

ENGLISH

BALLY NISCHINDA CHITTARANJAN VIDYALAYA - HOWRAH  
ENGLISH (SECOND LANGUAGE)

Full Marks-90

Time-3 Hours 15 Minutes

Section - A

Reading Comprehension (Seen)

1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

It is always lovely on the Big Half Moon in summer. When it is fine, the harbour is blue and calm, with little wind and ripples. Every summer, we had some hobby. The last summer before Dick and Mimi came, we were crazy about kites. A boy on the mainland showed Claude how to make them. Back on the island we made plenty of kites. Claude would go around to the other side of the island and we would play shipwrecked mariners signalling to each other with kites.

We had a kite that was big and covered with lovely red paper. We pasted gold tinsel stars all over it and had written our names full on it — Claude Leete and Philippa Leete, Big Half Moon lighthouse. One day there was a grand wind for kite-flying. I'm not sure how it happened, but as I was bringing the kite from the house, I tripped and fell over the rocks. My elbow went clear through the kite, making a big hole.

We had to hurry to fix the kite if we wanted to send it up before the wind fell. We rushed into the lighthouse to get some paper. We knew there was no more red paper. We took the first thing that came handy—an old letter lying on the bookcase in the sitting room. We patched the kite up with the letter, a sheet on each side and dried it by the fire. We started out, and up went the kite like a bird.

A. Write the correct alternative to complete the following sentences in the given spaces :  $1 \times 5 = 5$

- The Big Half Moon looked lovely during —  
(a) spring ☐ (b) summer ☐ (c) autumn ☐ (d) winter ☐
- The narrator and his playmates pretended to be —  
(a) robbers ☐ (b) adventures ☐ (c) mountaineers ☐ (d) shipwrecked mariners ☐
- The part of the narrator's body that went through the kite was his —  
(a) elbow ☐ (b) ankle ☐ (c) knee ☐ (d) fingers ☐
- The narrator of the text is —  
(a) Dick ☐ (b) Mimi ☐ (c) Philippa ☐ (d) Claude ☐
- The kite was mended with a —  
(a) red paper ☐ (b) letter ☐ (c) leaflet ☐ (d) newspaper ☐

B. Complete the following sentences with information from the text :

- The visitors to the island last summer were  $1 \times 3 = 3$
- The name of the lighthouse was \_\_\_\_\_
- They hurried to fix the kite because \_\_\_\_\_

C. State whether the following statements are 'True' or 'False'. Write 'T' for 'True' and 'F' for 'False' in the boxes on the right-hand side. Provide sentences/phrases/words in support of your answer:

- In summer, the island is rough and windy ☐ S.S  $2 \times 2 = 4$
- The names of Claude and Philippa were written on the kite ☐ S.S



2. Read the poem and answer the questions that follow:

The mountain and the squirrel  
Had a quarrel;  
And the former called the latter 'Little Prig'.  
Bun replied  
'You are doubtless very big;  
But all sorts of things and weather  
Must be taken in together,  
To make up a year  
And a sphere,  
And I think it no disgrace  
To occupy my place.  
If I'm not so large as you,  
You are not so small as I,  
And not half so spry,  
I'll not deny you make  
A very pretty squirrel track;  
Talents differ; all is well and wisely put;  
If I cannot carry forests on my back,  
Neither can you crack a nut.'

A. Tick the correct alternatives to complete the following sentences:

1×4 = 4

- (i) 'Little Prig' refers to —  
(a) the mountain ☐ (b) the squirrel ☐ (c) the forest ☐ (d) a nut ☐
- (ii) The mountain is —  
(a) very wise ☐ (b) quite lively ☐ (c) very big ☐ (d) very pretty ☐
- (iii) The quarrel was between—  
(a) the forest and the squirrel ☐ (b) a nut and the squirrel ☐  
(c) talent and wisdom ☐ (d) the mountain and the squirrel ☐
- (iv) Unlike the squirrel, the mountain can—  
(a) carry forests on its back ☐ (b) crack a nut ☐  
(c) move about happily ☐ (d) make a sphere ☐

B. Answer the following questions:

2×2 = 4

- (i) How did the mountain make fun of the squirrel?  
(ii) Mention two qualities of the mountain

Reading Comprehension (Unseen)

3. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

One of the most common and reprehensible uses of plastics in the world, including India, is as packing material. Polythene bags came into our markets only as late as 1982 but they have given such a beating to our recycled newspaper bags as that one hardly sees the latter now.

Polythene bags have often caused the death of infants around the world. Babies love to cover their heads with polythene bags a part of their play but cannot remove them from their heads and often die of suffocation, since air will not pass through polythene. It is mandatory for such plastic bags to carry warnings about them being used as playthings for children. Most plastic toys are also required to be made of non-toxic material and carry declaration to that effect.

The same is the fate of fish and other marine life, when polythene finds its way into the waters, as it often does. Plastics indeed pose a sticky disposal problem for the world at large. You cannot burn it, you cannot bury it. Throwing it away, clogs the arteries of the system. So, you just cannot get rid of it, once it is produced. It has enveloped your life. And Leonard of the internationally known



environmental group 'Greenpeace' states, "Substantial amount of toxic chemicals released in plastic production can cause cancer and congenital defects and damage the nervous system, blood, kidney and immunity systems. These chemicals can also cause serious damage to the ecosystem."

**A. Tick the correct alternatives :**

- (i) Polythene bags came into our markets in —  
(a) 1782 ☐ (b) 1892 ☐ (c) 1982 ☐ (d) 1928 ☐
- (ii) Everyone of us must be aware of the dangers of using—  
(a) newspaper bags ☐ (b) polythene bags ☐  
(c) gunny bags ☐ (d) none of these ☐
- (iii) Infants often die when they cover their heads with—  
(a) newspaper bags ☐ (b) handkerchiefs ☐  
(c) polythene bags ☐ (d) gunny bags ☐
- (iv) Air cannot pass through—  
(a) nervous system ☐ (b) blood ☐ (c) polythene bags ☐ (d) kidney ☐
- (v) Plastic cannot be—  
(a) thrown away ☐ (b) burnt ☐ (c) used by adults ☐ (d) the cause of cancer ☐
- (vi) Plastic toys should be made of—  
(a) non-toxic material ☐ (b) toxic material ☐  
(c) packing material ☐ (d) recycled newspapers ☐

**B. Each of the following statements is either 'True' or 'False'. Write 'T' for 'True' and 'F' for 'False' in the boxes on the right-hand side. Also pick out suitable line(s) or phrase(s) from the passage in support of your answers :**

- (i) One hardly sees plastic bags now. ☐ S.S
- (ii) Chemicals released in plastic production do not cause harm to the eco-system. ☐ S.S
- (iii) Plastic toys should carry warnings. ☐ S.S

**C. Answer the following questions :**

- (i) Name the world famous environmental group mentioned in the passage.
- (ii) Whose fate is the same as that of infants?
- (iii) What is mandatory about plastic bags?
- (iv) What are the health hazards which can be caused by the toxic-chemicals released in plastic production?

**Section - B**

**Grammar and Vocabulary**

**4. Write the correct alternative to fill in the blanks :**

Today we are \_\_\_\_\_ (confined/confining/being confining) in a room as it \_\_\_\_\_ (is/has been/was) raining since morning and we are busy \_\_\_\_\_ (playing/played/having played) ludo.

**5. A. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions :**

Most people are fond \_\_\_\_\_ mystery stories. They find \_\_\_\_\_ pleasure \_\_\_\_\_ trying to solve the mystery along with the investigator.

