

Std. : X

**Instructions :**

- 15 minutes is given as cool-off time.
- This time is to be used for reading the question paper.
- Attempt the questions according to the instructions.

Questions 1 - 5. Read the extract from *Adventures in a Banyan Tree* and answer the questions that follow. Each question carries one score. (5 x 1 = 5)

In the spring, when the banyan tree was full of small red figs, birds of all kinds would flock into its branches, the red-bottomed bulbul, cheerful and greedy; gossiping rosy pastors; and parrots and crows, squabbling with each other all the time. During the fig season, the banyan tree was the noisiest place on the road.

Halfway up the tree I had built a small platform on which I would often spend the afternoons when it wasn't too hot. I could read there, propping myself up against the bole of the tree with cushions taken from the drawing room. *Treasure Island*, *Huckleberry Finn*, *The Mowgli* stories, and the Novels of Edgar Rice Burroughs and Louisa May Alcott made up my bag of very mixed reading.

- 1) When would birds flock into the branches of the banyan tree?
- 2) A word in the passage means 'noisy quarrel'. Identify the word.
- 3) What did the boy do while sitting on the platform on the banyan tree?
- 4) How did the banyan tree become the noisiest place?
- 5) Name the books that gave the boy the mixed reading experience.

Questions 6-9. Read the following lines from the poem *Lines Written in Early Spring* and answer the questions that follow. Each question carries one score.

(4 x 1 = 4)

I heard a thousand blended notes,  
While in a grove I sate reclined,  
In that sweet mood when pleasant thoughts  
Bring sad thoughts to the mind

To her fair works did Nature link  
The human soul that through me ran  
And much it grieved my heart to think  
What man has made of man

- 6) What does the poet mean by the expression 'a thousand blended notes'?
- 7) Why did the pleasant thoughts bring sad thoughts to the poet's mind?
- 8) Pick out an example of auditory image from the given lines.
- 9) Identify the lines that tell us Nature is linked to the soul of human beings.

10. Read the following lines from *Lines Written in Early Spring* and write a note of appreciation focusing on the theme, imagery, and other poetic devices. (1 x 5 = 5)

The budding twigs spread out their fan,  
To catch the breezy air;  
And I must think, do all I can,  
That there was pleasure there.

If this belief from heaven be sent,  
If such be Nature's holy plan,  
Have I not reason to lament  
What man has made of man?

- Questions 11-15. Read the story given below and answer the questions that follow. (5 x 1 = 5)

There was a man who had four sons. He wanted his sons to learn not to judge things too quickly. So he sent them each to go and look at a pear tree that was a great distance away.

The first son went in the winter, the second in the spring, the third in summer, and the youngest son in autumn. When they had all gone and returned, he called them together to describe what they had seen. The first son said that the tree was ugly, bent, and twisted. The second son said it was covered with green buds and full of blossoms that smelled so sweet and looked so beautiful, it was the most graceful thing he had ever seen. The third son disagreed with all of them; he said it was ripe and drooping with fruit, full of life and fulfilment. The fourth son disagreed to all and said that the tree was covered with red leaves and the floor was carpeted with golden leaves. The man then explained to his sons that they had each seen one season in the tree's life. He told them, that they could not judge a tree, or a person, by only one season, but could only be measured at the end, when all the seasons were up. If you give up when it's winter, you will miss the promise of your spring, the fulfilment of your summer, beauty of your autumn. He said, "Don't judge a life by one difficult season. Don't let the pain of one season destroy the joy of all the rest."

- 11) Where did the man send his sons to learn the lesson of life?
- 12) How did the second son describe the tree?
- 13) How was the tree in autumn season?
- 14) What made the father say that no one can judge a tree by only one season?
- 15) What message did the father give his sons?

- 16) Prepare a profile of William Wordsworth, using the hints given below. Use appropriate linkers wherever necessary. (1 x 6 = 6)

|               |   |  |
|---------------|---|--|
| Born          | : | April 7, 1770 Cockermouth, England   |
| Famous as     | : | One among the trios of romantic revolution in poetry.  |
| Notable works | : | <i>The Solitary Reaper, The Prelude, Lyrical Ballads, The World Is Too Much with Us, Ode: Intimations of Immortality, The Excursion.</i> |
| Title         | : | Poet laureate (1843-1850)  |
| Movement      | : | Romanticism  |
| Died          | : | April 23, 1850 (aged 80) Westmorland, England  |

- Questions 17-18. Answer any ONE of the following questions. (1 x 7 = 7)

17. The boy in the story 'Adventures in a Banyan tree' had a wonderful experience during his vacation. He narrated the events to his friends. Prepare the likely narrative.

