

Class VIII Session 2025-26

Subject - English

Sample Question Paper - 9

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

- Attempt all questions.

Reading (20 Marks)

1. **Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (1x5=5)** **[10]**

Patriotism is an old concept, as old perhaps as the earliest of humans civilisations. But all through the history of mankind, it has been narrowly understood. Today people have begun to realise that patriotism is an essential part of human instinct.

Patriotism has its negative sides particularly when it exceeds its proper bounds. People who think their own country to be the best and are blind to its weaknesses are not patriots at all.

We are the members of a large human family and so cannot neglect our duties and responsibilities towards it.

Our love for the country should be conditioned by respect for the whole community. Narrow prejudice can do nothing except to bring misfortune. In trying to overlook others' interest in the modern world, we harm our own.

Patriotism should be tempered with reason so that it may not be evil.

i. Today what is the belief of people regarding patriotism?

- a. It is narrowly understood
- b. It is not needed
- c. It is a part of human instinct
- d. None of the above.

ii. What type of people can be categorised as patriots?

- a. Those who think others' country greater than their own
- b. Those who think their own country to be the best in spite of its weaknesses
- c. Those who keep a neutral attitude towards their country
- d. Those whose love for the country is conditioned by respect for the entire community.

iii. Narrow prejudices always bring-

- a. misfortune
- b. good opportunity
- c. good luck
- d. huge amount of money.

iv. Patriotism is evil when it is-

- a. tempered with reason
- b. not tempered with reason



c. beyond narrow feelings

d. None of the above.

v. The word in the passage means opposite to **positive**

a. Proper

b. Narrow

c. Negative

d. Reason.

2. **Read the following poem carefully and answer the questions that follow: (1x5=5)**

[10]

I lay in sorrow deep distressed;
My grief a proud man heard,
His looks were cold, he gave me gold,
But not a kindly word.
My sorrow passed I paid him back
The gold he gave to me,
Then stood erect and spoke my thanks
And blessed his charity.
I lay in want and grief, and pain
A poor man passed my way
He bound my head, he gave me bread;
He watched me night and day;
How shall I pay him back again
For all, he did to me?
Oh, gold is great but greater far
Is heavenly sympathy.

i. One day the poet was in -

a. trouble

b. need of money

c. need of a friend

d. depression.

ii. The proud rich man offered the poet -

a. sympathy

b. money

c. bread

d. tea.

iii. The poet was in a fix because -

a. he didn't know how to pay back to the rich proud man

b. he didn't know the poor man who served him so much

c. he wanted to give money to the poor man but he had no money

d. he didn't know how to pay back to the poor man's service to him.

iv. The poet realised in the last that -

a. the poor man was better than the rich man

- b. sympathy was more valuable than gold
 - c. the rich man was better than the poor man
 - d. money was the most important thing in the world.
- v. The word that means opposite to **sorrow** is -
- a. carelessness
 - b. ability
 - c. joy
 - d. beauty

Writing (20 Marks)

3. Meenakshi Goel is the Sports Captain of Navodaya School. The sports day is to be held on October 18 which is just two weeks away. She has to inform the house captains that they have to submit the names of the participants to her in a week's time. A student cannot take part in more than three events excluding the relay. Any delay or wrong information will lead to disqualification of the student. Write the notice assuming yourself Meenakshi using not more than 50 words. [5]
4. **With the help of the given outlines, develop a short story:** [5]
 A crow finds a piece of cheese____flies to a tree____ a hungry fox thinks of a plain____ praises him____ requests him to sing____ the ____opens its beak____ the cheese fall down____ fox picks up____
5. Write a Paragraph in about 100-150 words on the topic of the morning scene in a village. [5]
6. Write a letter to your cousin advising Raj/Naveen to celebrate Diwali without crackers. [5]

Grammar (20 Marks)

7. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet. Underline your correction. [5]

| | | Incorrect | correct |
|---|-----|-----------|---------|
| It is on small matters the people passed judgement | (a) | | |
| upon ourselves and declared that we are | (b) | | |
| civilized or not. The great opportunities comes rarely. | (c) | | |
| I hoped my friend will think of it. In that | (d) | | |
| case I thought we will be able to live more peacefully. | (e) | | |

8. **Fill in the following blanks with correct tense (present perfect) of the verbs given in brackets:** [5]
- i. Asha _____ never _____ the Red Fort. (see)
 - ii. _____ you not _____ your bath as yet? (take)
 - iii. I _____ not _____ my lesson. (revise)
 - iv. We _____ not _____ from Rajni for the last four months. (hear)
 - v. She _____ in Delhi for eight years. (live)
9. **Rearrange the following words/phrases so as to make meaningful sentences.** [5]
- i. it is easy / acquire / bad habit / to / a / very difficult / to live / bad person / with a / has it / who / but
 - ii. I / never / a / known / have / such / bad time
 - iii. coffee / let's go / restaurant / into / have / the / and
 - iv. dog / faithful animal / is / the / a
 - v. few pupils / right answers / only / gave / a / the



10. Read the dialogue given below and then complete the report that follows. [5]

- i. He said, "I go to school every day."
He said that _____ every day.
- ii. He said, "I have gone to school every day."
He said that _____ every day.
- iii. He said, "I am going to school every day."
He said that _____ every day.
- iv. He said, "I was going to school every day."
He said that _____ every day,
- v. He said, "I went to school every day."
He said that _____ every day.

