

FIRST TERM MODEL QUESTION PAPER 2024 WITH ANSWER KEY

ENGLISH - Standard IX

Time: 2½ hours

Max. Marks: 80

(Prepared by www.educationobserver.com)

PART A: READING (20 marks)

1. Read the following passage from *Half a Day* and answer the questions that follow: (10 marks)

Passage:

"I proceeded alongside my father, clutching his right hand, running to keep up with his long strides. All my clothes were new: the black shoes, the green school uniform, and the red tarboosh. My delight in my new clothes, however, was mixed, for this was no feast day, but the day on which I was to be cast into school for the first time.

My mother stood at the window watching us, and I would turn toward her from time to time, appealing for help. We walked along a street lined with gardens; on both sides were extensive fields planted with crops, prickly pears, henna trees, and a few date palms."

- 1.1 Why does the boy have mixed feelings about his new clothes? (2)
 - 1.2 How does the narrator describe the surroundings as he walks with his father? (2)
 - 1.3 What emotions does the boy express by turning toward his mother from time to time? (2)
 - 1.4 What do you think the narrator means by being "cast into school"? (2)
 - 1.5 Pick out the phrase from the passage that describes the lush surroundings. (2)
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2. Read the following poem excerpt from *Nothing Twice* by Wislawa Szymborska and answer the questions that follow: (10 marks)

Poem:

"Nothing can ever happen twice.
In consequence, the sorry fact is
that we arrive here improvised
and leave without the chance to practice."

- 2.1 What is the central idea expressed in these lines? (2)
 - 2.2 How does the poet highlight the uniqueness of each moment in life? (3)
 - 2.3 What does the poet mean by "we arrive here improvised"? (2)
 - 2.4 Identify the rhyme scheme of the stanza. (1)
 - 2.5 Why is it important to cherish every moment according to the poet? (2)
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PART B: WRITING (20 marks)

3. Imagine you are the narrator in *Half a Day*. Write a diary entry about your experience on your first day at school and how your perception of school changes by the end of the day. (6 marks)

4. Write a letter to your friend describing how your idea of education has changed after reading Gandhiji's views in *Dreams Realised*. (6 marks)

5. Prepare a speech to be delivered at your school assembly on the topic "The Value of Education in Shaping Our Character," incorporating ideas from the textbook. (8 marks)

PART C: GRAMMAR AND LANGUAGE ELEMENTS (15 marks)

6. Complete the sentences using the appropriate passive voice forms: (4 marks)

- a) The project _____ (complete) by next week.
- b) The results _____ (announce) yesterday.
- c) The event _____ (organize) by the students.
- d) The homework _____ (submit) by all students.

7. Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions: (4 marks)

- a) She is interested _____ learning new languages.
- b) He walked _____ the park every morning.
- c) The cat is hiding _____ the table.
- d) They arrived _____ the station just in time.

8. Change the following into reported speech: (4 marks)

- a) She said, "I am going to the market."
- b) He asked, "Where are you going?"
- c) They said, "We will help you."
- d) She said, "I am feeling tired."

9. Choose the correct question tags for the following sentences: (3 marks)

- a) She is coming, _____?
 - b) You have finished, _____?
 - c) They didn't attend the meeting, _____?
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PART D: LITERATURE (15 marks)

10. Answer the following questions in one or two sentences: (5 marks)

- a) What is the significance of the title *Half a Day*?
- b) How does the speaker in *Debts of Gratitude* express her love for her father?
- c) What message does Gandhiji convey in *Dreams Realised* about non-violence?

- d) How does the poem *Nothing Twice* highlight the passage of time?
e) Why does the narrator feel a sense of loss at the end of *Half a Day*?

11. Explain the transformation of the protagonist in *Half a Day* from childhood to old age. (4 marks)

12. Discuss the role of women in India's freedom struggle as depicted in *Dreams Realised*. (6 marks)

PART E: DISCOURSE QUESTIONS (10 marks)

13. Write an essay on the theme "The Significance of Education in Building Character" based on the ideas presented in *Dreams Realised*. (6 marks)

14. Prepare a conversation between the narrator and his father in *Half a Day* where the father tries to explain the importance of education. (4 marks)

Answer Key

PART A: READING

1.1 The boy has mixed feelings because, although he is happy about his new clothes, he is apprehensive about going to school for the first time.

1.2 The surroundings are described as a street lined with gardens, extensive fields with crops, prickly pears, henna trees, and date palms.

1.3 The boy turns toward his mother hoping for reassurance or help, indicating his anxiety.

1.4 "Cast into school" suggests being thrown into an unfamiliar and perhaps unwelcome situation.

1.5 "A street lined with gardens; on both sides were extensive fields" describes the lush surroundings.

2.1 The central idea is that each moment in life is unique and cannot be repeated.

2.2 The poet highlights the uniqueness by stating that no event or experience can be practiced or repeated, emphasizing that life is a one-time journey.

2.3 "We arrive here improvised" means that life does not come with a rehearsal; everything is experienced in the moment without prior preparation.

2.4 The rhyme scheme is ABAB.

2.5 It is important to cherish every moment because once it is gone, it can never be relived.

PART B: WRITING

Answers will vary but should demonstrate creativity and alignment with the themes of the stories and poems.

PART C: GRAMMAR AND LANGUAGE ELEMENTS

6.1 will be completed

6.2 were announced

6.3 was organized

6.4 has been submitted

7.1 in

7.2 through

7.3 under

7.4 at

8.1 She said that she was going to the market.

8.2 He asked where I was going.

8.3 They said that they would help me.

8.4 She said that she was feeling tired.

9.1 isn't she

9.2 haven't you

9.3 did they

PART D: LITERATURE

10.1 The title reflects the passage of a lifetime in a single day, highlighting how time flies.

10.2 She fondly recalls the moments with her father and expresses gratitude for his influence on her life.

10.3 Gandhiji conveys that non-violence is not a sign of weakness but a powerful tool for achieving justice and peace.

10.4 The poem emphasizes that every moment in time is fleeting and unrepeatable.

10.5 The narrator feels a sense of loss and confusion as he realizes how much has changed since he left for school.

PART E: DISCOURSE QUESTIONS

Answers should be evaluated for creativity, clarity, and alignment with the themes of the textbook.