

SAMAGRASHIKSHA KERALA
SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT – II 2025-26

ENGLISH

Std : IX

Time : 2½ hrs
Total Score: 80

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 excerpt from *Waiting for Rain* and answer the questions that follow.
(5x1=5)

Bangalore, the city where I live when not in my village Mundakkottukurissi in Kerala, was going through its windy phase. For over a week now, a brutal wind had been sweeping the northern outskirts of the city with a menacing growl. Window shutters banged. Doors unlatched themselves. Around my home, trees creaked and groaned while leaves hissed and whispered. Through night and day, the wind blew, pushing the monsoon clouds away. So, a turbulent flight into Kerala indicated possible rains. Except that, as we descended into Kochi, it seemed to have no rain either.

The grey skies suggested rain, but the blanched greenery said something else. A diffidence that leaves one feeling both helpless and powerless. How do you coax a monsoon to do what it ought to be doing? Not a drop travels with me to my village. When I was last here in June to celebrate the onset of monsoon, which I have done for many years now, the monsoon had failed to break. A few summer storms had escalated the heat, and the meteorological department said that the monsoon was lurking in the Maldives.

1. What are the expressions used in the passage to describe the wind?
2. What was the effect of the wind on the author's house in Bangalore?
3. What assumption regarding rains was made by the author from the turbulent flight?
A) The possibility of rain. B) The rare possibility of rain.
C) No possibility of rain. D) None of the above.
4. Why did the author usually schedule her visit during June?
A) To experience the departure of monsoon
B) To celebrate the onset of monsoon
C) To avoid the onset of monsoon
D) Not to celebrate the onset of monsoon
5. Pick out a word from the passage that means 'become more intense'.

Questions 6-9: Read the lines from the poem *Success* and answer the questions that follow.

(4x1=4)

We have not wings, we cannot soar;
But we have feet to scale and climb
By slow degrees, by more and more,
The cloudy summits of our time.
The mighty pyramids of stone
That wedge-like cleave the desert airs,
When nearer seen and better known,
Are but gigantic flights of stairs.

6. What does the line 'By slow degrees, by more and more' mean?
A) Working randomly B) Working consistently
C) Working hastily D) Not working consistently
7. Identify the rhyme scheme of the first stanza.
8. How do you interpret 'cloudy summits of our time'?
9. How do the mighty pyramids of stone appear when seen nearer?
10. [A] Read the following lines from *Sea Fever* and prepare a note of **appreciation** focusing on its theme, images and poetic devices. (1x5=5)

I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide
Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;
And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,
And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the sea-gulls crying.
I must go down to the seas again, to the vagrant gypsy life,
To the gull's way and the whale's way where the wind's like a whetted knife;
And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow-rover,
And quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trick's over.

OR

10. [B] Here are two excerpts from the poems *Sea Fever* by John Masefield and *Remember the Old Road* by Ruskin Bond. Analyse them and write a **short paragraph** comparing and contrasting the themes in both the poems.

<i>Sea Fever</i>	<i>Remember the Old Road</i>
I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied; And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying, And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the sea-gulls crying.	Pausing and plodding and gasping for air Both road and I being a little worse for wear! But I made it to the top and stopped to rest And looked down to the valley and the silver stream Winding its way towards the plains. And the land stretched out before me, and the years fell away, And I was a boy again... *plod – to walk slowly with heavy steps, being tired *gasp – to take a quick deep breath with one's mouth open

Questions 11-14: Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

(4x1=4)

Once there was a kind old farmer named Ravi who lived in a peaceful village. He worked hard in a field everyday and was respected for his honesty. One evening as he was returning from his farm, he found a tiny golden seed lying on the path. Curious, he picked it up and took it home. Ravi showed the seed to his wife. She suggested selling it in the market but Ravi believed it might be special and decided to plant it in his field. He watered the seed daily and protected it from animals and harsh weather. Days passed but nothing happened. Some villagers laughed at him and said he was wasting his time. But Ravi did not give up. He continued to take care of the seed with patience and hope.