**B. Do as directed :**

- (i) This is one of the oldest houses of our locality. (Change into comparative degree)
- (ii) Arijit Singh is a famous singer. He can sing different kinds of songs. (Change into simple sentence)
- (iii) Nisha said to Romita, "Have you completed your task?" (Change the mode of narration)



- C. Choose the correct phrasal verbs from the list given below to replace the underlined words . Write the correct phrasal verbs in the boxes on the right-hand side, changing the form where necessary. There is one extra phrasal verb in the list :  $1 \times 3 = 3$

- (i) Tanima is in search of a job.  
(ii) Ankan understands what I am saying.  
(iii) Evening starts early now  
[List: set in, set out, look for, make out]

6. Given below are the meanings of four words which you will find in the passage in Question No. 3. Find out the words and write them in the appropriate boxes on the right-hand side :  $2 \times 4 = 8$

- (i) Baby :  
(ii) Concerned with sea :  
(iii) Inborn :  
(iv) Reused :

### Section - C Writing Skill

7. Write a story using the following points. Add a suitable title of the story. **10**  
[Points: Two friends walking through a forest - meet a bear - one climbs a tree and the other lie down as if dead - the bear smells his head - goes away - the first friend asks what the bear said - "beware of friends who run away in danger"]
8. Use the following flow-chart to write a paragraph (within 100 words) on how to prepare potato chips: **10**  
[Hints: Potatoes collected—sorted—cleaned—sliced into thin round pieces—salt and spices added—fried—packed and labelled—ready to be sold]
9. Suppose you are the secretary of students' committee. Write a notice for the students, requesting them not to bring mobile phones in school or else necessary steps will be taken. **10**  
[Hints: Unhealthy tendency growing among students - distracting others - hampering classroom teaching - strict actions may be taken if found guilty]

### ANSWERKEY

1. A (i) - b - Summer, (ii) - d - shipwrecked mariners, (iii) - a - elbow, (iv) - c - Philippa, (v) - b - Letter  
B. (i) - Dick and Mimi, (ii) - Big Half Moon lighthouse (iii) - they wanted to send the kite before the wind fell. C. (i) - F - S.S. - "It is always lovely on the Big Half Moon in Summer" (ii) - T - S.S. - "and had written our names full on it - Claude Leete and Philippa Leete.." 2. A (i) - b - the Squirrel, (ii) - c - very big (iii) - d - the mountain and the Squirrel, (iv) - a - carry forests on its back. B (i) - The mountain called the Squirrel 'Little Prig', the two words which humiliated the Squirrel indicating its small size. (ii) - The mountain can make pretty Squirrel track. / The mountain can carry forests on its back. 3. A. (i) - c - 1982, (ii) - b - polythene bags, (iii) - c - polythene bags, (iv) - c - polythene bags, (v) - b - burnt, (vi) - a - non-toxic material. B. (i) - F S.S. - 'but they have given such a beating to our recycled newspaper .....latter now. (ii) - F S.S. - "These chemicals can also cause .....to the ecosystem. (iii) - T S.S. - "Most plastic toys are also required to .....and carry declaration to that effect". C. (i) - The name of the world famous environmental group mentioned in the passage is 'Greenpeace'. (ii) - As that of the infants, the same is the fate of fish and other marine life, when polythene finds its way into the waters. (iii) - It is mandatory for plastic bags to carry warnings about them being used as playthings for children. (iv) - Substantial amount of toxic chemicals released in plastic production can cause cancer and congenital defects and damage the nervous system, blood, kidneys and immunity systems. Confined, has been, playing.  
5. A. of, an, in B. (i) - This house is older than most other houses of our locality, (ii) - Arijit Singh, the famous Singer, can sing different kinds of songs. (iii) Nisha asked Romita if she had completed her task. C. (i) - looking for, (ii) - makes out, (iii) - sets in 6. (i) - Infant, (ii) - Marine, (iii) - Congenital (iv) - Recycled.



**SAHAPUR HARENDRANATH VIDYAPITH (H.S.)**  
**ENGLISH (SECOND LANGUAGE)**
**Full Marks-90**
**Time-3 Hours 15 Minutes**
**1. Read the following passage and answer the questions set below it:**

It is always lovely on the Big Half Moon in summer. When it is fine, the harbour is blue and calm, with little wind and ripples. Every summer, we had some hobby. The last summer before Dick and Mimi came, we were crazy about kites. A boy on the mainland showed Claude how to make them. Back on the island we made plenty of kites. Claude would go around to the other side of the island and we would play shipwrecked mariners signalling to each other with kites.

We had a kite that was big and covered with lovely red paper. We pasted gold tinsel stars all over it and had written our names full on it—Claude Leete and Philippa Leete, Big Half Moon lighthouse.

One day there was a grand wind for kite-flying. I'm not sure how it happened, but as I was bringing the kite from the house, I tripped and fell over the rocks. My elbow went clear through the kite, making a big hole.

We had to hurry to fix the kite if we wanted to send it up before the wind fell. We rushed into the lighthouse to bring some paper. We knew there was no more red paper. We took the first thing that came handy—an old letter lying on the bookcase in the sitting room. We patched the kite up with the letter, a sheet on each side and dried it by the fire. We started out, and up went the kite like a bird. The wind was glorious and it soared. All at once—snap! and there was Claude, standing with a bit of cord in his hand, looking foolish. Our kite had sailed away over the mainland.

**A. Choose the correct alternative to complete the following sentences:**
**1×5=5**

- A boy on the mainland showed Claude how to \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) fly kites (b) control kites (c) make kites (d) tear a kite
- On the days of fine weather, the harbour remains \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) blue and noisy (b) green and calm (c) blue and frozen (d) quiet and blue
- The big kite was covered with \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) white paper (b) handmade paper (c) a letter (d) red paper
- The kite was damaged in the hands of \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Claude (b) Philippa (c) Aunt Esther (d) Mimi
- The first thing that came handy for the narrator to repair the kite was \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) some red paper (b) a book (c) some gold tinsel stars (d) a letter

**B. Complete the following sentences with information from the text:**
**1×3=3**

- With kites Claude and Philippa played the game of \_\_\_\_\_.
- The children wrote their names on \_\_\_\_\_.
- The snapped kite moved away towards \_\_\_\_\_.

**C. Now answer the following questions in full sentences:**
**2×2=4**

- Why is it always lovely in summer on the Big Half Moon island?
- What is the name of the first-person-writer as depicted in the fiction/story?

**2. Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow:**

To grass, or leaf, or fruit, or wall  
The snail sticks close, nor fears to fall  
As if he grew there, house and all,  
Together.  
Within that house secure he hides  
When danger imminent betides  
Of storm, or other harm besides  
Of weather

**A. Write the correct alternatives to complete the following sentences:**
**1×4=4**

- The snail sticks to the object \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) lightly (b) fearfully (c) closely (d) mildly
- The snail seems to grow together with \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) a house (b) an igloo (c) a wall (d) a tent
- Inside his house the snail feels \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) protected (b) insecure (c) confused (d) angry



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- iv) The house in the poem refers to the snail's \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) horns (b) body (c) nest (d) shell

**B. Answer the following questions in complete sentences :**

2×2=4

- (i) What is the snail not afraid of?  
(ii) When does the snail hide in his house?

**3. Read the following passage and answer the following questions :**

Kanpur : A 'hungry' goat gave a rude shock to its owner when it chewed up currency notes worth Rs 66,000 that the owner had kept in the pocket of his trousers, at Siluapur village in Kannauj district on Monday.

The currency was in the denomination of Rs. 500 notes which farmer Sarvesh Kumar Pal had kept to purchase bricks for carrying out construction work in his house.

When he saw the goat munching the notes, the farmer immediately raised an alarm and could manage to save only two Rs. 500 notes from the goat, that too in a damaged condition.

There was no trace of the remaining 130 notes.

"I was taking a bath and the money was kept in the pocket of my trousers. Notorious for eating paper products, the goat seized the chance to munch on its favourite food. What to do, my goat is like a child to me." the farmer said with a broad smile.

"Later, two notes wet in saliva could be retrieved in a damaged condition," Sarvesh added.

Neighbours and even villagers from nearby areas are thronging to Sarvesh's house to have a glimpse of the goat, who is well known for chewing up paper products. Many find it interesting and have even clicked selfies with the goat.

"Some even suggested taking the goat to veterinarians and getting some medicines to make the animal vomit and recover the lost money. Many asked me to sell the goat to a butcher as it has brought misfortune to us." Sarvesh said.

A neighbour even said in a lighter vein to hand over the goat to the police as it had committed a crime.

