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ANNUAL EXAMINATION – 2012-2013

Class – VIII

SUBJECT – English (Language)

Time – 2 Hrs.

M.M. – 80

Answer to this paper must be written on paper provided separately.

You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.

This time has to be used in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of this paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

The intended Marks for question or parts of questions are given in the brackets [].

Question 1

Write a composition in about 300-350 words on any one of the following -

[25]

- a) Begin a short story with the following words:
How foolish I was to have believed that woman's story
- b) "Cigarettes smoking in public places should not be allowed". Argue either for or against this statement.
- c) You have lived in your ancestral house since birth. The house is to be sold so that flats may be built. Narrate the circumstances that led to this decision and describe your feelings about moving out of the house.
- d) The waiting room at a railway station presents a wonderful opportunity to observe human behaviour. Describe an experience when you were early for a train and had to spend some time in the waiting room with different kinds of people.
- e) Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you.



Question 2

Select one of the following -

[10]

- a) Write a letter to a friend who was absent from school on a day when a really comical incident took place. Describe the incident, say what was so funny about it and what you learnt from it.
- b) Write a letter to the Principal of your school about to what course or stream (Commerce or Science) you wish to follow and why you have decided to choose that course in class I X.

Question 3

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow -

The saving of certain wild animals from extinction has for many years been a problem for zoologists and other specialists; but more recently the problem has become so acute, and has received so much publicity, that most people are now concerned about it. This may at first seem strange because one of the most gratifying developments of the last few years has been the passing of strict laws to protect wild animals and the consequent decline in the hunting of big – game for sport. Why is it, then that some rare wild animals are still threatened with extinction and even some of the less rare ones are rapidly declining in number?

One reason is the 'march of civilization'. When an area is wholly cleared of vegetation to make room for new towns, factory sites or hydroelectric plants, the natural home of several species is destroyed. The displaced must either migrate to another area or perish. Even the clearing of land for a road or an airfield may involve 'pushing back' the jungle, and the smaller the area in which wild animals compete for a living the smaller the number that can hope to survive.

Civilization brings, too, swift and easy transport and so assists those who are determined to break the various protective laws. Thieves can elude the game wardens, shoot an elephant for its tusks, a rhinoceros for its horn, or a deer for its meat and be miles away from the site of the crime before the dead or dying victim is even discovered.

It is sad to reflect that civilization, which can bring so many benefits to people who have previously known only hunger and misery, brings also facilities for the heartless criminals who, for the material gain, will slaughter some harmless animals and threaten the disappearance of its kind from the earth forever.

- A) Give the meaning of each word as used in the passage. One word answers or short phrases will be accepted - [5]
- i) Gratifying ii) Consequent iii) Declining
iv) Site v) Reflect
- B) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words –
- i) “This may at first seem strange”. To what does the word ‘this’ refer? [2]
ii) Why does the author think that ‘this’ may seem strange? [2]
iii) How does modern transport threaten the survival of wild animals? [3]
iv) Using single sentence for each, give the meaning of. [2]
1- ‘Pushing back’ the jungle 2- compete for a living
- v) What is the sad reflection that the author makes in the last paragraph of the passage. [3]
- C) In not more than 60 words of your own, mention ways in which the ‘march of civilization’ threatens to make certain rare wild animals extinct. [8]

Question 4

- A) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words - [5]
- i) The outgoing Manager will hand _____ charge to his successor.
ii) Her request for a transfer was turned _____.
iii) Not all of us are alive _____ the threat arising from global warming.
iv) He found himself _____ pressure to grant the request.
v) He proved himself equal _____ the task.
vi) She has been going _____ the scripts for days.
vii) He soon became accustomed _____ the harsh weather.
viii) Sujata stood _____ the river and saw the ship pass by.
ix) The elderly man prepared himself for a life _____ retirement.
x) Altaf had many books and papers scattered all _____ the room.
- B) Fill in the blanks with appropriate form of the verb given in the brackets - [5]
- Once there lived a monk who (i) _____ (decide) to make his followers always laugh. People flocked to him to listen to his jokes and (2) _____ (return) home laughing. The monk would make fun of himself and of others, (3) _____ (make) sure that there (4) _____ (be) not a single gloomy face in the crowd. After some years when he (5) _____ (die) and yet cheerful, his followers asked him how he (6) _____ (manage) to be happy even on his deathbed. He did not reply but made a last wish that he should be cremated with his clothes on. He wished that he should be kept on the funeral pyre with, the same clothes he (7) _____ (wear). His wishes were carried out and to every one’s surprise, when the pyre was (8) _____ (light) it was found that the old monk had (9) _____ (hide) firecrackers under his clothes. Even on his cremation pyre, he (10) _____ (entertain) people.
- C) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using ‘and’, ‘but’ or ‘so’ - [5]
- i) He found the book at last. It was in the library.
ii) She received her message. Immediately she went to meet her brother.
iii) Tom ran very fast. He cannot catch the train.
iv) I saw men at work on a new building. It was to be a factory.
v) Suresh did not come to school. He did not send in an application.
- D) Do as directed - [5]
- a) Akbar was one of the greatest kings. (Use ‘greater’ and rewrite the sentence)
b) He is greater than me. (change into a negative sentence)
c) He is fortunate to have won the prize. (Begin: Fortunately)
d) “I am sorry for insulting you”, said Rohan to Rahul. (Begin: Rohan apologised.....)
e) He failed in the examination. He was greatly disappointed. (Combine into a single simple sentence by using a preposition)

