



SAMAGRA SHIKSHA KERALA
FIRST TERMINAL EVALUATION 2023-24
ENGLISH

Max.Score : 40

Time : 1.30 hrs

Standard VIII

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 passage from the story *A Shipwrecked Sailor* and answer the questions that follow. **(1x5=5)**

My first impression was that I was utterly alone in the middle of the ocean. The ship plunged into an abyss and disappeared. I had no idea what was happening. I took hold of one of the bobbing crates and stupidly began to contemplate the sea. It was a perfectly clear day. Except for the choppy waves produced by the wind and the cargo scattered across the surface, there was no evidence of a shipwreck. Soon I began to hear shouts nearby. Through the sharp whistling of the wind, I recognised the voice of Julio Amador Caraballo, the tall, well-built officer who was yelling at someone, 'Fatso, hold there.'

1. What was the narrator's first impression?
2. What happened to the ship?
3. Describe the physical appearance of Julio Amador Caraballo.
4. Find out the word which means 'spread randomly'.
5. What kind of a day was it?

Questions 6-9. Read the lines from the poem *From a Railway Carriage* and answer the questions that follow. **(1x4=4)**

*Faster than fairies, faster than witches,
Bridges and houses, hedges and ditches;
And charging along like troops in a battle
All through the meadows the horses and cattle:
All of the sights of the hill and the plain
Fly as thick as driving rain;
And ever again, in the wink of an eye,
Painted stations whistle by.*

6. What is the poem about?
7. Which line shows the high-speed of the train?
8. Pick out any two pairs of rhyming words from the lines given.
9. Find out an instance of 'simile' from the lines given.

Questions 10-14. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. (1x5=5)

Once Akbar gifted a very precious necklace to his queen which she kept safely in her room. But unfortunately, one day the necklace was misplaced and the queen was unable to locate it.

Then Akbar came to know that not only the necklace but also a few other precious things have gone missing in the past few days from his palace. Unable to resolve the situation, he asked Birbal to help.

Birbal brought along a friend of his, a magical donkey, to solve the mystery. He asked each suspect to go alone in the tent and hold the donkey's tail and if the person was the thief, the donkey would identify him and give him a good kick. Everyone followed Birbal's instruction other than the thief. As Birbal had sprayed a powerful scent on donkey's tail and the thief avoided touching the donkey's tail out of fear, he was finally caught.

10. What did Akbar gift to his queen?
 11. Whom did Akbar ask for help ?
 12. Who was Birbal's friend ?
 13. What did Birbal ask each suspect to do?
 14. Give a suitable title to the story.
15. Prepare a short profile of Rabindranath Tagore using the hints given. Use appropriate linkers wherever necessary. (5x1=5)

Birth - 1861

Famous as - Poet, short story writer, musician, educationist, philosopher

Achievement - The first non-European to win the Nobel Prize in Literature

Important works - *Gitanjali*, *The Golden Boat*, *The Post Office*, *The Broken Nest*.

Death - 1941

Questions 16-17. Answer any one of the following. (5x1=5)

16. In the story *The Mysterious Picture*, Tyl tactfully solved the troubles that he faced in the palace of the Archduke. When Tyl reached home, he wrote down his experiences in the diary. Write the likely diary entry.
17. Valesco, the main character in the story *A Shipwrecked Sailor*, had to struggle a lot in the sea to survive. Write a paragraph on the experiences that Valesco had in the sea.

(Hints:- Valesco is alone - friends fight for life - tries to save his friends - waits for someone to save him)

Questions 18-20. Answer any two of the following.

(5x2=10)

18. The boy in the story *The Boy Who Drew Cats* was frightened at night in the temple. Later he realised the advice of the priest 'Avoid large places, keep to small'. He decided to write a letter to the priest about the incident. Draft the likely letter.

19. In the story *A Shipwrecked Sailor*, Valesco had a miraculous escape from the shipwreck. Suppose you get a chance to interview him. Prepare five questions to ask Valesco about his experience.

20. Tyl is the central character in the story *The Mysterious Picture*. Prepare the character sketch of Tyl.

21. There are certain errors in the passage given below. They are underlined. Edit them. **(1x3 =3)**

Tyl reached Battenburg, (a) ride on a donkey. When the Captain of the Guards heard that Tyl (b) is a Flemish painter, he allowed him (c) enter to the palace.

22. Read the word pyramid given below. **(1x3 =3)**

Boy

The boy

The tall boy

The tall boy in the class

Now, construct a similar word pyramid using the word 'Cat'.