

QUARTERLY EXAMINATION : 2023 - 24
CLASS IX (ICSE)

SUBJECT : ENGLISH LANGUAGE (PAPER- 1)

M.M. 80

Time : 2 hrs.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS :-

- i) Answer to this paper must be written on the paper provided separately.
- ii) You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes. This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.
- iii) The time given at the head of this paper is the time allotted for writing the answers.
- iv) Attempt all five questions.
- v) The intended marks for questions or part of questions, are given in brackets .[]
- vi) You are advised not to spend more than 30 minutes in answering question 1 and 20 minutes in answering question 2.

Q.1 (Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question.)

Write a composition (300 - 350 words) on any one of the following topics:-

[20]

- i) Write an original story entitled "The Secret"
- ii) "The real merit of a student cannot be judged by the marks he scores in an examination" Express your views either for or against this statement.
- iii) "Some set-back or misfortune is good for one". Relate an incident of your experience which brings out the truth of this statement.
- iv) Describe a day at home when an unexpected visitor came to your home. Explain what happened and how the day ended.
- v) Study the picture given below. Write a story or description or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be directly about the subject of the picture or may take suggestions from it, but there must be some clear connection between the picture and the composition.



Q.2 (Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)

Select **any one** of the following.

[10]

- i) You have been chosen the Head Boy / Girl of your school. Write a letter to your father telling him about some of your new responsibilities and explaining why you think you have been chosen for this post.
- ii) Write a letter to the Director of the Municipal Corporation complaining about the problem of open manholes in your area.

Q.3 (a) Your school is organising an Inter school Cultural Fiesta. Write a Notice asking students of classes VI to XII to register their names for the event.

[5]

(b) Write an email to the teacher incharge / principal of a neighbouring school requesting him/ her to judge the competition.

[5]

Q.4 Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:-

One day, while at work in the coal mine, I happened to overhear two miners talking about a great school for coloured people somewhere in Virginia. This was the first time that I had ever heard anything about any kind of school or college that was more pretentious than the little coloured school in our town.

As they went on describing the school, it seemed to me that it must be the greatest place on earth. Not even Heaven presented more attractions for me at that time than did the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute in Virginia, about which these men were talking. I **resolved** at once to go to that school, although I had no idea where it was or how many miles away, or how I was going to reach it. I was on fire constantly with one ambition, and that was to go to Hampton. This thought was with me day and night.

In the fall of 1872, I determined to make an effort to get there. My mother was troubled with a grave fear that I was starting out on a wild-goose chase. At any rate, I got only a half-hearted **consent** from her that I might start. I had very little money with which to buy clothes and pay my travelling expenses. My brother John helped me all that he could, but of course, that was not a great deal.

Finally, the great day came and I started for Hampton. I had only a small, cheap satchel that contained the few articles of clothing I could get. My mother at that time was rather weak and broken in health. I hardly expected to see her again, and thus our parting was all the more sad. She, however, was very brave through it all.

The distance from Malden to Hampton is about five hundred miles. By walking, begging rides both in wagons and in the car, after a number of days, I reached the city of Richmond, about eighty-two miles from Hampton. When I reached there, tired, hungry and dirty, it was late in the night. I had not a single acquaintance in the place and being unused to city ways, I did not know where to go as I was completely out of money. Knowing nothing else better to do, I walked the streets.

I must have walked the streets till after midnight. At last I became so **exhausted** that I could walk no longer. I was tired, I was hungry, I was everything but discouraged. Then I saw a sidewalk where I was sure that no passer-by could see me and then crept under the sidewalk and lay for the night on the ground, with my satchel of clothing for a pillow. Nearly all night, I could hear the tramp of feet over my head.

The next morning I found myself somewhat refreshed, but I was extremely hungry. As soon as it became light enough for me to see my surroundings, I noticed that I was near a large ship. It seemed to be unloading a cargo of pig iron. I went at once to the vessel and asked the captain to permit me to help unload the vessel in order to get money for food. The captain, who seemed to be kind - hearted, consented. I worked long enough to earn money for my breakfast and it seems to me, as I remember it now, to have been about the best breakfast that I have ever eaten.

i) For each word given below. choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided: [3]

1. resolved

(a) resounded (b) decided (c) resumed (d) solved

2. consent

(a) concise (b) constant (c) permission (d) surrender

3. exhausted

(a) excessively tired (b) exhumed (c) extensive (d) expelled

ii) Answer the questions briefly in your own words:-

(a) Why did the writer resolve to go to the school for coloured people in Richmond? [2]

(b) Pick out two sentences that suggest that the author came from a financially and educationally backward family. [2]

(c) Why did the writer's mother give 'a half-hearted consent' to the writer to start on his journey to Richmond? [1]

- (d) What did he look for on reaching there ? Why could he not get it? [2]
(e) Why did the writer think that his first breakfast in Richmond was the best he had ever eaten? [2]

iii) In not more than 50 words, describe what the writer experienced in Richmond. [8]

Q.5 (I) Fill in each numbered blank with the correct form of the word given in bracket .

