



INDIAN SCHOOL DARSAIT
SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER, 2018-19



ENGLISH

Class: VIII

Date: 10 February 2019

Max. Marks: 80

Time: 3 hours

General Instructions:

Marks

- (i) All questions are compulsory.
- (ii) You may attempt any section at a time.
- (iii) All questions of that particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

SECTION A – READING (20 Marks)

I. Read the following passage carefully.

Gandhiji was of a ripe age, but he was still full of vitality and his capacity for work was prodigious. The end came suddenly by the hand of an assassin. India was shocked and the world grieved, and to those of us who were more intimately connected with him the shock and sorrow were hard to bear. And yet, perhaps, it was a fitting close to a magnificent career and in his death, as in his life, he served the cause to which he had devoted himself. None of us would have like to see him gradually fade in body and mind with increasing years. And so he died, as he had lived, a bright star of hope and achievement, the Father of the Nation which had been shaped and trained by him for half a century.

To those who had the high privilege of being associated with him in some of his innumerable activities, he will ever remain the embodiment of youthful energy. We shall not think of him as an old man, but rather as one who represented with the vitality of Spring the birth of a new India. To a younger generation who did not come in personal contact with him, he is a tradition, and numerous stories are woven round his name and activities. He was great in his life, he is greater since he passed away.

- 1.1 Based on your reading of the above passage fill in the gaps in the sentences given below: (3marks) 1 x 8 = 8

His capacity for work was great despite his (a) _____.

His death was (b) _____ and he was (c) _____.

He was called (d) _____.

For the younger generation he was (e) _____.

There are so many (f) _____ about his activities.

- 1.2 Answer these questions: (3marks)

- i. To whom was the shock and sorrow hard to bear ?
- ii. Why was Gandhiji never considered an old man ?
- iii. How did Gandhiji serve his cause even in his death?

- 1.3 Find the words from the passage which mean: (2 marks)

a. A special advantage(para -2) - _____

b. Extraordinary (para-1)- _____

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

1. Decision-making is a very vital part of our lives. This is because what we are today is largely a result of the decisions we took in the past. Similarly, whatever happens tomorrow will be a result of the decisions we take in the present.
2. It is not possible to reverse the wrong decisions taken in the past but it is possible to train ourselves into becoming a good decision-maker for the future. If we don't, we'll end up doing what we've always done and thus get what we've always got. Philosopher Walter Kaufman has called this Decidophobia.
3. All sorts of decisions- big or small, relevant or irrelevant, conscious or unconscious- punctuate our lives. Sometimes, we don't even realise we are taking a decision.
4. Those who avoid taking a decision leave everything to chance and float along life with a 'What will be, will be' attitude.
5. To enhance our decision-making, we must, first of all gather as much information as possible about the issue before we make our decision. We might be heading for a failure if our decisions are based on half-baked information.
6. If you have a set of guiding principles for your life, decision-making becomes a lot easier. For example, if you value integrity and honesty and consider them to be of vital importance, you will never waver.
7. Sometimes decisions are very difficult to make, especially when the odds seem to be against us. In this case, giving ourselves a little time to decide wouldn't be a bad idea at all. Circumstances may change with time and then it may be easier to see which action is more preferable to the others.
8. Being clear about your goals can facilitate decision-making. If we know exactly where we want to be or what we want to do in the next five years or even ten, we will decide to undertake actions which will lead us to our goals. So outline your short and long term goals in black and white.
9. Action is a vital consequence of decision – making. It is the necessary follow-up. Only when we act will get a feedback of whether our decision has been correct or not and then we can proceed in a more focused way. So it is essential to move from the world of thought to the arena of action.

2.1 **On the basis of your reading of the passage above complete the following sentences.** 8 mks

- a) The course of our life is largely determined-----
- b) People who suffer from 'Decidophobia' are unable to shape their lives because-----
- c) The first step towards decision-making would be -----
- d) If your value system is clearly defined then-----
- e) In situations where ----- taking a little time to decide would be the best way out.
- f) Outlining your goals can facilitate decision-making because-----
- g) Decision-making is futile if it is not-----
- h) To proceed in a focused way it is essential that-----

2.2 **Find words/phrases from the passage which mean the same as the following from the** 4mks

paragraphs indicated.

