to both the assertion (A) and the reason (R).

Assertion (A): Sustainable tourism helps protect the beauty and resources of the earth.

Reason (R): Tourists should carry a plastic bag for waste and dispose of it later in a dustbin.

- 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.

Explanation-

	<p>Assertion (A): <i>Sustainable tourism helps protect the beauty and resources of the earth.</i> → This is true, as the passage clearly states that sustainable tourism is the only way to protect the earth’s resources and beauty.</p> <p>Reason (R): <i>Tourists should carry a plastic bag for waste and dispose of it later in a dustbin.</i> → This is also true, as the passage directly mentions this eco-friendly practice.</p> <p>Relation between A and R: The reason given (carrying a plastic bag for waste) is a specific example that explains how sustainable tourism protects the earth’s beauty and resources.</p> <p>(v) How can one be considerate towards the hosts?</p> <p>By helping in domestic chores, using one’s own toiletries and towels, going on sight-seeing trips independently, and not interfering in their personal affairs.</p> <p>(vi) Give a suitable title to the above passage.</p> <p>“Travel Etiquette and Sustainable Tourism” (or any other suitable title)</p>	
Q. II.	Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.	4
	<p>1. By the time our delayed train reached and I disembarked with my father and baby Lavanya, it was past midnight. It was cold, dark and foggy. My husband, Manas, who was to receive us, was nowhere in sight. Soon the platform became deserted.</p> <p>2. Then, a burly man approached us and offered to carry our bags. He wasn’t wearing the usual porter’s red shirt and tag, and though I was wary, my father decided to hire him. Leaving Lavanya and me with the man, my father went to look for Manas. I took a closer look at the man and felt apprehensive. He was big and hairy, his face was pockmarked and his eyes looked bloodshot.</p> <p>3. Just then Lavanya, who had been sleeping in my arms, awoke and turned to look at the porter. He gave a playful smile and held out his arms. I thought she’d start crying and held her closer. But she smiled back and twisted herself out of my arms into his.</p> <p>4. Now I was really scared. What if he ran away with my baby? He must have sensed my fear and, even before I reached out to take Lavanya back, he handed her to me. Turning around, he mumbled that though everyone was scared of him, my innocent baby had accepted him. His eyes had tears in them. I didn’t know what to say.</p> <p>5. At that moment, my father returned with Manas. The man picked up our bags and walked towards the cars park. As we followed him, I asked Manas to pay him a little extra. But, having put our luggage in the car, the man refused to take payment from us. Coming up to me, he placed his hand on my baby’s head for a moment as if to say, ‘God bless you!’ And walked away.</p> <p>1. The author was apprehensive when a man approached her as:</p>	

	<p>(a) he was scary looking (b) her father was not with her</p> <p>(c) he was drunk and had bloodshot eyes (d) her husband was nowhere in sight</p> <p>2. The man refused payment because:</p> <p>(a) the money offered was less</p> <p>(b) he was not a porter</p> <p>(c) he sensed the woman’s fears and wanted to help her</p> <p>(d) he was her relative</p> <p>3. (a) Write a synonym for “strong and sturdy” from above passage. (para 2)</p> <p>Ans. burly</p> <p>(b) Write an antonym for “accept” from above passage. (Para 5)</p> <p>Ans. refuse (refused)</p> <p>4. What brought tears in the strange man’s eyes?</p> <p>The baby’s innocent acceptance and smile brought tears to his eyes, as it broke through the fear and prejudice he was used to facing.</p>	
	SECTION B - WRITING (4 marks)	
Q. III.	<p>Your school is organizing a Blood Donation Camp in collaboration with a local hospital to encourage students and parents to contribute to society. As the Secretary of the Social Club, draft a notice informing students about the activity. Include details such as date, time, venue, eligibility, and last date for names submission.</p> <p>Format – 1</p> <p>Content - 3</p>	4
	SECTION C – GRAMMAR (4 marks)	
Q. IV	<p>Punctuate the following sentences and rewrite your answers.</p> <p>1. the library has many sections novels magazines newspapers reference books and journals all arranged neatly</p> <p>Ans. The library has many sections: novels, magazines, newspapers, reference books, and journals; all arranged neatly.</p> <p>2. it was raining heavily the players continued the match the audience cheered loudly some even shouted go team go</p> <p>Ans. It was raining heavily; the players continued the match, the audience cheered loudly, and some even shouted, “Go team, go!”</p>	$\frac{1}{2} \times 2 = 1$