Literature (20 Marks)

11. What took the author Firdaus to England? Why did he wish to see Hawking? [3]
12. What did Bepin Babu do around Hastings which increased his doubt? [3]
13. Answer any THREE of the following questions in 30-40 words each: [3]
- (a) What was the consequence of buying jalebis with the fees money? [1]
 - (b) How did Tilly Smith's ability to connect theory with life help her during the Tsunami ? [1]
 - (c) Why could Velu not understand what was written on the signboards? [1]
 - (d) What was Jim's mood while writing the letter? Why? [1]
14. Answer any THREE of the following questions in 50-60 words each: [6]
- (a) Which picture, according to you, reveals the first sparks of the fire of revolt? (Glimpses of the Past) [2]
 - (b) How many different kinds of birds do you come across in the lesson? How many varieties do you see in your neighbourhood? Are there any birds that you used to see earlier in your neighbourhood but not now? In groups discuss why you think this is happening. [2]
 - (c) What makes the school boy unhappy? [2]
 - (d) How were the pools in the desert where Ranji lived? Did he like it? [2]
15. Answer any ONE of the following questions in 80-100 words each: [5]
- (a) How do we get to know which task was assigned to which animal? [5]
 - (b) Discuss what all could Velu had experienced, had Jaya not helped him? [5]

Solution

Reading (20 Marks)

1. (i) - (c) It is a part of human instinct
(ii) - (d) Those whose love for the country is conditioned by respect for the entire community.
(iii) - (a) misfortune
(iv) - (b) not tempered with reason
(v) - (c) negative
2. (i) - (a) trouble
(ii) - (b) money
(iii) - (d) he didn't know how to pay back to the poor man's service to him.
(iv) - (b) sympathy was more valuable than gold
(v) - (c) joy

Writing (20 Marks)

**NAVODAYA SCHOOL,
NEW DELHI KIND ATTENTION: ALL HOUSE CAPTAINS**

8th October 2019

The Sports Day of the School falls on October 18. Please submit the names of the participants of your houses within a week. A student cannot take part in more than three events excluding the relay. Any delay or wrong information will lead to disqualification.

Meenakshi Goel

3. Sports Captain

The Fox and The Crow

Once a crow saw a piece of cheese on the road. He lifted the piece in its beak and flew to a nearby tree. He perched on the branch of a tree to enjoy his food. A hungry fox was wandering here and there in search of food. Suddenly, he saw the crow and the piece of cheese. His mouth watered. He wanted to have it. He was very cunning. He began to think of a plan. Soon he hit upon a plan to trick the crow. He said to the crow, "You are a beautiful bird. Your wings are so attractive. Your voice must be very sweet. Would you please sing me a song? The crow had never been treated kindly and sweetly by anyone. He was always shooed off for his colour and voice where ever he went. He had no friends. He almost lived alone. So, hearing to the fox's sugar-coated words for him, he felt truly flattered. The foolish crow did not understand the trick of the fox. He became glad to hear his praises from the fox. He opened his mouth to sing. The piece of cheese fell down. The fox picked it and ran away. The poor crow finally realized his mistake and regretted over it.

Moral: Beware of flatterers.

5.

The Morning Scene In A Village

Whenever the topic of rustic life is mentioned, one thinks of luscious greenery all over and serene atmosphere. Life in a village is calm and peaceful. The morning scene in a village is very different from that in a city. In the village, the atmosphere is very soothing and relaxing. I. There is no noise or sound of honking .of cars, buses and bikes. The air is pure and fresh, unlike smoke and pollution in the city. Birds are chirping on the trees.

Last week, I went to one of my friend's house who lives in a village. I spent the night with him. In the morning, we went out for a walk. It turned out to be the best stroll in my entire life. It was a pleasant experience. The farmers and labourers were going to work in the fields in the stroke of dawn. The sight of the crops waving in the wind gave me a lot of pleasure. We went to the river that lies beyond the village. In the morning light, the water of the river looked clean and sparkling. Some persons were taking bath in the river. We also took off our clothes and jumped into the river. The cool and freshwater refreshed our bodies and minds. Indeed the morning scene in a village is very cordial. While returning, we met many women carrying pots filled with water on their heads, children heading to their schools excited partly running and partly walking with no loads of books on their shoulders. The smiles, happiness and contentment on the people's faces made my day.