"We can't be cruel to our pet. It is like our own child." Sarvesh and his wife said.

**A. Choose the correct alternative by ticking the right option:**

1×6=6

- i) Sarvesh Kumar Pal is a \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) goat merchant (b) builder (c) peasant (d) businessman
- ii) Sarvesh Kumar had kept the money for \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) opening brick-kiln (b) buying goats (c) construction work (d) purchasing medicine
- iii) The number of currency notes saved from the goat is \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) 2 (b) 2000 (c) 31 (d) nil
- iv) Selfies were clicked by the visitors with \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) Sarvesh K. Pal (b) Sarvesh and his wife (c) the goat (d) the damaged notes
- v) For recovering the lost money some suggested about \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) butcher (b) police (c) villagers (d) veterinarian
- vi) When the goat ate up money Sarvesh was \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) purchasing (b) bathing (c) eating (d) sleeping

**B. State whether the following statements are true or false. Write T or F accordingly in the boxes.**

**Also quote supporting statements :**

(1+1)×3=6

- (i) The amount of money contained two Rs. 2,000/- currency notes. ☐ S.S  
(ii) The goat is fond of eating papers. ☐ S.S  
(iii) A neighbour seriously suggested to handover the goat to the police. ☐ S.S

**C. Answer the following questions in complete sentences:**

2×4=8

- (i) When did Sarvesh Kumar raise an alarm?  
(ii) Where did the goat find the money?  
(iii) Why did the neighbours gather at Sarvesh's house?  
(iv) Name the district and the village where the described incident took place.

**4. Fill in the blanks with suitable articles and prepositions :**

1×4=4

\_\_\_\_ July 2023, Dinesh and Tarak Shinde, both Police constables \_\_\_\_ the Maharashtra Police force, achieved \_\_\_\_ commendable feat of nabbing the dreaded robber Sanga from his hideout \_\_\_\_ Latur.



### 5. A. Do as directed.

- (i) The Shatabdi Express runs faster than any other train in India. (Change the degree of adjective) 1×4=4
- (ii) The teacher said to the student, "Don't waste your time." (Change into indirect speech)
- (iii) Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam was the President of India. He passed away in 2015. (Join into a single sentence)
- (iv) He scolded me. (Change the voice)

### 5. B. Choose the phrasal verbs from the list given below to replace the underlined verbs. Write the correct phrasal verbs in the given blanks. You have to change the form, if necessary. There is one extra phrasal verb in the list : 1×4=4

- (i) I met my classmate in the field.
- (ii) Raima resembles her mother.
- (iii) Try to maintain the prestige of your family.
- (iv) The train was detained for two hours.

List of phrasal verbs: set up, hold up, come across, keep up, take after

### 6. Find the words from the passage given in question number. 2 to match the meanings given below: 2×4=8

- a) get back :      b) chewing steadily :      c) quick look :      d) buy :

### 7. Develop the following outline into a story and add a suitable title ( word limit 90-100 ) 10

[ Points : Holding a piece of meat in its mouth a dog wanted to eat in a quiet place—it had to cross a stream—it saw its own reflection—it thought another dog with a similar piece of meat—the dog wanted to get that—it barked—the piece of meat fell into water]

### 8. Following are the instructions for making something useful from waste polythene. Look at the stages and write a paragraph describing the process by which you can make wood substitute from it. ( word limit - 100 ) 10

[ Waste polythene bags collected → sorting and removing dirty bags → melting at temperature of 125°C → polythene becomes like jelly → mixing sawdust or paddy husk → mixture pressed by rollers put into moulds for shape → moulds cooled in water → products finished and ready for use.]

### 9. Write a letter in about 100 words to your friend telling him/her about the necessity and usefulness of reading English newspapers regularly. You should follow the given points. 10

[ Newspaper acts as the mirror to the world — very useful for language learning including improvement of vocabulary — general knowledge increases — critical and mature thinking develops — conclusion]

### ANSWER KEY

1. A. (i) (c), (ii) (d), (iii) (d), (iv) (b), (v) (d), B. (i) ..... Shipwrecked mariners signalling to each other with kites. (ii) ..... the kite. (iii) ..... the mainland. C. (i) It is always lovely on the Big Half Moon island, in summer, as the weather is fine, and the harbour is blue and calm with little wind and ripples. (ii) The first person writer as depicted in the fiction/story is Philippa Leete.
2. A. (i) (c), (ii) (a), (iii) (a), (iv) (d), B. (i) The snail is not afraid of falling. (ii) The snail hides in his house when it senses imminent danger. 3. A. (i) (c), (ii) (c), (iii) (a), (iv) (c), (v) (d), (vi) (b), 3. B. (i) F-S.S.- "The currency was in the denomination of Rs 500 notes." (ii) T-S.S.- "Notorious for eating paper products". (iii) F-S.S.- "A neighbour even said in a lighter vein"... C) (i) Sarvesh Kumar raised an alarm when he saw the goat munching notes, while he himself was taking a bath. (ii) The goat found the money in the pocket of Sarvesh Kumar's trousers. (iii) Neighbours gathered at Sarvesh's house to have a glimpse of the goat. (iv) The described incident took place at Siluapur village in Kannauj district. 4. In, of, a, at.
- 5.A.(i) No other train in India runs as fast as the Shatabdi Express. (ii) The teacher advised the student not to waste his time. (iii) Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, the President of India passed away in 2015. (iv) I was scolded by him. 5.B. (i) came across (ii) takes after (iii) Keep up (iv) held up. 6. (a) recover (b) munching (c) glimpse. (d) purchase.



GOVT. MODEL SCHOOL MEJIA  
ENGLISH (FIRST LANGUAGE)

Full Marks-90

Section - A

Time-3 Hours 15 Minutes

Reading Comprehension (Seen)

1. Choose the correct answer from the given alternatives. 1×8 = 8
- Mamzelle Aurlie received a marriage proposal at the age of—  
(i) twenty ☐ (ii) sixteen ☐ (iii) nineteen ☐ (iv) sixty ☐
  - Mamzelle Aurlie used to shoot—  
(i) eagles ☐ (ii) crows ☐ (iii) chicken ☐ (iv) chicken hawks ☐
  - Mamzelle Aurlie told her cook that she would rather manage—  
(i) plantation ☐ (ii) cattle ☐ (iii) dogs ☐ (iv) cats ☐
  - The sack of hickory nuts appeared on the—  
(i) Front steps ☐ (ii) courtyard ☐ (iii) back yard ☐ (iv) dining hall ☐
  - The narrator's mother gave him the book —  
(i) Coral Island ☐ (ii) Sophy-of Cravonia ☐  
(iii) The Viper of Milan ☐ (iv) The Invisible Man ☐
  - Walter Cunningham did not bring his—  
(i) lunch ☐ (ii) books ☐ (iii) bag ☐ (iv) homework ☐
  - One whistle means —  
(i) station ☐ (ii) railroad crossing ☐  
(iii) sudden danger ☐ (iv) bridge ahead ☐
  - Suria's father drank water from the —  
(i) village tank ☐ (ii) tubewell ☐ (iii) well ☐ (iv) pitcher ☐

A. Answer the following questions in not more than fifteen words:

1×3=3

- What were the names of Odile's children?
- What did Nathan supply?
- Who was the boy without lunch in the classroom?

B Answer any two of the following questions in not more than 150 words:

7×2=14

- Briefly describe the character of Mamzelle Aurlie as given in the story "Regret".
- Who was Vela Mudaliar? What did he do during the drought? What did Suria do to punish him?
- How did Cunningham pay the debt to Atticus?