- (i) To interrupt repeatedly (para 3)
- (ii) Not considered carefully(para 5)
- (iii) To make possible or easier(para 8)
- (iv) Information or statements of opinion about something that provide an idea of whether it is successful or liked (para 9)

SECTION B- WRITING AND GRAMMAR (30 Marks)

3. You are Raghav/Reena Rathi of 12/2 Gulmohar Apartments, Mumbai. You are deeply moved by the sight of children working in as labourers. Write a letter to the editor to be published in national daily, drawing the attention of the readers to the utter neglect and ill-treatment of these children. Suggest ways in which they can be helped-providing them with home; giving them education and training them to become self-dependent.(Word Limit-80-100 words) 6
4. You are Anupam, secretary of the school quiz club, you want to hold an inter-class competition to decide entries for an inter-school competition two weeks from now.Draft a notice for the students’ notice board inviting participants. Mention all details required, entry dates, prizes etc.(Word Limit-50 words). 4
5. Complete the following story using the given sentence as the beginning of the story in not more than (150-200) words. 10

“I jumped out of the bed at midnight... ..”

6. **Fill in the blanks with suitable relative pronouns** 3
- 1. This is the new dress ____I got on my birthday.
 - 2. Where is the man _____child was missing?
 - 3. Jute bags _____are biodegradable should be used by all shopkeepers.
7. **Complete these sentences in the reported speech with the correct forms of the verbs.** 4
- 1. Hemali: "I want to meet all my cousins and friends in India."
Hemali said that _____to meet all _____ cousins and friends in India.
 - 2. Heena: "I'm throwing a party for my friends next week "
Heena said that _____ a party for her friends _____.
 - 3. Sheetal: " I will drive by myself all the way."
Sheetal insisted that _____ by _____all the way.
 - 4. Anu: "I have cricket practice after school tomorrow."
Anu said that _____ practice after school the _____.
8. **Rearrange the following words/phrases to make meaningful sentences.** 3
- 1. every morning/by her /is the /read/newspaper?
 - 2.shut/ be/the door/let
 - 3.Mr. Mathur /by/to us/is/taught/English

SECTION C: LITERATURE (30 Marks)

9. **Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:** 6

I 'The two boys looked at the same time and the difference was easy to see.'

a. Name the lesson and the author.

b. Who are the two boys?

c. What are they looking at? Why do you think they are different?

II "I watched the flame feeding on my mother.

I watched the holy man perform his rites

To tame the poison with an incantation.

After twenty hours it lost its sting.

My mother only said: Thank God the scorpion picked on me

And spared my children".

A What does 'the flame' remind the poet of?

B When did the mother get relief?

C What do you understand about the mother from her utterance in the last two lines?

10. Answer any six of the following questions in about 60 words :

12

(a) Where did the narrator meet the mysterious man? (The Diamond Maker)

(b) How did different people express their dislike for the narrator's mop of hair? What was the narrator's reaction?

(c) Describe the visitors who had come in the ship.

(d) Third sister seems to be the quickest to learn that one needs to adapt in order to survive in an alien culture. Pick out evidence from the text to support this statement.

(e) Yang says that his poor English was only one of the reasons behind his difficulty in adjusting to the new school. Based on your reading of the text, list the other reasons which added to Yang's difficulty.

(f) What kind of emotions do the last three lines of the poem convey?(**Night of the Scorpion**)

(g) Do you think Bruno is a kind person? Explain your opinion with evidence from the text.

(h) The war changed the life of Sadako's family forever. How?

11. Answer the following question in about 100 words.

6

i) Shmuel and Bruno are very good friends. Shmuel finds comfort in Bruno's company. Bruno looks forward to meeting his friend each day. As Shmuel, write a page in your diary expressing your feelings about the day Bruno apologized to you. **Or**

ii) With reference to the lesson Yang the Youngest, Which facts did you notice about the Chinese culture? How do some of these contrast with the American culture?

12. Answer the following question in about 100 words.

6

i) Imagine that the diamond maker realizes that unless he takes a drastic step, he might perish of hunger and starvation. He decides that he would go to the police and surrender himself. Develop a new story with happy ending. **Or**

ii) You must have seen people believe in good luck charms. Do you have any? Describe the charm and narrate an episode when you used it.(**One Thousand Cranes**)