Q.V.	<p>1. Fill in the blanks with correct form of verb given in bracket.</p> <p>a. She usually _____ (wake) up early, but today she _____ (sleep) until 9 a.m.</p> <p>ans. wakes, slept</p> <p>b. Tomorrow, we _____ (visit) the museum, which we _____ (plan) already.</p> <p>Ans. will visit, have planned</p> <p>2. Rewrite the following sentence as directed.</p> <p>a. The students read different novels in the library and discuss their ideas with the teacher every week. (Change to Past Perfect Continuous Tense)</p> <p>ans. The students had been reading different novels in the library and had been discussing their ideas with the teacher every week.</p>	1x3=3
SECTION D – LITERATURE (12 marks)		
Q.VI.	<p>Answer the following questions with reference to context.</p> <p>1. <i>"The king's expression shifted as realisation dawned. His mind raced back to the quarrel with the queen. He remembered scolding her harshly for yawning while he recited his poem."</i></p> <p>1. Why did the king scold the queen?</p> <p>The king thought the queen's yawning was a sign of disrespect towards his poem.</p> <p>2. What does the phrase 'realisation dawned' mean here?</p> <p>It means the king suddenly understood his mistake and recognised that yawning was natural, not insulting.</p> <p>3. What value does this moment highlight?</p> <p>It highlights humility and self-awareness, as the king admitted his pride had blinded him.</p>	1 x 3 =3

Q.VII.	<p>Answer the following questions in 25-30 words.</p> <p>1. Why does the speaker fail to notice the tiny flowers in Mrs. Jones’s garden? What does the speaker’s reaction to Mrs. Jones’s garden reveal about his way of seeing the world?</p> <p>Ans. The speaker overlooks the flowers as they are tiny and hidden among stones. He values only obvious beauty, missing subtle details, unlike Mrs. Jones, showing differing perspectives.</p> <p>2. Why does the poet repeat the line ‘<i>My next-door neighbour, Mrs. Jones</i>’ in the poem?</p> <p>Ans. The repetition of “My next-door neighbour, Mrs. Jones” stresses her central role, adds rhythm, and contrasts her quiet appreciation of flowers with the speaker’s dismissive attitude.</p> <p>3. How did the ministers react when Rama showed them the ‘revolutionary paddy seeds’?</p> <p>The ministers mocked Rama and doubted his claim about the ‘revolutionary paddy seeds’. They reacted with sarcasm, showing disbelief until his wit later turned their mockery into amusement.</p>	1 x 3 =3										
Q. VIII.	<p>Choose the correct meaning for the word given.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="256 987 1297 1227"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="256 987 775 1025">WORD</th> <th data-bbox="775 987 1297 1025">MEANING</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="256 1025 775 1064">1. vague</td> <td data-bbox="775 1025 1297 1064">d. unclear</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="256 1064 775 1102">2. eminent</td> <td data-bbox="775 1064 1297 1102">a. famous</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="256 1102 775 1178">3. Delicate</td> <td data-bbox="775 1102 1297 1178">b. Something that is extremely fine, tiny, or fragile in structure</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="256 1178 775 1227"></td> <td data-bbox="775 1178 1297 1227"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	WORD	MEANING	1. vague	d. unclear	2. eminent	a. famous	3. Delicate	b. Something that is extremely fine, tiny, or fragile in structure			$\frac{1}{2} \times 3 = 1\frac{1}{2}$
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Q. IX	<p>Answer the following questions in 50 words.</p> <p>1. What is the central idea of the poem, ‘A Concrete Example’?</p> <p>Ans. The poem highlights how people view the world differently. Mrs. Jones finds joy in planting delicate flowers among stones, while the speaker overlooks them. This contrast teaches us to value small, unnoticed details, appreciate nature’s beauty, and respect diverse perspectives that shape individual experiences of life.</p> <p>2. How does Tenali Rama’s witty response during the king and queen’s quarrel reflect his wisdom and problem-solving skills?</p> <p>Ans. Tenali Rama’s witty response shows his wisdom by turning tension into laughter. He cleverly compared yawning to breathing, proving it natural and unavoidable. This indirect yet humorous approach helped the king realise his mistake, restored harmony, and highlighted Rama’s skill in solving conflicts with empathy and intelligence.</p> <p>3. What does the poem teach us about appreciating small things in life, and how can you apply this lesson in your own experiences?</p>	$1\frac{1}{2} \times 3 = 4\frac{1}{2}$										

	<p>The poem teaches us to value the small and often unnoticed things in life. Mrs. Jones takes joy in planting delicate flowers among stones, showing her patience and creativity, while the speaker fails to appreciate them at first. This contrast highlights that beauty is not always grand or obvious; it can be found in tiny details if we look closely. It also reminds us that perspectives differ—what seems insignificant to one may be precious to another. Finally, caring for nature, even in small ways, reflects responsibility and imagination.</p>	