One morning a small sprout appeared. Slowly it grew into a beautiful tree with golden leaves and silver fruits. Everyone in the village was amazed. When the fruits ripened they turned into pure shining coins. The villagers understood that the tree grew only because of Ravi's patience, hard work and faith. Instead of keeping all the wealth for himself, Ravi shared the fruits with the poor in the village. From that day on, the village became prosperous and peaceful. The villagers learned that patience, honesty and kindness always bring true success.

11. How did the villagers react at first when the seed did not sprout?

- A) They helped Ravi.
- B) They supported Ravi.
- C) They ignored Ravi.
- D) They laughed and mocked at Ravi.

12. What did Ravi decide to do rather than giving up?

13. What does the sharing of wealth by Ravi tell about his character?

- A) He is selfish and greedy.
- B) He is indifferent.
- C) He is compassionate and generous.
- D) He is angry and hostile.

14. What is the moral of the story?

- i) Never trust anyone.
- ii) Time is money.
- iii) Patience and goodness bring great rewards.
- iv) True success comes from patience, hard work and kindness.

Choose the correct option.

- A) i and ii
- B) ii and iii
- C) iii and iv
- D) iv and i

Questions 15-18: Answer either A or B.

15. [A] The travel article *The Saga of the Tiffin Carriers* depicts the efficient efforts of the dabbawalas amidst the hustle and bustle of Mumbai. Prepare a **write-up** on the systematic distribution system and the dedication of dabbawalas on the basis of your reading of the article. (1x7=7)

(Hints: humble beginnings – huge network – carrier-laden crates – collection-distribution – changing points – alpha-numerical marking system – disciplined – courteous dabbawalas – distinguishing white caps – reliable and flawless)

OR

15. [B] The story *The Toilet* highlights that creativity cannot be bound by any boundaries. It shows that one's passion can do wonders too. Prepare a **review** of the story based on the reading of the lesson.

(Hints: December holidays – weekdays locked at home – public toilet in the park – reading magazine – stories for school magazine – encouragement from English teacher – humiliating experience in front of sister's room – takes to writing – finds passion – self realisation – establishes herself)

16. [A] Selma Lagerlof received the Nobel Prize for literature from the Swedish Academy in 1909. She was also the first woman to receive it. This news finds its place in the leading dailies across the world. Draft the likely **news report**. (1x6=6)

OR

16. [B] *The Unstoppable Soul Surfer* presents Bethany Hamilton as a true symbol of courage, patience and resilience. Prepare a **character sketch** of Bethany based on your reading of the autobiographical extract.

17. [A] You are highly impressed by the disciplined work of the dabbawalas as presented in the travel article *The Saga of the Tiffin Carriers*. Draft an **email** to the President of Tiffin Box Suppliers Association, Mumbai admiring the meticulous planning and execution of the dabbawalas. (1x6=6)

OR

17. [B] *Waiting for Rain* as a travel article presents the beauty of monsoon in Kerala. Write a **paragraph** on the indifferent nature of rains in Kerala now and its consequences on the lives of people in general.

18. [A] The English Club of your school has decided to host a Literary Week in your school to promote reading among students. An exhibition is arranged as well. As the secretary of the club, draft a **notice** to be circulated in the school with all the necessary details. (1x4 = 4)

OR

18. [B] Bethany didn't want to give up her hopes of surfing again after the near deadly incident. She gets the support of her father too. She writes her thoughts and feelings in her diary. Attempt the likely **diary entry**.

Questions 19-21: Answer all the questions.

19. Prepare a short profile of Bethany Hamilton from the details given below.

(1x6 = 6)

Birth	: 8 February 1990, Lihue, Hawaii, U.S.
Famous as	: American professional surfer
Tragedy	: Lost her arm - shark attack - 13 years old
Career	: Motivational speaker, author
Autobiography	: <i>Soul Surfer: A True Story of Faith, Family, and Fighting to Get Back on the Board</i> (2004)
Documentary	: Heart of a Soul Surfer (2007)
Movie	: Soul Surfer (2011)
Honours	: ESPY Award (2004), NSSA National Helping Kids Champion (2005), ASP World Junior Championships (2008)

20. Read the passage given below and frame Three Wh-questions and One Yes/No question based on it.

(1x4 = 4)

Father will certainly be sitting in a rocking chair on a veranda, with a garden full of sunshine, flowers and birds in front of him. He will be reading of course, but when he sees me he will put down his book, push his spectacles high up on his forehead, and get up and walk toward me.

