

RBSE
Half-Yearly
Exam
Question
Paper

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Half Yearly Examination 2023-24

Class-9

M.M. : 70

Subject-English

Time : 3½ Hrs.

General Instructions

1. All the questions are compulsory.
2. Write the answer to each question in the given answer book only.
3. Write the correct serial number of each question as mentioned in the question paper.

SECTION-A

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below :

 $1 \times 5 = 5$

The Sahara sets a standard for dry land, it's the World's largest desert. Relative humidity can drop into the low single digits. There are places where it rains only about once a century. There are people who reach the end of their lives without ever seeing water come from the sky. Yet beneath the Sahara is vast aquifers of fresh water, enough liquid to fill a small sea. It is fossil water, a treasure laid down in prehistoric times, some of it possibly a million years old. Just years ago, the Sahara was quite a different place, it was green.

Prehistoric rock art in the Sahara shows something surprising, hippopotamuses who need water year round. We don't have much evidence of a tropical paradise out there, but we had something perfectly livable, says Jennifer Smith, a geologist at Washington University in St. Louis. At times when the Northern Hemisphere tilts sharply towards the sun and the planet makes its closest approach, the increased blast of sunlight during the North's summer months can cause the African monsoon which currently occurs between the Equator and roughly 17° North latitude, to shift to the North as it did 10000 years ago, inundating North Africa.

Around 5000 years ago, the monsoon shifted dramatically southward again. The prehistoric inhabitants of the Sahara discovered that their relatively green surroundings were undergoing something worse than a drought and perhaps they migrated towards the Nile Valley, where Egyptian culture began to flourish at around the same time.

Questions

- (i) Despite the dry land, Sahara has vast amount of water—
(a) in dams (b) in aquifers
(c) in reservoirs (d) all of these (b)
- (ii) The shortage of water is evident from the fact that—
(a) it never rains
(b) people do not know when it will rain
(c) people can not recognise rain
(d) some people go through life without experiencing rain
- (iii) Fossil water comes from heavy rains—
(a) it is correct statement (b) partially correct statement
(c) false statement (d) partially false ()
- (iv) the word "prehistoric" does not mean—
(a) primitive (b) modern
(c) ancient (d) pristine ()
- (v) The World's largest desert is—
(a) Gobi (b) Thar
(c) Sahara (d) Kalahari ()

2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below : 1×5=5

Necessity, they say, is the mother of invention. And Indian doctors have been quite creative when hamstrung by few or no tools to perform specific surgeries. They simply design it themselves at one-fourth the price, they are sold abroad. In fact some of the innovations are priced at as much as hundreds of dollars abroad.

Take 47 year old Dr. Burjor P. Banaji, pioneer of Lasik surgery in India. He has invented over a dozen surgical instruments. When this senior eye surgeon at Max Eye Care started Lasik, there were few surgeons doing it worldwide and no specific instruments were available either. "As I want things super-perfect, I designed a whole slew of instruments that made my surgery more efficient," says Banaji. The most popular instruments are Banaji Lasik Shield and Banaji Lasik Spatula and Canulae. "It was simple. I had the designs in my head. Putting them down on paper was the simplest thing," he says. Instruments manufacturers and large multinationals in the US snapped them up. "They would send me computer generated drawings which I would correct and send back. Their level of execution was astounding. Within two weeks of the designs being Finalised, the instruments were in the World market".

His instruments are priced at hundred of dollars each in the US, and are also sold in Switzerland, South America, Korea, Eastern Europe, Africa and Japan. They are available in India at a fraction of the price.

- (i) Why have some Indian doctors created their own surgical tools?
- (ii) What has Dr. Burjor P. Banaji created?
- (iii) Where does Dr. Banaji get instruments manufactured?
- (iv) What does the phrase 'slew of instruments' refer to?
- (v) Find the words from the passage as follow-
 - (a) Synonym of "foreign"
 - (b) Opposite of "simple"

SECTION-B

3. Suppose you are Madhu. You want to get admission to class 9th in Mahatma Gandhi Government School, Jalore. Write a letter to the Principal requesting him for your admission to class 9th. 6

OR

Imagine that you are Kapil sukhadiya. Write an E-mail to the Executive officer of electricity department, Ahore about the Frequent breakdown of the electricity supply in your locality. The e-mail address is electricdpeo.ahore@gmail.com.

4. Write a speech on 'Modern Age is the Age of Computer' in about 80-100 words for morning assembly of your school using the outlines given below: 3

used _____ fields _____ factories _____ industries _____ medicines
_____ offices _____ banks _____ railways _____ tourism _____ records
safe _____ calculate _____ speedily _____ expect lives.

OR

Debate the topic "Online Learning" and write your views in support of it in about 80-100 words using the outlines given below-

Science _____ technology _____ interplanetary _____ education _____
online learning _____ want _____ home _____ reduced _____ cost _____
own place _____ network _____ communication _____ skills.

5. Write a story in 70-80 words using the outlines given below. Give a suitable title and moral to it too. 3

a lion _____ asleep _____ a mouse _____ came _____ lion _____ woke
up _____ wanted to kill _____ left _____ promised _____ laughed _____
a net _____ sharp teeth _____ the lion _____ free.

Write a dialogue between a visitor and a booking clerk at Ticket Window. You may take help the following points
bus to Sanchores, time of departure & arrival, price of ticket, two tickets.

