Meghalaya Board of School Education

SAMPLE PAPERS

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ENGLISH

Full Marks : 100

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

General Instructions :

(i) Write all the answers in the Answer Script.

(ii) Attempt Part—A (Objective Questions) serially.

(iii) Attempt all parts of a question together at one place.



(PART : A—OBJECTIVE)

(*Marks* : 50)

SECTION—I

(*Marks* : 20)

1. Complete the following sentences using the right word from the alternatives given in the brackets (any *five*) : 1×5=5

(a) Gandhi had _____ protracted interviews with the Lieutenant Governor.

(three / four)

(b) The official inquiry assembled a crushing mountain of _____ against the big planters.

(facts / evidence)

(c) The old crofter was in a hurry to milk his _____.

(cow / goat)

(d) The stranger made no attempt to _____.

(escape / dissimulate)

(e) Young boys like the son of the _____, now wore shoes.

(ragpickers / priest)

(f) Food is more important for survival than an _____.

(image / identity)

(g) With that he picked me up and tossed me into the _____ end.

(deep / shallow)

(h) I had started on the long journey back to the bottom of the _____.

(sea / pool)

2. Write whether the following statements are *True* or *False* (any *five*) : 1×5=5

(a) The December, 1916 Annual Convention of the Indian National Congress was held in Delhi.

(b) The planters offered to refund to the extent of twenty-five percent of the sharecropper's money.

(c) The stranger caused a lot of trouble at Ramsjo as he could not sleep.

(d) The ironmaster mistook the blacksmith to be an old regimental comrade.

(e) The bangle makers think that a god-given lineage can be broken.

(f) For the children, garbage has a meaning different from what it means to their parents.

(g) Finally one September, Douglas decided to get an instructor and learn how to swim.

(h) According to the instructor, "All we have to fear is fear itself."

3. Complete the following sentences using the right word from the alternatives given in the brackets (any *five*) : 1×5=5

(a) It would be an exotic moment without rush, without _____.

(sounds / engines)

(b) Perhaps the earth can _____ us.

(teach / guide)

(c) Some shape of beauty moves away the _____.

(pall / sadness)

(d) A flowery _____ to bind us to the earth.

(band / garland)

(e) Attend to the _____ beast.

(necessary / unnecessary)

(f) *Caring for Animals* is written by _____.

(Jon Silkin / John Keats)

(g) Cousins arrived in _____ in overcrowded private buses.

(Chennai / Tiruchchanur)

(h) Let's stop for one second, and not move our _____ so much.

(arms / hands)

4. Write whether the following statements are *True* or *False* (any *five*) : 1×5=5

(a) In the poem, *Keeping Quiet*, the poet portrays the importance of quiet introspection.

(b) 'A Thing of Beauty' will never pass into nothingness.

(c) The poet got all the answers from the sky and the serene blue water.

(d) In the poem, *A Thing of Beauty*, Keats expresses his hatred for natural and material beauty.

(e) Even the animals have the right to be valued for what they are and not for how they can be used.

(f) Family reunions help people who have been separated for a while to come together.

(g) Sundari liked to squirrel up and down the forbidden banyan tree.

(h) Jon Silkin is an American poet.

SECTION—II

(*Marks* : 30)

5. Answer any *five* of the following questions in not more than *2* sentences each : 1×5=5

(a) Why did Raj Kumar Shukla want to meet Gandhi?

(b) Why did Gandhi decide to go first to Muzaffarpur?

(c) Who owned the Ramsjo iron mill?



(d) What did the vagabond compare the whole world to?

(e) Why is the author pleased with Mukesh?

(f) Where is Seemapuri located?

(g) What plan did William make to stop himself from drowning in the pool?

(h) Why did William Douglas decide to hire an instructor?

6. Answer any *five* of the following questions in not more than *2* sentences each : 1×5=5

(a) In the poem, *Keeping Quiet*, what is the appeal made by the poet?

(b) What is meant by 'Green Wars'?

(c) Why will a thing of beauty not pass into nothingness?

(d) What does Keats mean by the 'unhealthy and over-darkened ways of man'?



(e) In the poem, *Caring for Animals*, what does the poet question?

(f) What is the 'green island'? What does Silkin expect of it?

(g) What did the poet remember about his cousin, Sundari?

(h) In the poem, *And so it Eventually Happened*, why was it not possible for the family members to recognize each other instantly?

7. *(a)* Rewrite the following as directed : 1×8=8

(i) Seema's sister was not as clever as she was.

(Change into comparative degree)

(ii) How happy I am!

(Change into assertive sentence)

(iii) He thinks too much of himself and his abilities.
He is such an _____.

(Use one word substitution for the underlined words)

(iv) It was a wonderful performance.

