SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT-I, 2012–2013

ENGLISH

Time Allowed : 3 hours  CLASS–VIII  M.M. : 80

General Instructions :

1. Only answers to be written in the answer sheet against the correct question number.
2. Attempt all questions in each section before going to the next.
3. Adhere to the word limit. Marks will be deducted for exceeding the word limit.
4. The paper is divided into four Sections :
   
   **Section A : Reading**  20 Marks
   **Section B : Writing**  20 Marks
   **Section C : Grammar**  20 Marks
   **Section D : Literature**  20 Marks

SECTION A—(READING) (20)

1. Read the passage carefully :

   High-altitude climbing is still a very dangerous task in spite of the availability of oxygen masks and other protective equipments which modern climbers take with them. These, of course, are indispensable accessories of climbing, but more important than these is the stamina of the climber which ultimately determines the success of his attempt. Throughout his journey death is his constant companion which he can keep at a distance only with the superb presence of mind. He has to tread every inch of the ground with the utmost care, for a false step may not only strike him a fatal blow but also bring disaster to the whole expedition. That is why all expeditions invariably take with them local guides who are experienced climbers and who have a thorough knowledge of the nature. Moreover, a huge amount of capital is needed for financing these expeditions, and this is generally provided by governments or rich private organisations.

   The primary object of a mountaineering expedition is to get to the top of a high mountain which in the past has withstood all attempts to conquer it. But it should not be presumed that the expedition is a complete failure, if it does not reach its destination. Sometimes operations are temporarily suspended, because of bad weather, loss of some valuable equipment or the sudden death of a very important member of the party. Every big expedition takes with it men who are interested in botany, biology, geology and various other branches of science, and these men carry with them equipment for recording their observations concerning the weather.

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the terrain, and different forms of life in higher altitudes. Other scientists, explorers and expeditionists utilize the fruits of their observations. Thus, every unsuccessful expedition contributes to the success of later expeditions. The British expedition led by Colonel Hunt would have found their way to Everest much difficult had not earlier expeditions armed them with useful knowledge about the death-dealing weather which they had to encounter in the vicinity of the summit.

To ordinary mountaineering need not be a fearful journey in the land of snow storms where the brave adventure is always face to face with death. They can scale less ambitious heights, rest their weary limbs under a quiet shelter and feast there on the distant landscape. In the company of friends they can enjoy an outing near a waterfall or cross into the next valley with haversacks full of the provisions dangling from their shoulders. All those who can afford to go to a hill station should seek this innocent pleasure, for it can be had without any risk to life or limb.

(A) Complete the following statements briefly:
(a) While climbing high mountains, modern climber ...........
(b) The ultimate success in climbing mountains comes ...........
(c) These climbing expeditions are mostly financed ...........
(d) Some experts accompany such expeditions to study .............
(e) Even unsuccessful expeditions provide .............

(B) Find words in the passage that means the following:
(a) hanging 
(b) assume

2. Read the passage carefully.

Our house is filled with photos. They cover the walls of my kitchen, dining room and den. I see our family's entire history, starting with my wedding, continuing through the births of both sons, buying a home, family gatherings and vacations. When my sons were little, they loved to pose. They waved, danced, climbed trees, batted balls, hung upside down from the jungle gym and did anything for a picture. But when they reached adolescence, picture-taking changed into something they barely tolerated. Their bodies were growing at haphazard speeds. Reluctantly they stood with us or with their grandparents at birthday celebrations and smiled weakly at the camera for as short a time as possible.

I am the chronicler of our photographs. I select those to be framed and arrange the others in albums. The process is addictive, and as the shelves that hold our albums become fuller and fuller, I wonder what will become of them. Will anyone look at these photographs in future years? If my sons look at them, what will they think of us and of themselves? One bright afternoon, I took some photographs of my father with my husband as they fished in a lake near our vacation house. As my sons and I sat on the shore and watched them row away, I picked the camera
up and photographed the beautiful lake surrounded by green trees. The two men
I loved gradually grew smaller until all I could see were my father's red shirt, and
the tan and blue caps on their heads.
My father died a week later, and suddenly those photos became priceless to me.
I wept when I pasted them in our album. I wept again afterwards when I saw my
younger son looking at them. It was a few days before he went away to college.
He had taken all our albums down from the bookshelves in the den and spread
them out on the carpet. It had been a very long time since I had seen him doing
this. Once he stopped posing for pictures, he seemed to lose interest in looking
at them. But now he was on the verge of leaving home. This was his special time
to look ahead and look back. I stood for a moment in the hall by the den, and
then tiptoed away. I didn't take a photo of my son that afternoon, but I will remember
how he looked for as long as I live. Some pictures, I learned, don't have to be
taken with a camera.

(A) Fill in the summary using one word only. (1 x 4 = 4 marks)
The author was (a) ........................................ about taking photographs and framing
them. But she always (b) ........................................ whether her sons would ever look
at them. She was full of (c) ........................................ when she pasted the pictures
of her father's last days in the album. She learnt that some pictures always
(d) ........................................ in one's mind without a camera.