SECTION: B

I. Choose the correct answer from the given alternatives:

1×7 = 7

- The creatures that are sleeping in the poem "Reapers" are—  
(i) cows ☐ (ii) flies ☐ (iii) birds ☐ (iv) bees ☐
- The colour of uniform is —  
(i) black ☐ (ii) chestnut ☐ (iii) white ☐ (iv) yellow ☐
- The deathless light is shed on —  
(i) hero's grave ☐ (ii) library ☐ (iii) house ☐ (iv) farms ☐
- In the brookland the poplar trees stand by the—  
(i) pools ☐ (ii) ponds ☐ (iii) rivers ☐ (iv) sea ☐
- John Lennon is of the opinion that above our head there is —  
(i) sky ☐ (ii) heaven ☐ (iii) hell ☐ (iv) sun ☐
- The little boy lay on the —  
(i) sunny hill ☐ (ii) green grass ☐ (iii) mat ☐ (iv) banks of river ☐
- In the poem "Reapers", the colour of the ears of corn is —  
(i) azure ☐ (ii) orange gold ☐ (iii) brown ☐ (iv) red ☐



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**II. Answer the following questions in not more than fifteen words:**

1×2=2

- How many reapers were in the field?
- What did the boy see from the top of the hill?

**III. Answer any two in not more than twenty five words.**

2×2=4

- Why does Lennon say 'You may say I am a dreamer'?
- "Whose dying eyes no country/ Regards with patriot love" Explain.
- How is the ship described in 'Childhood'.

**IV. Answer any one of the following questions in not more than 150 words:**

1×7=7

- Why did the young boy leave his home? Briefly narrate his experience of wars.
- Describe in reaping scene in 'Reapers'.
- What were the thoughts and fancies that the little boy had in 'Childhood'?

**SECTION-C (RAPID READER)**
**I. Choose the correct answer from the given alternatives :**

1×5=5

- The footprints were made by a —  
 (i) hound ☐ (ii) pug ☐ (iii) sheepdog ☐ (iv) spaniel ☐
- The convict was a relative of —  
 (i) Beryl ☐ (ii) Stapleton ☐ (iii) Mr. & Mrs. Barrymore ☐ (iv) Watson ☐
- The only heir of Baskervilles lived in —  
 (i) Canada ☐ (ii) India ☐ (iii) Spain ☐ (iv) France ☐
- Mr. Stapleton collected —  
 (i) dogs ☐ (ii) cats ☐ (iii) rats ☐ (iv) butterflies ☐
- Stapleton had similarities with —  
 (i) Charles ☐ (ii) Henry ☐ (iii) Mortimer ☐ (iv) Hugo ☐

**II. Answer the following questions in about ten words:**

1×5=5

- Why did the hound chase Selden?
- What was the exact year of the manuscript?
- Who was Laura Lyons?
- What item was first stolen from Mr. Henry Baskerville?
- Who was the man on the tor whom Watson saw?

**III. Answer any one of the following questions in not more than 100 words:**

5×1=5

- Why did Stapleton give up his teaching job?
- Briefly describe Watson's experience of the first night at the Baskerville hall.
- Briefly narrate the events when the spectral hound was seen chasing Henry Baskerville.

**SECTION-D (GRAMMAR & VOCBULARY)**
**I. Do as directed:**

1×6=6

- It was raining hard. Abir went to school. (Turn into a compound sentence)
- The Nile is the longest river in Africa. It flows through many countries.  
 (Change into a complex sentence)
- The girl who lost her umbrella in the storm was weeping bitterly (Analyze the sentence)
- Your father has painted a picture which will be sold at an auction. (Identify the clauses)
- I went to the market. I had to buy a fish. (Join into a simple sentence)
- My brother had broken the window. (Change the voice)

**II. Identify the figures of speech used in the following sentences:**

1×4=4

- Cannons boomed at the battlefield.
- The water mirrors a still sky.
- I came to bury Caesar, not to praise him.
- The thirsty earth drank the water.

**SECTION - E**
**I. Rewrite the following conversation in indirect speech:**

1×3=3

Ramu: What are you doing, Babu?

Babu: I am digging holes for the saplings. Will you give me the bucket?



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Ramu: Sure. What saplings are you planting?  
 Bumba: There are the marigolds.

**II Write a paraphrase of the poem given below:**

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**Daffodils**
**William Wordsworth**

I wandered lonely as a cloud  
 That floats on high o'er vales and hills,  
 When all at once I saw a crowd,  
 A host of golden daffodils;  
 Beside the lake, beneath the trees,  
 Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

**III Write an essay on any one of the following topics in about 300 words**

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- A) Pollution B) A Memorable Day in Your Life C) Benefits of morning exercise

**ANSWER KEY**
**Sec. D**

I. (1) It was raining hard but Abir went to school. (2) The Nile which is the longest river in Africa flows through many countries.

(3).

The Clause	Kind of Clause	Connective	Subject		Predicate			
			Subject words	Attributes	Verb	Object	Comple-ment	Adverbial Qualifications
1. The girl was weeping bitterly	Principal		girl	the	was weeping			bitterly
2. Who lost her umbrella	Sub-ordinate		who		lost	umbrella		her

(4). Your father has painted a picture — main clause  
 which will be sold at an auction — subordinate adjective clause

(5). I went to the market to buy a fish. (6). The window had been broken by my brother.

II. (1) Onomatopoeia (2) Metaphor (3) Antithesis/Irony (4) Personification

**Sec. E**

I. Addressing Babu by his name, Ramu asked him what he /the former was doing. Stating that he was digging holes for the saplings Babu requested Ramu to give him the bucket. Ramu responded positively to the request and asked what saplings were being planted. Bumba replied that there were the marigolds.

II. The poet wandered around by himself, like a cloud drifting high over valleys and hills. Suddenly he noticed a large number of golden daffodils huddled together. The flowers were fluttering and moving in the breeze under the trees. To the poet, the flowers seemed to be dancing.

**ST. MARY'S GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL (HS),**  
**ENGLISH (SECOND LANGUAGE)**

**Full Marks-90**
**Time-3 Hours 15 Minutes**
**Section - A**
**Reading Comprehension (Seen)**

**1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :-**

It is always lovely on the Big Half Moon in summer. When it is fine, the harbour is blue and calm, with little wind and ripples. Every summer, we had some hobby. The last summer before Dick and Mimi came, we were crazy about kites. A boy on the mainland showed Claude how to make them. Back on the island we made plenty of kites. Claude would go around to the other side of the island and we would play shipwrecked mariners signaling to each other with kites.



We had a kite that was big and covered with lovely red paper. We pasted gold tinsel stars all over it and had written our names full on it—Claude Leete and Philippa Leeta, Big Half Moon lighthouse.

One day there was a grand wind for kite-flying. I'm not sure how it happened, but as I was bringing the kite from the house, I tripped and fell over the rocks. My elbow went clear through the kite, making a big hole.

We had to hurry to fix the kite if we wanted to send it up before the wind fell. We rushed into the lighthouse to get some paper. We knew there was no more red paper. We took the first thing that came handy—an old letter lying on the bookcase in the sitting room. We patched the kite up with the letter, a sheet on each side and dried it by fire. We started out, and and up went the kite like a bird.

**A. Write the correct alternatives to complete the following sentences in the given spaces :-** [1×5=5]

- The Big Half Moon looked lovely during —  
i) Spring ☐ ii) Summer ☐ iii) Autumn ☐ iv) Winter ☐
- The narrator and his playmates pretended to be —  
i) robbers ☐ ii) adventurers ☐ iii) mountaineers ☐ iv) shipwrecked ☐
- Every summer the narrator and Claude had some —  
i) games ☐ ii) edveation ☐ iii) hobby ☐ iv) signals ☐
- The kite was mended with a—  
i) red paper ☐ ii) letter ☐ iii) leaflet ☐ iv) newspaper ☐
- The one, who tripped and fell over the rocks, was —  
i) Aunt Esther ☐ ii) Claude ☐ iii) Philippa ☐ iv) Dick ☐

**B. Complete the following sentences with information from the next :** [41×3=3]

- The name of the lighthouse was \_\_\_\_\_.
- The Kite soared like \_\_\_\_\_.
- Claude and Philippa played \_\_\_\_\_.

