

Standard : VIII

ENGLISH

Max. Score : 40

Time : 1½ hrs

INSTRUCTIONS

- 15 minutes is given as cool-off time.
- This time is to be used for reading the question paper.
- You are not supposed to write anything during the cool-off time.
- Attempt the questions according to the instructions.

Questions 1 to 5. Read the excerpt from the story 'The School for Sympathy' and answer the questions that follow: (5 × 1 = 5)

"The real aim of this school is not to teach thought but thoughtfulness, humanity, kindness and citizenship. That is the ideal I have always had, and happily there are parents good enough to trust me to try and put it into practice. Look out of the window a minute, will you?"

I went to the window, which looked out on a large garden and playground at the back.

"What do you see?" Miss Beam asked.

'I see some very beautiful grounds, 'I said, 'and a lot of jolly children. But what surprises me, and pains me too, is that they are not at all healthy and active. As I came in, I saw one poor little thing being led about because of some trouble with her eyes. And now I can see two more in the same condition, while there is a girl with a crutch just under the window watching the others at play. She seems to be a hopeless cripple.'

1. What does Miss Beam really aim at rather than teaching thoughts in her school?
2. Which sentence tells you that the parents supported Miss Beam a lot?
3. Why was the author unhappy even though he saw jolly children?
4. Why does the girl act like a 'hopeless cripple'?
5. Complete the sentence suitably.

If Miss Beam didn't get the support from the parents,

Questions 6 to 9. Read the lines from the poem 'My Grandmother's House' and answer the questions that follow: (4 × 1 = 4)

I received love..... That woman died,
 The house withdrew into silence, snakes moved
 Among books, I was then too young
 To read, and my blood turned cold like the moon.
 How often I think of going
 There, to peer through blind eyes of windows or

Just listen to the frozen air,

6. Who is the 'woman' mentioned in the poem?
7. Pick out an instance of **simile** from the above lines.
8. Why does the poet want to go back to her house?
9. Describe the present condition of the house.

Questions 10 to 13. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

We left Dehradun early in the morning and stopped for breakfast at Mussoorie. From Mussoorie the picturesque road heads north to Yamuna bridge, then to Barkot (where one road branches to Gangotri). The road winds along the Yamuna River through luxurious dense green vegetation to Hanumanchatti, the end of motorable road. The remaining journey has to be undertaken on foot or on a pony.

Yamunotri is only 13 km from Hanumanchatti. But it is better to proceed another 6 km and have the night halt at Janakibaichatti. The journey to Yamunotri is simply breathtaking. High snow covered peaks all around, glaciers, streams and waterfalls, vibrant green foliage, and the pristine air are a sheer delight to tired city lungs. Yamunotri, 3322 metres above sea level, is located on the western bank of the great peak of Banderpunch (meaning - monkey's tail) which is 6315 metres high.

10. Where did the team stop to have their breakfast? (1)
11. 'The remaining journey has to be undertaken on foot or on a pony'. Why? (1)
12. Why is the journey to Yamunotri breathtaking? (1)
13. 'Vibrant green foliage' in the passage means: (1)
 - a. vibrating
 - b. full of greenery
 - c. shivering
 - d. trembling

Question 14. Prepare a short profile of Kamala Surayya using the hints given below.

(1 × 5 = 5)

Name : Kamala Surayya
Born : March 31, 1934
Awards : Muttathu Varkey Award, Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award, Vayalar Award
Notable works : My Story, The Sirens, Summer in Calcutta, etc.
Died : 31 May 2009, Pune

Questions 15-16. Attempt any *one* of the following. (80-100 words) (1 × 5 = 5)

15. The boy in the story 'The Little Round Red House' went to school the next day and narrated his experiences in finding out the little round red house, to one of his friends. How could the **narration** be?

(Hints: bored - mother gives a task - meets some people - at last finds the house)

16. You were among the audience who watched the picture of the boy in the story 'The Light on the Hills'. You liked the picture very much and decided to write a letter of appreciation. Write the likely letter./ Draft the letter.

(2 × 5 = 10)

Questions 17-19. Answer any *two* of the following.

17. The following are some of the events from the play 'The Merchant of Venice'. They are jumbled up. Sequence them and write a paragraph.
- (a) The Duke asked Shylock to be kind.
 - (b) Portia arrived disguised as a young lawyer.
 - (c) Antonio prepared himself to die.
 - (d) The day of the trial arrived.
 - (e) The young lawyer saved Antonio.
 - (f) Shylock was not ready to give up.
18. The English Club of your school has decided to enact a skit based on 'The Nightingale and the Rose'. You, being the secretary of the club, are asked to prepare a **notice** to invite all to watch it. Prepare it.
19. You are the reporter of a leading newspaper. You got an opportunity to visit and interview Rosa Parks in the jail. Prepare five **questions** to be asked during the interview.

Question 20. Complete the conversation suitably.

(3 × 1 = 3)

- Author :(a).....?
- Miss Beam : We teach only those things that are simple and useful.
- Author :(b).....?
- Miss Beam : No. We read lessons to them.
- Author : I can see the school premises,(c).....?
- Miss Beam : Sure, you can.

Question 21. Fill in the blanks using appropriate forms of the phrasal verbs given in brackets.

(3 × 1 = 3)

The boy(a)..... his new shirt and(b)..... to find the little round red house. On the way he(c)..... a postman and a police man.

(came across, set off, put off, put on)

Question 22. Pick out the prefixes in the given words.

(1)

- i. indefinitely
- ii. reassuring