(Change into exclamatory sentence)

(v) International calls are not expensive.

(Give the opposite of the underlined word)

(vi) The news is so good that it cannot be true.

(Use : 'too')

(vii) Hurry up or you will miss the train.

(Use : 'if')

(viii) The mechanic was repairing the washing machine.

(Change into passive voice)

(b) Change the following into direct/indirect speech : 1×4=4

(i) Ravi said, "I am singing a song."

(ii) She says, "I knew the way home."

(iii) He said that she wrote a letter.

(iv) The teacher said to the boy, "What is your name?"

(c) Rewrite any *three* of the following sentences in the correct form : 1×3=3

(i) I love these poetries.

(ii) I found hundred rupees note on the road.

(iii) The sheeps are grazing in the meadow.

(iv) I must always speak truth.

8. Answer any *five* of the following questions in not more than *2* sentences each : 1×5=5

(a) How was Simon dressed when he went to the village?

(b) What did Simon discover when he approached the stranger?

(c) What did Simon do with the twenty kopeks?

(d) Why did Matrena say that she had no supper for Simon and the stranger?

(e) Why are caves important to the Palaeontologist?

(f) Why should troglobitic animals be documented?

(g) Who is a biospeleologist?

(h) Mention any three common species observed in the cave environment of Meghalaya.



(PART : B—DESCRIPTIVE)

(*Marks* : 50)

9. Answer any *two* of the following questions : 5×2=10

(a) Who was Professor Malkani? How did he help Gandhi? Why was his action of helping Gandhi extraordinary in those days? 1+1+3=5

(b) After stealing from the Crofter's cottage, where did the peddler go? Why did he do that? What were his thoughts during his journey? 1+1+3=5

(c) Describe the living conditions of the people of Firozabad. 5

(d) How was William Douglas trained to become a perfect swimmer? 5

10. Answer any *two* of the following questions : 5×2=10

(a) Write the central idea of the poem, *Keeping Quiet*. 5

(b) What are the beautiful objects present in nature according to Keats? In what way will these objects lift up our spirits? 2+3=5

(c) How does the family reunion in Tiruchchanur bring back the old memories? Give examples. 3+2=5

(d) "From growing mercy and a moderate love;
Great love for the human animal occurs,
And your love grows,
Your great love grows and grows."

(i) What is the human animal?

(ii) What are the qualities that are developed in a person by caring for animals?

(iii) What do you think is the message conveyed in the above given lines? 1+2+2=5



11. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 10

(a) When did Michael smile for the second time? Describe the incident. 2+8=10

(b) Write about the speleo history of Meghalaya. 10

(c) In what way do caves hold the key to the past? Write about the conservation of caves in Meghalaya. 5+5=10

(d) Describe the life led by Simon's family before they met Michael. How did their life change after Simon brought home an angel? 5+5=10

12. Write an essay on any *one* of the following topics : 10

(a) Importance of water

(b) Use of plastics and its effects on the environment

(c) Meghalaya as a tourist destination

(d) Impact of poverty on Education

Or

Write a letter to the Editor of a local daily complaining about the bad condition of roads in Meghalaya.

Or

As the head boy/ head girl of the school, write a notice informing the students about the inter-school poster making contest on 'Save the Girl Child'. Give all the necessary details.

13. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow :

Among the various misfortunes that befall humanity, loss of health is one of the severest. All the joy which life can give, cannot outweigh the sufferings of the sick. Nothing can relieve a sick person of his sufferings; rather he will feel that half the world is lost to him, even the most comfortable soft silken couch cannot give him any comfort or relief. He will nevertheless groan and pass a sleepless night on account of his suffering. But, on the other hand, the healthy miserable beggar enjoys a sound sleep on the hard ground. An ailing person may be offered delicious

meals and choice drinks, but he will thrust back the hand that offers them. He will rather envy the poor man who enjoys his dry loaf of bread. Even the loveliest throne and all other best things can no longer give him relief. He will rather watch the marble, gold, the costliest dresses and the most delicious dishes with scornful eyes. He would feel extremely happy, if he could enjoy the health of the meanest of his servants living in the thatched hut. He envies the sweet entertainment of the poor man blessed with good health. For him, health is the greatest wealth which no amount of money can buy.

Questions :

(a) What is the worst type of calamity that can befall mankind? 1

(b) What cannot outweigh the sufferings of the sick? 1

(c) Why does the ailing person envy the meanest of his servants? 1

(d) Give the opposites of the following words : ½×4=2

(i) Ailing

(ii) Misfortunes

(iii) Costliest

(iv) Miserable

(e) Give the meaning of the following words : 1×2=2

(i) Sleepless

(ii) Scornful

(f) What lesson does this passage teach us? 2

(g) Give a suitable title to the passage. 1

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