(B) Give words from the passage that mean the same as (1 x 4 = 4 marks)
(a) Not organised or planned (para 1)
(b) One who records events in order (para 2)
(c) Very valuable (para 3)
(d) Continued engagement with an activity (para 2)

3. Read the poem carefully:

The Leader

Patient and steady with all he must bear,
Ready to meet every challenge with care,
Easy in manner, yet solid as steel,
Strong in his faith, refreshingly real,
Isn't afraid to propose what is bold,
 Doesn't conform to the usual mould,
Eyes that have foresight, for hindsight won't do,
Never backs down when he sees what is true,
Tells it all straight, and means it all too.
Going forward and knowing he's right,
Even when doubted for why he would fight,

(3) Eng.11 - 827
Over and over he makes his case clear
Reaching to touch the ones who won't hear.
Growing in strength, he won't be unnerved,
Ever assuring he'll stand by his word.
Wanting the world to join his firm stand,
Bracing for war, but praying for peace,
Using his power so evil will cease:
So much a leader and worthy of trust,
Here stands a man who will do what he must.

—Anonymous

A. On the basis of your reading of the above poem, answer the following questions by choosing the correct option from those given below:

(I) This poem is about ...........................................................
   (a) the qualities a leader should possess
   (b) a person who has been a good leader
   (c) what leaders used to be like
   (d) a present day leader

(II) ‘Doesn’t conform to the usual mould’ suggests the person being described ..........................................................
   (a) doesn’t look like others
   (b) has qualities that are different
   (c) doesn’t mix up with people
   (d) breaks rules laid down by society

(III) The leader would fight war bravely, ..........................................................
   (a) because he wants to prove his valour
   (b) because he wants to kill his enemy
   (c) and turn out victorious
   (d) but want peace

(IV) ‘Using his power so evil will cease’: Here cease means ...........................
   (a) begin
   (b) become strong
   (c) come to an end
   (d) rule over everyone

(V) A true leader is a man who possesses .................................
   (a) physical strength and dardevility
   (b) courage and conviction
   (c) religious beliefs and faith
   (d) strength and faith

(4)
SECTION B—(WRITING) (20 marks)

4. You are Ruchi/Rachit, Secretary of the Sports Council of your school. Prepare a notice informing the students about an Inter House Football Match to be conducted in 50 words. (5 Marks)

5. You are Manish/Manisha living in Delhi. Apart from the environmental pollution, you feel concerned and disturbed at the rise in noise pollution. Write a letter to the Editor of a local newspaper expressing your concern on the same within 150 words. (8 Marks)

6. You are Sandeep/Shweta of APEEJAY School, Saket. You have been awarded the best athlete of the year on your school sports day. Prepare a speech for the morning assembly on the importance of sports in a student's life in about 180-200 words. You may use the inputs given below: (7 Marks)
   • Overall personality development
   • Teaches sportsmanship, teamwork, discipline, determination
   • Constructive time spent
   • Play for physical fitness.

SECTION C—(GRAMMAR) (20 marks)

8. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs provided in the brackets. Answer the question on the answer sheet using the correct corresponding letter. (4 × 1 = 4 marks)

   1. I .................. (a) (want) to visit you last week, but you (b) .................. (to be) on holiday.
   2. It (c) .................. (to rain) so we cannot go (d) .................. (run) in the park.

9. Combine the following pairs of sentences using appropriate connecting words. (4 × 1 = 4 marks)
   (a) Sarah is on holiday. She did not come to school.
   (b) You should buy a ticket for your journey. You will have to pay a huge fine.
   (c) The boy broke the glass. He broke the table.
   (d) She gave us a treat. She also bought us presents.

10. The following sentences are not edited. Edit them by writing the incorrect word from each line along with the correct one. Follow the given example: (4 × 1 = 4 marks)
   (5 )
Example: I am the busy man.
Answer: error correction

(a) On reaching the scene, a terrible sight meet her.
(b) The car was completely destroyed and a passengers
(c) were very bad hurt.
(d) She rushed forward so help the injured.

11. The sentences given below are jumbled up. Rearrange the words to make meaningful sentences. Follow the given example: (4 x 1 = 4 marks)
For example: why / prefer / to land / dinosaurs / water/ did
Answer: Why did dinosaurs prefer water to land.
(a) become / dinosaurs / heavy / had / the / very
(b) walk / easily / land / could not / they / on
(c) water / was / therefore / better / in / them / for / staying
(d) most / spent / rivers / they / so / their time / of / in

12. Use either too or enough along with the word in the bracket to complete the following sentences:
(a) I don't want to drink the coffee; it is .................. (hot).
(b) He does not need this money, he is .................. (rich).
(c) Please don't add any more chillies, the curry is .................. (spicy).
(d) No, don't change the pitch of the song, your voice is not .................. (deep).

SECTION D—(Literature) Textual Question (20 marks)

13. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:
When the jet reached ten thousand feet, it was clear why the country had cities where the rivers ran and why the valleys were populated. The logic of geography that land and water attracted man was clearly delineated When the jet reached ten thousand feet.
(a) Name the poem and the poet. (1)
(b) Cities are near rivers, because .................................................... (1)
(c) What is the logic of geography according to the poet, (2)

(6)
14. Answer the following questions in 40 words each: \(3 \times 2 = 6 \text{ marks}\)
   (a) The narrator loves chasing rainbows. How was his experience at the deity's altar similar to that of chasing a rainbow?
   (b) What were Narahari Babu's views on storybooks? Do you agree with him?
   (c) When Alphonse asked the master, if it was the same tiger, he replied "Same and different". Explain what he meant by it.

15. The village schoolmaster has been described in detail in Goldsmith's poem. What are the special qualities in him? What opinion do the students and villagers have of him? \(4 \text{ Marks}\)

16. Jimmy Wells finds himself in a dilemma when he meets his old friend after 20 years. Explain his dilemma and the action he takes to resolve it. What values and attributes of his character are highlighted by his actions? \(6 \text{ Marks}\)