Do not copy the passage, but write in correct serial order, the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]

Example: (0) passing

Upon the 0 (pass) away of his father, a son put his mother in an old age home. The old age home had rooms but no fans. After many years of 1 (live) there , the old woman was very ill and the doctor 2 (think) it appropriate 3 (call) the son in. The mother and son met and talked. When the son asked whether she was comfortable and 4 (need) anything, the mother asked him 5 (put) fans in the old age home. 6 (surprise) the son said, "Mother, you 7 (live) here for so many years and never told me about this. Why now, when not much time is left?"

"Because, my son, I can live without a fan, but I am 8 (worry) about you. You will never be able to live without a fan."

II) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word:- [4]

- i. The chairman will preside _____ the meeting.
- ii. He quarrelled with her _____ a trifle.
- iii. His pride has brought _____ his downfall.
- iv. I shall continue to trust him till I get proof _____ the contrary.
- v. The news of the soldier's death cast a gloom _____ the village.
- vi. We must refrain _____ doing evil.
- vii. That man is addicted _____ gambling.
- viii. I prefer playing hockey _____ swimming .

III) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using 'and', 'but' or 'so'. Choose the correct option. [4]

1. He is a good writer. He has never published a book.
 - a) Besides being a good writer, he has never published a book.
 - b) Although he is a good writer but he has never published a book.
 - c) Though he is a good writer but he has never published a book.
 - d) Although he is a good writer, he has never published a book.
2. The lock is broken. It is of no use.
 - a) The lock being broken is useless.
 - b) The broken lock was of no use.
 - c) The lock is broken being of no use.
 - d) The broken lock could not be used.
3. He has not done his home work. I am sure of it.
 - a) I am sure that he has not done his homework.
 - b) I am sure therefore he has not done his home work.
 - c) I am sure of not doing his home work.
 - d) I am sure to not doing his home work.
4. Ricky met me. I gave him the document .
 - a) I gave the document to Ravi when he met me . ;
 - b) Ricky met me when I gave him the document.
 - c) Ricky met me to get the document.
 - d) I gave ricky the document when he meet me.

IV). Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of the sentence.

[8]

Choose the correct options:-

- i) Mangla is the cleverest pupil in the class. (Use :-clever)
- Very few pupils in the class are as clever as Mangla.
 - No other pupil in the class is as clever as Mangla.
 - Some pupils in the class are as clever as Mangla.
 - Less pupils in the class are as clever as Mangla.
- ii) We clapped as soon as the chief guest arrived. (Begin: No sooner _____)
- No sooner did the chief guest arrived, we clapped.
 - No sooner was the chief guest arrived we clapped.
 - No sooner did the chief guest arrive than we clapped.
 - No sooner did the chief guest arrived than we clapped.
- iii) Don't blame her if the mirror is broken. (Begin : She is not _____)
- She is not to be blamed if the mirror is broken .
 - She is not blamed if the mirror is broken.
 - She is not to have been blamed if the mirror is broken.
 - She is not blamed for the broken mirror.
- iv. Although we searched the area, we could not find the key. (Begin : In spite _____)
- In spite of searching the area, we would not find the key.
 - In spite searching the area, we could not find the key.
 - In spite of searching the area, we could not find the key.
 - In spite of searching the area, yet we could not find the key.
- v. Ali was too embarrassed to speak clearly. (Begin : Ali was so_____)
- Ali was so embarrassed to speak clearly.
 - Ali was so embarrassed for him to speak clearly.
 - Ali was so embarrassed for himself to speak clearly.
 - Ali was so embarrassed that he could not speak clearly.
- vi. "I saw a snake this morning", he said (Rewrite using Indirect speech)
- He said that he saw a snake that morning.
 - He said that he had seen a snake that morning.
 - He said that he has seen a snake this morning.
 - He told that he had seen a snake this morning.
- vii. Susan hid her mother's glasses. (Begin : Her mother's _____)
- Her mother's glasses hidden by Susan.
 - Her mother's glasses was hid by Susan.
 - Her mother's glasses were hidden by Susan.
 - Her mother's glasses was hidden by Susan.
- viii. If Rita practises, she will win the competition. (Begin: Unless _____)
- Unless Rita practises, she will win the competition .
 - Unless Rita practises for the competition, she will win it.
 - Unless Rita practises, she will not win the competition.
 - Unless Rita wins, she will not practise for the competition.