**C. State whether the following sentences arwe True or False. Write "T" for True and "F" for False in the boxes on the right hand side. Provied sentences/phrases/words in support of your answer.** [2×2=4]

- The names of Claude and Philippa were written on the kite. ☐ S.S :
- In summer the island was rough and windy. ☐ S.S :

**2. Read the poem and answer the questions that follow :**

To grass, or leaf, or fruit, or wall  
The snail sticks close, nor fears to fall  
As if he grew there, house and all,  
Together.  
Within that house secure he hides  
When danger imminent betides  
Of storm, or other harm besides  
of weather.  
Give but his horns the slightest touch,  
His self-collecting pow'r is such  
He shrinks into his house with much  
Displeasure.



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Where'er he dwells, he dwells alone,  
Except himself has chattels none,  
Well satisfied to be his own  
Whole treasure.

A. Write the correct alternative to complete the following sentences:

[1×4=4]

- a) The snail sticks closely to grass, leaf, fruit and —  
i) house ☐ ii) wall ☐ iii) humans ☐ iv) tree ☐
- b) The snail is secure within his —  
i) body ☐ ii) chattels ☐ iii) house ☐ iv) self collecting power ☐
- c) The snail faces imminent danger when there is —  
i) storm ☐ ii) rain ☐ iii) thunder ☐ iv) lightning ☐
- d) With the slightest touch the snail shrinks into his house with much —  
i) delight ☐ ii) defiance ☐ iii) displeasure ☐ iv) pain ☐

B. Answer the following questions :-

[2×2=4]

- i) What does the snail do when it faces danger?  
ii) What is the snail's treasure?

READING COMPREHENSION (UNSEEN)

3. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :-

West Bengal, India's largest rice-producing state, has made headlines in 2025 with the development of a new flood-resistant rice variety named "Jalashree". Developed by scientists at Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalay, Jalashree can survive water logging for over two weeks, making it ideal for low-lying areas of the state that frequently faces floods.

Farmers in South and North 24 Parganas, Nadia and Malda have already begun adopting this variety. Jalashree has shown a 20% higher yield compared to traditional varieties under flood conditions. The state government is supporting this innovation by providing free seeds, training sessions and linking farmers with procurement centres. This effort not only enhances food security but also reduces losses due to climate change. The Agriculture Minister stated that Jalashree will help make West Bengal more resilient to extreme weather and maintain stable paddy production. The project is also creating job opportunities in rural research labs and agricultural extension services. This scientific progress is a step forward in balancing environment, economy and food supply.

A. Choose the correct alternative :- (Tick the correct answer)

[1×6=6]

- i. What is the name of the new flood-resistant rice variety developed in West Bengal?  
i) Jalajeevan ☐ ii) Jalashree ☐ iii) Neeraj ☐ iv) Jalmitra ☐
- ii. Which university developed the Jalashree rice variety?  
i) Calcutta University ☐ ii) Visva-Bharati University ☐  
iii) Jadavpur University ☐ iv) Krishi Viswavidyalaya ☐
- iii. Jalashree can survive water logging for how many weeks?  
i) one week ☐ ii) two weeks ☐ iii) over two weeks ☐ iv) four weeks ☐
- iv. How much higher yield does Jalashree produce under flood conditions compared to traditional varieties?  
i) 10% ☐ ii) 20% ☐ iii) 15% ☐ iv) 25% ☐



- v. In which districts have farmers already adopted the Jalashree variety ?  
i) Darjeeling and Bankura ☐ ii) Howrah and Hoogly ☐  
iii) South and North 24 Paraanas ☐ iv) Birbhum and Purulia ☐  
vi. What support is the government providing to promote Jalashree ?  
i) Free electricity and water ☐ ii) Cash incentives ☐  
iii) Crop insurance only ☐ iv) Free seeds, training and procurement linkages ☐

**B. Each of the following statement is either True or False. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False in the boxes on the right-hand side. Also pick out suitable line(s) or Phrase(s) from the passage in support of your answers:-** [(1+1)×3=6]

- i) Jalashree rice variety was developed by scientists in Kerala. ☐ S.S :  
ii) Jalashree can survive in water logged conditions for over two weeks. ☐ S.S :  
iii) Farmers of Darjeeling and Purulia have started using Jalashree. ☐ S.S :

**C. Answer the following questions:-** [2×4=8]

- i) What is the special feature of the Jalashree rice variety ?  
ii) Name two districts of West Bengal where farmers have adopted the Jalashree variety.  
iii) How is the West Bengal Government supporting the use of Jalashree among farmers?  
iv) Apart from boosting crop yield, what are two other benefits of Jalashree mentioned in the passage?

### SECTION - B GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY

4. Write the correct alternatives to fill in the blanks :- [1×3=3]  
Mother generously \_\_\_\_\_ (suggest/suggested/may suggest) that Swami \_\_\_\_\_ (does/may/might) stay at home. It was 9.30 when he ought to \_\_\_\_\_ (has been/have been/had been) in the school hall, Swami was lying on the bench.

5. Do as directed:

- A. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions :- [1×3=3]  
When I was \_\_\_\_\_ girl every holiday that I had seemed ideal, my parents took me \_\_\_\_\_ train or car \_\_\_\_\_ a place by the sea \_\_\_\_\_

- B. i) You make a very pretty squirrel track (change the voice) [1×3=3]  
ii) He completed his work. He took rest. (Join into a simple sentence)  
iii) "What have you written, Sachin"? (change into indirect speech)

C. Choose the phrasal verbs from the list given below correct to replace the words underlined. Write the right-hand side changing the form, where necessary. There is one extra phrasal verb in the list: [1×3=3]

- i. They started their journey early in the morning.  
ii. She resembles her mother.  
iii. Police is investigating the case.

[take after, set out, carried on, look into]

6. Given below are the meanings of four words which you will find in the passage in question No. 2. Find out the words and write them in the appropriate boxes on the right-hand.

- i) immune \_\_\_\_\_  
ii) a person learned in science and especially natural science \_\_\_\_\_  
iii) flooded with water as to be heavy or unmanageable \_\_\_\_\_  
iv) chance \_\_\_\_\_

[2×4=8]




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### SECTION - C WRITING

7. **Write a story within (100 words) using the given hints. Give a title to the story.** [10]  
Three children collecting green mangoes near railway track - one sees a crack on rails - hears a train coming - senses danger - tears his red shirt - three pieces - waves like flags driver stops accident avoided - children rewarded.
8. **Suppose your Madhyamik Pariksha is over. Now you are discussing about the plan of studies in H.S. with your friend. Write an imaginary dialogue about your future study plan.** [10]
9. **Suppose you are the Secretary of your school Eco-club. Your school is going to organize an exhibition on environmental preservation. The topic is "Save Earth-Save Life". Now write a Notice informing the students about it and inviting the names of willing students to participate in the programme.** [10]

### ANSWER KEY

1. A. (a) (ii) Summer, (b) (iv) Shipwrecked (c) (iii) hobby. (d) (ii) letter (e) (iii) Philippa B. (i) - Big Half Moon light house (ii) a bird (iii) Shipwrecked mariners C. (i) - T - SS: 'and had written our names full on it - Claude lest and Philippa Leete' (ii) - F - SS. When it is fine the harbour is blue and calm with little wind and ripples. 2. A. (a) (ii) wall (b) (iii) house (c) (i) storm (d) (iii) displeasure B. (i) When the snail faces danger he hides himself into his house securely. (ii) Except himself the snail has chattles none. He is well satisfied to be his own whole treasure. 3. A. (1) (ii) - Jalashree (2) (iv) - Krishi Viswavidyalaya (3) (iii) - over two weeks (4) (ii) - 20% (5) (iii) South & North 24 Pgs (6) (iv) - Free seeds, training..... B. (i) F - SS: Developed by Scientist at Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Jalashree can..... (ii) T - SS: Jalashree can survive water logging for over two weeks. (iii) F - SS: Farmers in South and North 24 Parganas, Nadia had begun adopting this variety. C. (i) Jalashree rice can survive water logging for over two week. It has shown a 20% higher yield than traditional varieties (ii) The names of two districts of West Bengal which have adopted the Jalashree rice variety are Malda and Nadia. (iii) The State Govt. is supporting by providing free seeds training sessions and linking farmers with procurement centres. (iv) The two other benefits of Jalashree mentioned in the passage are a) It can survive water logging for over two weeks b) This scientific progress is a step forward in balancing environment, economy and food supply. 4. Suggested, might, have been 5. A. a, by, to B. (i) A very pretty squirrel track is made by you. (ii) After completing his work he took rest. (iii) Someone asked Sachin what he had written C. (i) set out (ii) takes after (iii) looking into 6. (i) Resistant (ii) Scientist (iii) Water logged (iv) Opportunity.

