

ENGLISH

Standard VIII

Time :1:30 hrs
Total Score :40

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 1-5. Read the passage from the story 'A Day in the Country' and answer the questions that follow.

(1x5=5)

'That's a swarm of bees,' Terenty informs them. 'They were flying looking for a home, and when the rain came down upon them they settled. If a swarm is flying, you need only sprinkle water on them to make them settle. Now if, say, you wanted to take the swarm, you would bend the branch with them into a sack and shake it, and they all fall in.'

Little Fyokla suddenly frowns and rubs her neck vigorously. Her brother looks at her neck, and sees a big swelling on it.

'Hey-hey!' laughs the cobbler. 'Do you know where you got that from, Fyokla, old girl?' There are Spanish flies on some tree in the wood. The rain has trickled off them, and a drop has fallen on your neck - that's what has made the swelling.'

The sun appears from behind the clouds and floods the wood, the fields, and the three friends with its warm light. The dark menacing cloud has gone far away and taken the storm with it. The air is warm and fragrant.

1. How can one make the swarm of bees settle?
2. What has made the swelling on Fyokla's neck ?
3. Pick out the sentence that describes the clear weather.
4. Find out the word from the passage which means 'in a very forceful way.'
5. Identify the noun phrase in subject position from the sentence given below.

The dark menacing cloud has gone far away and taken the storm with it.

Questions 6-9. Read the following lines from the poem 'Solitude' and answer the questions that follow.

(1x4=4)

Rejoice, and men will seek you;
Grieve, and they turn and go.
They want full measure of all your pleasure,
But they do not need your woe.
Be glad and your friends are many,
Be sad, and you lose them all.
There are none to decline your nectared wine,
But alone you must drink your life's gall.

6. What do people want from us?
7. People move away from us when.....
8. Identify an example of gustatory image from the lines given?
9. What is the rhyme scheme of the poem?

Question 10-14. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow

(1x5=5)

Penguins are birds, but unlike most birds they cannot fly. They are one of about 40 species of flightless birds. Most penguins live in the Southern Hemisphere. No penguins live in the North Pole.

They are very social and live in colonies. They are great swimmers who use their wings like paddles to swim through the water. They can stay underwater for 10-15 minutes before coming to the surface to breathe. They cannot breathe under water.

Their feet are small so that they don't lose too much heat as they stand on the ice. They help each other stay warm by gathering together and shuffling around. Their main diet is fish and krill. They swallow pebbles as well as their food. It is believed that the stones may help grind up and digest their food. They can drink seawater because they have a special gland that filters salt from the bloodstream.

Their colours help them to be camouflaged while swimming. From above, their black backs blend into the dark ocean and from below, their white bellies match the bright surface. This helps them avoid predators.

Once a year, penguins molt. Most birds will lose a few feathers at a time throughout the year, but penguins lose all their feathers at once. They cannot swim without feathers, so they eat a lot more before they molt to survive the 2-3 weeks it takes for their feathers to grow back.

10. Where do most of the penguins live?
11. Why do penguins swallow pebbles?
12. How do penguins keep themselves warm?
13. What is the main diet of the penguins?
14. How does the colour of penguins help them to disguise themselves from their predators ?

Question 15. Prepare a profile of Victor Marie Hugo using the details given below. Use appropriate linkers wherever necessary.

(5x1=5)

Birth	–	26 February 1802, France
Nickname	–	Ocean Man
Occupations	–	dramatist, essayist, politician
Notable Works	–	Ruy Blas , The Hunchback of Notre Dame
Death	–	22 May 1885, Paris, France

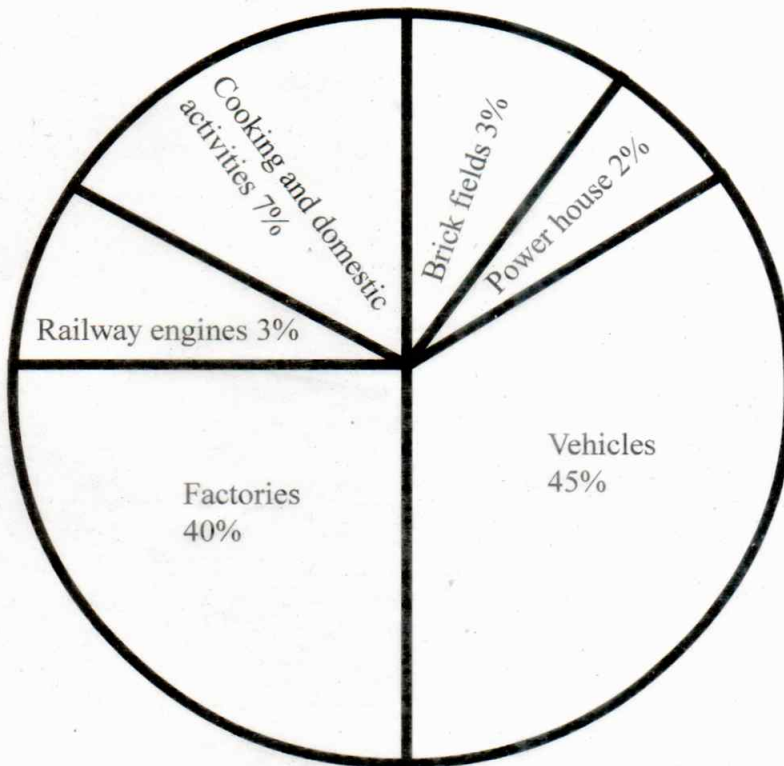
Questions 16-18. Answer any two of the following.

(5x2=10)

16. The writer E. V. Lucas was thoroughly impressed by the educational system run by Miss. Beam in her school. He decides to write a letter of appreciation to Miss Beam after visiting her school. Prepare the likely **letter**.

17. Shylock lent Antonio three thousand ducats. Antonio failed to pay the debt. Portia rescued Antonio from the punishment. Prepare a **paragraph** on how Portia rescued Antonio from the cruelty of Shylock.
18. Schools are centres of learning. We acquire knowledge and share our experiences there. 'School for Sympathy' gives us a different angle of the educational system. Suppose you get a chance to visit Miss Beam's school. Prepare **five questions** to ask her.

Questions 19-23 . The following diagram shows the sources of air pollution in a city. Study the diagram and answer the questions that follow . (1x5=5)



19. Which pollutant is the largest contributor to air pollution in the city?
20. Which two pollutants together contribute to more than 80% of the air pollution in the city?
21. The least polluting source is
22. Name two sources which equally pollute the city?
23. What is the percentage of pollution by factories?

24. **Edit** the following. (1x3=3)

Four sailors of the Colombian Navy **are** (a) drowned in the Caribbean Sea, **while** (b) their ship wrecked **by** (c) a devastating storm.

25. **Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the brackets.** (1x3=3)

[an, in , where , the , with]

The boy learned quickly what(a)..... old priest taught him, and was very obedient(b).....most things. But he had one fault. He liked to draw cats during study hours, and to draw cats even(c)..... cats ought not to have been drawn at all.