21. Read the picture given below. Using the visual hints and your imagination, write a story not exceeding 100 words.

(1x4 = 4)



Questions 22-25: Read the information given on the cover pages and answer the questions that follow.

(4x1=4)

<p><i>The Godfather</i> (classic crime novel)</p> <p>Mario Puzo</p> <p>G. P. Putnam's Sons 1969</p>	<p><i>James and the Giant Peach</i> (children's novel)</p> <p>Roald Dahl</p> <p>Puffin Books 1961</p>
<p><i>The Alchemist</i> (philosophical novel)</p> <p>Paulo Coelho</p> <p>Harper Collins 1993</p>	<p><i>Siddhartha</i> (spiritual journey novel)</p> <p>Hermann Hesse</p> <p>New Directions Publishing Corp. 1922</p>
	<p><i>Six Characters in Search of an Author</i> (play within the play)</p> <p>Luigi Pirandello</p> <p>Eyre Methuen Books 1979</p>

22. Who are the target readers for Roald Dahl's book?
23. What would be the choice of a person who is interested in the study of life?
A) *The Alchemist* B) *Siddhartha*
C) *The Godfather* D) *James and the Giant Peach*
24. Find out the crime novel published by G. P. Putnam's Sons in 1969.
25. Read the statements given below:
i) *The Alchemist* is a crime novel.
ii) Roald Dahl is the author of *James and the Giant Peach*.
iii) *The Godfather* was published ten years before *Six Characters in Search of an Author*.
iv) Puffin Books published *Siddhartha* in 1961.

Choose the right option:

- A) Only i is correct. B) Only ii is correct.
C) Both ii and iii are correct. D) Both iii and iv are correct.

26. Report the following dialogue. (2x1=2)

Customer : When will you return the tiffin carrier?

Dabbawala : I will return it by 5.30 in the evening.

27. Edit the passage given below. Errors are shown in bold. (6x½=3)

We watched, fascinated, as the trays arrived and **was** (a) sorted out **in** (b) hand-drawn carts, cycles, and even **festoned** (c) like multiple garlands around the necks and shoulders of delivery dabbawalas. We **learn** (d) that all dabbawalas are put **threw** (e) rigorous training because they have to deal courteously with customers and so, **couldn't** (f) be uncouth or drunk.

28. Fill in the blanks using the appropriate forms of the phrasal verbs given in brackets. (5x1=5)

Geina's sister had advised her to(a)..... at the house late in the evenings when nobody would see her, especially the Whites. As Geina's factory(b)..... at four-thirty, she had ample time to spend in the park. At the park, she had recently(c)..... a public toilet, where she found some private space of her own. She(d)..... using this space to read and scribble down her thoughts daily, as she never wanted to(e)..... her passion for writing, despite the adversities.

(look forward to, give up, come across, knock off, turn up, come out)

29. Complete the following passage choosing suitable words given in brackets. (4x½=2)

My mom stayed(a)..... my side the whole time. My dad went out to deal(b)..... visitors(c)..... the ever-growing number of reporters(d)..... heard what had happened to me and were eager to break my story.

(and, with, who, but, by)

30. Read the conversation between Chaplin and Gandhiji and complete it suitably. (5x1=5)

Chaplin : The world is undergoing a lot of changes with respect to mechanisation;(a).....?
Gandhiji : Yes, very much.
Chaplin :(b).....?
Gandhiji : I'm against machinery because it leads to unemployment.
Chaplin :(c).....?
Gandhiji : Yes. I agree that we need it to boost the economy. Still, I believe a nation should be self-reliant.
Chaplin : Yes, that's true as well. It should be.
Gandhiji : If we are self-reliant,(d).....
Chaplin : I definitely agree with you. But, you had better(e).....
Gandhiji : I am ready to support mechanisation if it is not against the interest of our people.

31. Rewrite the sentences given below without changing the meaning. (2x1=2)

a. My father read stories.

b. Gandhiji was addressing the students.

a. Stories

b. The students.....

32. Fill in the blanks using the words given in brackets. (2x1=2)

The(a)..... of the vehicles deafened the middle aged man and he stopped in the middle of the road. Just then the(b)..... of clouds was heard making things worse.

(honking, rumbling, crackling)