[Hints – Old Banyan tree – favourite domain – friendship with squirrel – hot summer – making platform for reading – fight between mongoose and the snake – supporters of mongoose – friendship of white rat and grey squirrel.]

18. Satyajit Ray made elaborate preparations for the shooting of a scene with the tiger in his film 'Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne'. In the light of reading the memoir, 'Project Tiger', prepare a write up on the difficulties faced by Ray in the making of the film.

[Hints – meeting with Thorat – travel to Notun Gram – large crowd gathered – tiger's violent behaviour – tiger walks in the grove – dim light – second shooting at Calcutta – successful]

- Questions 19-21. Answer any TWO of the following questions. (2 x 5 = 10)

19. The boy was excited to see the thrilling fight between the snake and the mongoose. That night, he wrote his feelings in his diary. Prepare the likely diary entry.
20. The news about the robbery that happened in the homoeopath's house appeared in a leading daily. Write the likely news report.
21. The English Club of your school invites the noted writer Ruskin Bond to inaugurate a three day literary festival in your school. Prepare a notice to invite the parents, teachers and students of the school to the function.

- Questions 22-26. Answer any TWO of the following questions. (2 x 6 = 12)

22. The homoeopath narrates his experience with the snake to one of his friends, who is a journalist in a leading news paper. Prepare the likely conversation between the homocopath and the journalist.

23. Satyajit Ray arranges a press meet soon after the shooting of his film 'Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne'. You are one of the reporters present on the occasion. Prepare **six questions** that you may ask Ray about the shooting.
24. Based on the reading of the stories '*Adventures in a Banyan tree*' and '*Snake and the Mirror*', prepare a **speech** on the topic 'The need of living in harmony with nature', to be delivered in the school assembly.
25. The homocopath in the story '*The Snake and The Mirror*' is a man who is able to find humour in every aspect of life. Prepare the **character sketch** of the homocopath.

Questions 26-31. Given below is a pie-diagram of the time spend by a cricket team. Study the diagram carefully and answer the questions that follow.

(5 x 1 = 5)



26. What does the cricket team spend maximum time for ?
27. How much time does the team spend for batting ?
28. The cricket team spends 15% of their time for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
29. What percentage of time is spend for improving fitness?
30. What is the percentage of time spend by the team for eating and sleeping?
31. Read the conversation between the boy and the grandfather and answer the questions given below.

(2 x 1 = 2)

Grandfather : Why do you look very excited?

The Boy : I saw a thrilling fight between a snake and a mongoose

- a) What did the grandfather ask the boy?  
 b) What was his reply?

32. Fill in the blanks using the phrasal verbs given in brackets. (4 x 1 = 4)  
 (taken aback, made up his mind, put on, put forward)  
 The homoeopath \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ to look handsome. He \_\_\_\_\_ b \_\_\_\_\_ another idea that his wife had to be rich and fat. Suddenly an unwelcome guest entered the room. It was a snake. The doctor was \_\_\_\_\_ c \_\_\_\_\_ when it coiled around his arm. The snake suddenly saw its reflection in the mirror and got fascinated. It slowly uncoiled itself and moved on to the table. The doctor \_\_\_\_\_ d \_\_\_\_\_ his shirt and ran to his friend's house.

33. Edit the following passage. The errors are given in bold. (4 x 1 = 4)

It was (a) at April. The warm breeze of the approaching summer (b) have sent everyone indoors including grandfather. Suddenly I saw a snake (c) out coming of a group of cactus and (d) slow moving to the cooler part of the garden.

34. Some parts of the conversation between Ali's father and mother are missing. Complete them suitably. (5 x 1 = 5)

Father : What happened dear?  
 Mother : The back pain is troubling me again.  
 Father : Oh! If you work with this slipped disc, .....(a).....  
 Mother : You want me to take rest all day, .....(b).....?  
 Father : Then you tell me a solution.  
 Mother : We had better .....(c).....  
 Father : Surgery is very risky. It is very expensive as well.  
 Mother : .....(d)..... ?  
 Father : But the company has already stopped giving loans.  
 Mother : .....(e)..... ?  
 Father : You should learn to live with it.

35. Pick out the noun phrase in the subject position from the following sentences. (2 x 1 = 2)

- a) A fat snake coiled around the doctor's arm.  
 b) The owners of the dogs made a lot of money from just one film.

36. Given the below is a chart displaying the classroom conduct for students inside a classroom. Some areas are missing in it. Fill them up from those given in the box. (4 x 1 = 4)

- Maintain discipline .....(a)..... the classroom.
- Follow the instructions .....(b)..... teachers
- Keep .....(c)..... classroom neat and clean.
- Do not scribble .....(d)..... the black board.

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