### JALPAIGURI MEHERUNNESSA HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH (SECOND LANGUAGE)

Full Marks-90

Time-3 Hours 15 Minutes

#### Section - A

#### Reading Comprehension (Seen)

1. **Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :**

We live on the Big Half Moon island. "We" are Father and Claude and I and Aunt Esther and Mimi and Dick. It used to be only Father and Claude and I. It is all on account of the kite that there are more of us. This is what I want to tell you about.

Father is the keeper of the Big Half Moon lighthouse. I am eleven years old. Claude is twelve. In winter, when the harbour is frozen over, we all move over to the mainland. As soon as spring comes, back we sail to our own dear island.

The funny part used to be that people always pitied us when the time came for us to return. They said we must be so lonesome over there, with no other children near us. Of course, Claude and I would have liked to have someone to play with us. It is hard to run pirate caves and things like that with only two. But we use to quarrel a good deal with the mainland children in winter. So, it was perhaps just as well that there were none of them on the Big Half Moon. Claude and I never quarrelled.



To be sure, Father didn't seem to have any relations except us. This used to puzzle Claude and me. Everybody on the mainland had relations. Why hadn't we? Was it because we lived on an island? We thought it would be so jolly to have an uncle and aunt and some cousins. Once we asked Father about it, but he looked so sorrowful that we wished we hadn't. He said it was all his fault. Claude and I didn't understand what he meant.

**A. Write the correct alternative in the given space to complete the following sentence: (1×5=5)**

- a) \_\_\_\_\_ live on the Big Half Moon island  
i) Four people ☐ ii) Six people ☐ iii) Five people ☐ iv) No people ☐
- b) There are more members at Big Half Moon on account of the -  
i) kitten ☐ ii) kid ☐ iii) kite ☐ iv) narrator ☐
- c) \_\_\_\_\_ is the keeper of the Big Half Moon lighthouse -  
i) Claude's father ☐ ii) Dick's father ☐ iii) Mimi's father ☐ iv) Aunt Esther's father ☐
- d) In winter the harbour is  
i) warm ☐ ii) populated ☐ iii) crowded ☐ iv) frozen ☐
- e) The narrator moves over to the mainland in  
i) winter ☐ ii) summer ☐ iii) autumn ☐ iv) late autumn ☐

**B. Complete the following sentences with information from the text: (1×3=3)**

- i) People always pitied the narrator and her brother when the time came for them to return because \_\_\_\_\_
- ii) Claude and the narrator would have liked to have someone to play with them because \_\_\_\_\_
- iii) \_\_\_\_\_ used to puzzle Claude and the narrator.

**C. State whether the following statements are True or False. Write 'T' for 'True' and 'F' for 'False' statements in the boxes given on the right-hand side. Provide sentences/phrases/words in support of your answers: (1+1)×2=4**

- i) Claude and the narrator would never like to have someone to play with them. ☐ S.S.
- ii) They were happy that they asked their father question about relatives. ☐ S.S.

**2. Read the following extract of the poem and answer the questions:**

To grass, or leaf, or fruit, or wall  
The snail sticks close, nor fears to fall  
As if he grew there, house and all Together.  
Within that house secure he hides.  
When danger imminent betides  
Of storm, or other harm besides  
Of weather.  
Give but his horns the slightest touch,  
His self-collecting pow'r is such,  
He shrinks into his house with much  
Displeasure.  
Where'er he dwells, he dwells alone,  
Except himself has chattels none,  
Well satisfied to be his own.  
Whole treasure.

**A. Tick (✓) the correct alternatives: (1×4=4)**

- i) With the slightest touch, the snail shrinks into its house with -  
a) displeasure ☐ b) pleasure ☐ c) pain ☐ d) surprise ☐
- ii) The snail at the time of danger hides inside his -  
a) shelf ☐ b) friend's house ☐ c) relative's house ☐ d) shell ☐
- iii) The snail has no fear to fall when sticks close to -  
a) fruit ☐ b) wall ☐ c) leaf ☐ d) any of them ☐



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iv) The snail loves to live -

- a) with family ☐ b) with friends ☐ c) alone ☐ d) neighbours ☐

B. Answer the following questions:

(2×2=4)

- i) How does the snail react when there is a danger imminent?  
ii) How does the snail react when someone touches him?

### Reading Comprehension (Unseen)

3. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Education helps us realise our flaws or faults and correct them. That is why Greek philosopher Diogenes observed that the foundation of every state is the education of its youth. Education helps a poor man come out of his poverty. It also gives every individual a better understanding of life.

Education has an essential rôle in our lives, for it imparts knowledge and provides us with skills to make a living. It also teaches us the value of impersonal relationships. In the course of our years of study we learn the value of friendship as well. When we are in danger, our education comes to our rescue. When a man is learned and can give us timely advice, do we not look forward to meeting him and benefitting from his knowledge?

Those who like and seek the company of the learned are to be treated with as much respect as the learned themselves. Educated persons may be poor but people will respect them more than they would a rich man who has no education.

A. Tick (✓) the correct alternatives:

(1×6=6)

- i) The name of the Greek philosopher was  
a) Aristotle ☐ b) Plato ☐ c) Diogenes ☐ d) Dante ☐  
ii) According to the Greek philosopher the foundation of a state in -  
a) the education of its citizen ☐ b) the education of its youngsters ☐  
c) the education of its voters ☐ d) the education of its old people ☐  
iii) Education provides a man with -  
a) money to buy his need ☐ b) blood to eat ☐  
c) a house to live in ☐ d) skills to make a living ☐  
iv) Education rescues a person from his or her -  
a) danger ☐ b) nervousness ☐ c) dying condition ☐ d) debt ☐  
v) A man who is learned can give us  
a) a promise ☐ b) timely advice ☐ c) some money ☐ d) a threat ☐  
vi) A learned man can help one -  
a) on the way ☐ b) in no way ☐ c) in taking some exercise ☐ d) in a moment of crisis ☐

B. The following sentences are either 'True' or 'False'. Write 'T' for 'True' and 'F' for 'False' sentences in the boxes on the right-hand side. Provide a line from the text in support of your answer.

(1+1)×3=6

- i) A poor man has no need for education. ☐ S.S.  
ii) Education teaches us the value of international relationships. ☐ S.S.  
iii) The learned and their companions are treated with equal respect. ☐ S.S.

C. Answer the following questions:

(2×4=8)

- i) In what way does education help an individual?  
ii) Why should we look forward to meeting a learned man?  
iii) How should the persons who seek the company of the learned be treated?  
iv) Suggest a suitable title for the text concerned.

### Grammar & Vocabulary

4. Write the correct alternatives to fill in the blanks:

(1×3=3)

A president of Delhi, bound company Mr. Shanker said, he \_\_\_\_\_ (had accompanied / went/had gone /goes) to \_\_\_\_\_ (visit/visits/will visit) Vaishno Devi shrine. He \_\_\_\_\_ (accompanied/was accompanied/is accompanied) by his wife and two children.



**5. Do as directed:**

**A. Fill in the blanks with appropriate article or prepositions:**

- i) India beat Pakistan \_\_\_\_\_ six runs in \_\_\_\_\_ T20 World Cup 2024 Group A match \_\_\_\_\_ the Nassau Country International Cricket Stadium in New York. (1×3=3)

**B. Transformation of sentences:**

- i) The man was shot last night. (Change the voice)  
ii) Gandhiji was one of the greatest freedom fighters. (Change into positive degree)  
iii) Sunil replied quickly. (Use the adjective form of 'quickly')

**C. Choose the correct phrasal verbs from the list given below to replace the underline words.**

Write the correct phrasal verbs in the boxes on the right-hand side changing the form if necessary.