OR

SECTION-C

6. Fill in the blanks with correct form of verbs given in the brackets. 4
- The patient _____ before the doctor came. (die)
 - We _____ badminton every evening. (play)
 - We _____ it tomorrow. (do)
 - I _____ this shooter last month. (buy)
7. Fill in the blanks with correct relative pronoun. $1 \times 2 = 2$
- The student _____ the headmaster gave a reward yesterday is my friend. (who/whom)
 - I read the book _____ you like to buy. (which/when)
8. Fill in the blanks with appropriate determiner. $1 \times 3 = 3$
- _____ people are happy in the World. (few/little)
 - There is too _____ sugar in this coffee. (much/many)
 - Mr. Kapoor is _____ M.L.A. (a/an/the)
9. Fill in the blanks with correct preposition. $1 \times 3 = 3$
- Mr. Arjun looks young but he is _____ fifty. (on/at/over)
 - I will meet you _____ 5 O'clock. (at/on)
 - I am angry _____ Rajesh. (by/with)

SECTION-D

10. Read the passage carefully and give answer to the questions given below— 4
- Emperor Aurangzeb banned the playing of a musical instrument called pungi in the royal residence for it had a shrill unpleasant sound. Pungi became the generic name for reeded noise maker. Few had thought that it would one day be revived. A barber of a family of professional musicians who had access to the royal palace, decided to improve the tonal quality of the pungi. He chose a pipe with natural hollow stem that was longer and broader than the pungi and made seven holes on the body of the pipe when he played on it-closing and opening some of these holes soft and melodious sounds were produced. He played the instrument before royalty and everyone was impressed. The instrument so different from the pungi, had to be given a new name. As the story goes since it was played in the Shah's Chamber and was played by a nai (barber), the instrument was named the Shehnai.

Questions—

- Why did Aurangzeb ban the playing of the pungi in the royal residence?
 - Who decided to improve the tonal quality of the pungi?
 - Why was the instrument named Shehnai?
 - Write the opposite word of 'same'.
11. Answer any three of the following questions in about 20-30 words. $2 \times 3 = 6$
- What made Kezia stutter? (The Little Girl)
 - Why did Margie's mother send for the county Inspector? (The Fun They Had)
 - Why did Einstein clash with his teachers? (A Truly Beautiful Mind)
 - What two 'important' and 'earth-shaking' decisions did the doctor take while he was looking into the mirror? (The Snake and the Mirror)
12. Answer any one of the following questions in about 80 words. $1 \times 2 = 2$
- How is Evelyn a shining inspiration for deaf children? (The Sound of Music)
 - What do you know about—
(a) Abdul Kalam (b) his father (c) his mother? (My Childhood)

13. Answer any one of the following questions in about 40 words. $1 \times 2 = 2$
- (i) What is the doctor's opinion about himself when—
(a) he first smiles (b) he smiles again?
- (ii) What made Sarapova the World number one woman in Women's tennis?
(Reach for the Top)

14. Read the stanza carefully and answer the questions given below— $2 \times 1\frac{1}{2} = 3$
- I will arise and go to Innisfree,
And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made
Nine bean-rows will I have there, a hive for the honeybee,
And live alone in the bee-loud glade.
- (i) Where does the poet want to go?
(ii) What does he wish to do there?

OR

Don't break the shutters of the windows
Don't scatter the pages
Don't throw down the books on the shelf.

- (i) What does the poet say to the wind any why?
(ii) What destruction does the wind cause to the poet's belongings?
15. Answer any two of the following questions— $2 \times 2 = 4$
- (i) What does the poet remember when it rain? (Rain on the Roof)
(ii) Why does the poet take the other road and not the first one? (The Road not Taken).
(iii) What did Saint Peter ask the old lady for? What was the lady's reaction? (The Legend of the Northland)

16. Answer anyone of the following questions in about 80 words. $1 \times 3 = 3$
- (i) What does the poem 'No Men are Foreign' teach us?
(ii) How can you say that friendship with the strong wind is good? (Wind)

17. Answer any one of the following questions in about 80 words— $1 \times 4 = 4$
- (i) How does the Guru manage to save his disciple's life? (In the Kingdom of Fools)
(ii) Describe Toto's appearance. (Adventure of Toto)

18. Answer any two of the following questions in about 60 words. $2 \times 2 = 4$
- (i) What does Mahendra think when he sees a cloudy form? (Iswaran the storyteller)
(ii) In the fair the child wants many things. What are they? (The Lost Child)
(iii) What is Johnsy's illness? What can cure her, the medicine or the Willingness to live? (The Last Leaf)
(iv) For whom does the prince send the sapphires and why? (The Happy Prince)

19. Choose the correct option (A, B, C, D) $1 \times 4 = 4$

- (i) The Wings of the dragon-flies were in colour—
(a) red (b) yellow
(c) green (d) purple ()
- (ii) What was the name of Prasant's village?
(a) Erasma (b) Kalikuda
(c) Pokharna (d) Bhinmal ()
- (iii) Where as Toto put by grand father on his journey to Saharanpur?
(a) In his pocket (b) In a wooden box
(c) In a canvas bag (d) In a cage ()
- (iv) Where as the little swallow going to?
(a) Paris (b) London
(c) Japan (d) Egypt ()

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