6. CB 51 B Hari Nagar,
Delhi
28th August, 20...
Dear Naveen,



Hope you are in the pink of your health. As you are aware the festive season is on and Diwali is just a few days away. I am sending you season's greetings in advance. I am writing this letter specifically to advise you about something that is for the greater good.

Diwali is one of the most important and costliest festivals in India. A lot of money is spent on the purchases of clothes, candles, sweets, crackers, pictures, toys and fireworks. People send greetings, sweets, dry fruits and other gifts to their friends and relatives. They purchase and enjoy different items of fireworks.

I may tell you the disadvantages of fireworks, especially the crackers. Crackers cause noise and air pollution. Many people lose their eyesight and hearing powers due to their negligence in exploding the crackers. It is a useless expenditure to buy crackers. I have decided not to waste money on crackers on Diwali. I also advise you to celebrate Diwali without crackers to avoid monetary loss. It will save even our environment from being polluted.

I hope you will act upon my advice.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,

Raj

Grammar (20 Marks)

| 7. | Incorrect | correct |
|----|--------------|---------|
| | (a) passed | pass |
| | (b) declared | declare |
| | (c) comes | come |
| | (d) hoped | hope |
| | (e) thought | think |

8. i. has, seen, ii. have, taken, iii. have, revised, iv. have, heard, v. has lived

9. i. It is easy to acquire a bad habit but very difficult to live with a bad person who has it.

ii. I have never known such a bad time.

iii. Let's go into the restaurant and have coffee.

iv. The dog is a faithful animal.

v. Only a few pupils gave the right answers.

10. i. he went to school

ii. he had gone to school

iii. he was going to school

iv. he had been going to school

v. he had gone to school

Literature (20 Marks)

11. Firdaus Kanga visited Britain in order to write a book about his travels. He himself could move only in a wheel-chair. On the advice of his guide, Kanga planned to meet the most brilliant and completely paralysed astrophysicist, Stephen Hawking in Cambridge. Hawking was also the author of the book 'A brief History of Time', one of the biggest best-seller.

12. Around Hastings, Bepin Babu rolled up his trousers and looked at his right knee. There was a mark of an old inch-long cut. He could not recollect how he got that mark. So, it increased his doubt that Parimal Ghosh might be speaking the truth.

13. Answer any THREE of the following questions in 30-40 words each:

(i) The consequence was his absence in the school for the first time in his life. He thought of the fees and then of Master Ghulam Mohammed's cane.

(ii) Tilly Smith was a girl from England who had seen a video in her geography class about a tsunami that had hit Hawaii. In Thailand, she was able to connect that video with what she observed on that fateful day, hence was able to save herself, her family and many others.

(iii) Velu could not understand what was written on the sign board because it was written in English.

(iv) Jim was in a very happy frame of mind while writing his letter. It was because of an incident that had just happened.

14. Answer any THREE of the following questions in 50-60 words each:



(i) Picture 7 reveals the first spark of the fire of revolt



- (ii) We come across different kinds of birds in this lesson. These are minivets, drongos, tree creepers, and crows. We see sparrows, pigeons, and nightingales in our neighbourhood. Earlier we used to see big birds like sparrows, kites and parrots in our neighbourhood. But these have left our place now due to new constructions and cutting down of the trees.
- (iii) He has to go to school even in a summer morning when there is so much to enjoy in open fields and forests. Secondly, his teacher is cruel and the lessons are uninteresting.
- (iv) Ranji lived with his parents in a thirsty town in the middle of the Rajputana desert. He had known only sticky, muddy pools where buffaloes wallowed and woman washed clothes. He had never seen a pool like this so clean and inviting. Of course, he admired it by leaping into the water as he did not hesitate to get into it.

15. Answer any ONE of the following questions in 80-100 words each:

- (i) The horse had to trot, and he had a saddle on his back when he asked the camel to trot like the other animals. This means that the horse was being used for carrying things from one place to another. The dog had a stick in his mouth when he came to meet the camel and it asked the camel to fetch things like it. This shows that the dog was assigned the task of fetching things. The ox, similarly came with a yoke on his neck, asking the camel to plough like it, indicating that he had been tasked to plough the field. Thus, the tasks the other animals asked the camel to do, told us what they were assigned.
- (ii) Velu was a small boy who had run from his home to Chennai. Had Jaya not met him he might have got lost in the big city as he hardly knew where to go. He didn't know how to read the signboards in English. He was an innocent boy who might have been trapped by the police and would have landed up in jail for no fault of his. Jaya's warning clearly indicated this. Velu might have died of starvation even, as he did not know where to get food from, and had no money to buy food. Jaya was a sensible girl who realized all this when she saw him at the station and offered to help him which ensured that he escaped out of all these potential problems.