There is one extra phrasal verb in the list:

- i) My friend visited me yesterday. \_\_\_\_\_  
ii) The police followed the thief. \_\_\_\_\_  
iii) We have won the match. \_\_\_\_\_

[List: Come after, Call on, Do away with, Bear away]

**6. Given below are the meanings of four words which you will find in the passage in Question No. 3. Find out the words and write them in the appropriate boxes on the right-hand side:** (2×4=8)

- i) teaches \_\_\_\_\_ ii) person \_\_\_\_\_ iii) save \_\_\_\_\_ iv) look for \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Study the flow-chart and describe how a residential building is constructed :**

Planning is done - estimation approved by municipality/gram panchayat - collection of materials engaging masons and labourers - construction work up to roofing conceal pipe setting - fitting doors and windows - plastering electrical wiring - sewerage connection - ready to live in. 10

8. Write a letter to the Editor of an English newspaper about the insanitary condition your town/village is facing. Mention the details of the insanitary condition, the effect on the people and the solution in detail. 10

9. Write a story with the help of the following outline and add a suitable title to it.

Wolf hungry - sheep too well guarded - wolf plans - puts on sheep's skin - mingles with flock - sheep bleating - wolf tries to bleat - only howls - detected - killed by shepherd. 10

**ANSWERKEY**

1. A. (a) - (ii) Six people, (b) - (iii) kite, (c) - (i) Claude's father, (d) - (iv) frozen, (e) - (i) winter, B. (i) they thought that the narrator and her brother must be lonesome over there, with no children around them, (ii) it is hard to play pirate games and things with only two, (iii) the fact that father didn't seem to have any relations except them.. C. (i) F - "Claude and I would have liked...", (ii) F - "Once...we hadn't".  
2. A. (i) (a) - displeasure, (ii) (d) - shell, (iii) (d) - any of them, (iv) (c) - alone; B. (i) When there is a danger imminent, the snail hides himself securely in his house, (ii) When someone touches him, he shrinks into his house with much displeasure. 3. A. (i) (c) Diogenes (ii) (b) the education of its youngsters (iii) (d) skills to make a living (iv) (a) danger (v) (b) timely advice (vi) (d) in a moment of crisis  
B. (i) F - "Education helps a poor man...poverty." (ii) F - "It also teaches...impersonal relationships" (iii) T - "Those who like and seek...the learned themselves." C. (i). Education gives every individual a better understanding of life. (ii) We should look forward to meeting a learned man because we would be benefitted from his knowledge. (iii) The persons who seek the company of the learned should be treated with as much respect as the learned themselves. (iv) Importance of Education 4. went, visit, was accompanied 5. A. (i) by, the, at B. (i) Someone shot the man last night. (ii) Very few freedom fighters were as great as Gandhiji. (iii) Sunil gave a quick reply. C. (i) called on (ii) came after (iii) bore away 6. (i) imparts (ii) individual (iii) rescue (iv) seek.



**METROPOLITAN INSTITUTION (MAIN) FOR GIRLS**  
**ENGLISH (SECOND LANGUAGE)**

Full Marks-90

Time-3 Hours 15 Minutes

**Section - A**

**Reading Comprehension (Seen)**

1. Read the following text carefully and answer the questions given below:

Some days after the funeral, a special train took Gandhiji's ashes to Allahabad. The compartment was decked with flowers. People on the train sang bhajans. People did not weep anymore for they could feel Gandhiji's presence amid the flowers and the songs. At every station sorrowful crowds filled the platform. Amid song and the prayer the train reached Allahabad. The ashes were immersed in the Ganges where a huge crowd had gathered at the bank. Afterwards we all went back to Delhi.

Back in Delhi, I felt at sea. I had not directly walked with Gandhiji, gone to prison at his call or made any sacrifice for my country. My sisters and I, and other young people like me, had been merely onlookers. But still I felt at sea. I felt I had grown up within a magic circle. With Bapu's passing away, I felt the magic circle had vanished, leaving me unprotected.

With an effort I roused myself. I asked myself -had Bapu lived and died for nothing? How could I so easily lose courage when he was no longer there? My values were not so weak. Millions of people would have been ordinary folk but for Bapu. He brought them out of indifference and awakened them to one another's suffering. What if now Bapu is gone? We were still there, young, strong and proud to bear his banner before us.

Bapu had passed away but his India would continue to live in his children.

A. Choose the correct answer from the given alternatives:

1×5=5

- 1) The narrator of 'The passing away of Bapu'.—  
a) walked directly with Bapu ☐ b) one to prison at his call ☐  
c) sacrificed for country ☐ d) was merely an onlookers ☐
- 2) Gandhiji awakened people to one another's —  
a) indifference ☐ b) jealousy ☐ c) greed ☐ d) suffering ☐
- 3) At the bank of the river Ganges, there gathered —  
a) clouds ☐ b) robbers ☐ c) only politicians ☐ d) a huge crowd ☐
- 4) People on the train sang —  
a) Rabindra Sangeet ☐ b) Nazrul Sangeet ☐  
c) English songs ☐ d) None of the above ☐
- 5) The narrator and her sisters were —  
a) children ☐ b) aged women ☐ c) young people ☐ d) the old folks ☐

B. Complete the following sentences with information from the text:

1×3=3

- 1) I roused myself \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ awakened them to one another's sufferings.
- 3) India would continue to live in \_\_\_\_\_.

2×2=4

C. Answer the following questions:

- 1) How did people feel Gandhiji's presence?
- 2) Why had there gathered a huge crowd at the bank of the river?

2. Read the poem and answer the questions given below:

Once I crept in an Oakwood-I was looking for a stag.  
I met an old woman there-all knobbly stick and rag.  
She said: 'I have your secret here inside my little bag.'  
Then she began to cackle and I began to quake.  
She opened up her little bag and I came twice awake -



Surrounded by a staring tribe and me tide to a stake.  
They said: We are the oak-trees and your own true family.  
We are chopped down, we are torn up, you do not blink an eye.  
Unless you make a promise now-now you are going to die.  
Whenever you see an oak-tree felled, swear now you will plan two.  
Unless you swear the black oak bark will wrinkle over you  
And root you among the oaks where you were born but never grew.  
This was my dream beneath the boughs, the dream that altered me.  
When I came out of the oakwood, back to human company,  
My walk was the walk of a human child, but my heart was a tree.

**A. Choose the correct answer from the given alternatives:**

1×4=4

- 1) Whenever an oak tree is felled, the number of trees the poet must plant is —  
a) two ☐ b) three ☐ c) four ☐ d) five ☐
- 2) A visit to the oakwood brought to / in the poet —  
a) joy ☐ b) pride ☐ c) gloom ☐ d) alteration ☐
- 3) When the poet came out of the oakwood his heart was that of a —  
a) stag ☐ b) tree ☐ c) human child ☐ d) the old woman ☐
- 4) The experience of the poet in the midst of oak-tree was a part of his —  
a) pleasure ☐ b) imagination ☐ c) reverie ☐ d) nostalgia ☐

**B. Answer the following questions:**

2 × 2 = 4

- 1) What promise did the poet have to make?
- 2) What is the message of the poem?

**Reading Comprehension**  
**Unseen**

**3. Read the following and answer the questions:**

Kolkata: Fresh stocks of hilsa from Myanmar have started arriving in the city by air to meet the demand for Bhai phonta festival. The city currently has a severe shortage of sea fish. Traditionally sisters prepare sumptuous meals for their brothers during bhai phonta with hilsa being a prized delicacy. However, this year the local markets have seen a drastic decline in the availability of hilsa, bhetki, and prawns leaving many families concerned about their festival menus. The scarcity has been particularly felt with the absence of hilsa catch from Diamond Harbour.

In response to this pressing demand fresh consignments of the fish are now arriving in Kolkata thrice a week via air by Indigo Airlines, Singapore Airlines and Myanmar Airlines. These imported hilsas weighing between 1 kg and 1.5 kg are priced between Rs.1600 Rs.2000/Kg in the retail market making them accessible to the middle class population.

Each consignment from Myanmar carries approximately 300 cartons with each containing 25 kg of hilsa. Sayed Anwar Maqsood, secretary of the Howrah wholesale fish market and Fish Importers' Association, expressed optimism about the situation. "The shortage of sea fish is severe and most available options are frozen. To meet public demand we have arranged for large fresh hilsas to be flown in thrice a week. If necessary we will increase the frequency of flights", he stated. Maqsood emphasized the decision to opt for air transport over shipping to ensure the fish's freshness and timely arrival.

While influx of hilsa brings a sigh of relief, prawn lovers face disappointment. Both golda (lobster) and bagda (tiger prawn) varieties, remain scarce with supplies from Bhangar in South 24 Parganas, nearly halted due to fish mortality following heavy monsoon rain.

Local residents like Jayati Mukherjee from South Kolkata are adjusting their plans accordingly. "This hilsa shortage isn't new. It's been happening for the last few years especially around bhai phonta. I plan to buy the fish a day earlier this year since my family is small", she shared.

Amar Das, a fish trader at lake market noted the current market conditions, "There is almost no sea fish in the market right now, only frozen stock. But fresh hilsa from Myanmar is arriving and selling at Rs.1500 Rs.1900 per kg, depending on size. Prawns however, are in crisis". (Report by Monotosh Chakraborty)



**A. Tick the correct answer:**

1×6 = 6

- (i) The city is currently facing a severe shortage of  
(a) Fresh vegetables (b) Fresh sea fish (c) Fresh fruits (d) Fresh groceries
- (ii) The imported hilsas weight between  
(a) 1kg-1.5kg (b) 1kg 2.5 kg (c) 1.5 kg 2.5 kg (d) 2.5 kg-3.5 kg
- (iii) Each consignment of hilsa from Myanmar carries  
(a) 300 kg (b) 500 kg (c) 6500 kg (d) 7500 kg
- (iv) Amar Das is a  
(a) Local resident (b) A fish trader at Lake market  
(c) The Secretary of Fish Importers Association. (d) An exporter of fish.
- (v) The hilsas that are currently available in the local markets are  
(a) Frozen (b) Stale (c) Small in size (d) Fresh
- (vi) The hilsas are imported from  
(a) Sri Lanka (b) Nepal (c) Myanmar (d) Bangladesh

**B. Each of the following statements is either "True" or "False". Write "T" for true and "F" for false in the boxes. Also write suitable lines or phrases from the passage in support of your answers.**

(1+1)×3 = 6

- (i) Hilsa shortage has been observed for the few years during bhai phonta. ☐ S.S :
- (ii) Sea fish is being imported by sea. ☐ S.S :
- (iii) Fresh consignments of fish are arriving in Kolkata twice a week. ☐ S.S :

**C. Answer the following questions:**

2×4 = 8

- (i) Why is hilsa being imported from Myanmar?
- (ii) Who is Shayed Anwar Maqsood? What is he optimistic about?
- (iii) Why are the prawn lovers unhappy?
- (iv) Why have families become concerned about their festive menus, this year?

**SECTION - B**

**GRAMMAR & VOCABULARY**

**4. Write the correct alternative to fill in the blanks:**

1×3 = 3

Jupiter was deeply \_\_\_\_\_ (moving/moved / move) by the mother's sorrow and the people's prayer. He \_\_\_\_\_ (thinks/thought/ has thought) for a while and said, "The Princess may return to earth if she has not \_\_\_\_\_ (tasted/tasting/been tasted) food in his kingdom."

**5. Do as directed:**

**A. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions:**

1×3 = 3

Raja John Vurputoor Chari, \_\_\_\_\_ Indian - American US Air Force Colonel, is among 18 astronauts, who have been selected \_\_\_\_\_ NASA for its manned mission \_\_\_\_\_ the moon in 2024.

**B. 1) He said to the teacher, "Good morning". (Change the mood of narration)**

1×3 = 3

2) He told me a lie. (Change the voice)

3) How beautiful the rose is! (Turn into assertive)

**C. Choose the correct phrasal verbs from the list given below to replace the words underlined:**

1×3 = 3

1) We should not hate the poor.

2) Read the text attentively.

3) The girl resembles her mother.

[List of Phrasal Verbs: take after, turn down, look down upon, put off, go through]

**Vocabulary**

**6. Given below are the meanings of four words which you will find in the unseen passage in Q.No. 3. Find out the words and write them in the appropriate boxes on the right-hand side: 2×4=8**

(i) Large number of people or thing arriving suddenly.

(ii) State of limited supply.



- (iii) Goods that are being sent to somebody.
- (iv) Special type of food that is considered particularly good.

### SECTION - C WRITING SKILL

7. Use the following flow-chart to write a paragraph within 100 words on how dosa batter is prepared: 10

[Flow-chart: soak 3 cups idli rice and 1 teaspoon methi for 5 hours - soak 1 cup urad dal drain off the urad dal and grind it to smooth paste with a mixer grinder - grind the soaked rice, methi and 1 cup poha to a slightly coarse batter - mix the two pastes well - cover and allow it to ferment - mix the batter gently - batter is ready for making dosa.]

8. Write a biography on Narayan Deb Nath within 100 words with the help of the hints given below: 10

[Hints: Born on 25th November 1925 - family hailed from Bikrampur, Bangladesh - studied fine arts at the Indian Art College - from 1950-1961, illustrated a number of children's books - journey started in 1962 with "Handa - Bhonda" in Shuktara famous for comic characters' Bantul The Great', Nonte Phonte 'and 'Shootki ar Mootki '-' Rabi Chhobi' published to /celebrate the birth centenary of Rabindranath Tagore received D. Litt degree awarded Padma Shri in 2021 died on 18th January 2022]

9. Suppose you are the students' secretary of your school. Your school has decided to organise a career counselling for the students of class IX and X. Now write a notice inviting the students of class IX and X to enlist their names and participate in it. Mention date, place, time, fees and other details which are necessary: 10

### ANSWER KEY

- 1.A. (i) - (d) was merely an onlooker 2) - (d) suffering 3) - (d) a huge crowd 4) - (d) none of the above 5) - (c) young people B. (1) with an effort (2) Bapu brought them out of indifference and (3) Bapu's children. C. (1) People could feel Gandhiji's presence amid the flowers and the songs. (2) A huge crowd gathered at the bank of the river as Gandhiji's ashes were immersed in the river. 2. A (1) (a) two (2) (d) alteration (3) (b) tree (4) (c) reverie B. i) He had to promise that he would plant two oak trees whenever he would see an oak-tree felled. (2) The message of the poem is that humans donot feel about the destruction of the trees. But humans must feel for the trees considering them as parts of human family and the overall environment. 3. A. (i) (b) Fresh seafish (ii) (a) 1 Kg - 1.5 Kg (iii) (d) 7500 Kg (iv) (b) A fish trader at Lake Market (v) (a) Frozen (vi) (c) Myanmar B (i) - F - SS : However this year the local markets have seen a drastic decline in the availability of hilsa, bhetki and prawns..... festival menus (ii) - F - SS : ..... fresh consignments of the fish are now arriving in Kolkata thrice a week via air by Indigo Airlines, Singapore Airlines and Myanmar Airlines. (iii) - F - SS : ..... fresh consignments of the fish are now arriving in Kolkata thrice a week C (i) The city currently has a severe shortage of sea fish. (ii) Sayed Anwar Maqsood is the secretary of the Howrah wholesale fish market and Fish Importers Association. He is optimistic about importing more fish to meet public demand. (iii) The prawn lovers are unhappy as golda (lobster) and bagda (tiger prawn) varieties remain scarce with supplies from Bhangar in South 24 Parganas, nearly halted due to fish mortality. (iv) This year as the local markets have seen a drastic decline in the availability of hilsa, bhetki and prawns leaving many families concerned about their festival menus. 4. moved, thought, tasted 5. A. an, by, to B. (1) He bade /wished the teacher good morning. (2) I was told a lie by him / A lie was told to me by him (3) The rose is very beautiful. (6) (i) Influx (ii) Scarcity / Shortage (iii) Consignments (iv) Delicacy.