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**INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
MIDDLE SECTION
FINALEXAMINATION 2017-18**



ENGLISH

Code: MZEN0311

CLASS: VIII

Time Allotted: 2 ½ Hrs.

13.03.2018

Max .Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. The question paper comprises of **four Sections, A, B, C and D.** You have to attempt all four sections.
2. **All** questions are **compulsory.**
3. **All answers should be written in the answer sheet provided.**

SECTION-A READING-(15 MARKS)

Qns		Marks
1.	<p><u>Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow</u></p> <p>1. Eagles are birds of prey. Most of the 60 species of eagles are found in Eurasia and Africa. One such species is the Tawny Eagle.</p> <p>2. It is mostly found in Africa, both north and south of Sahara Desert and across the tropical region from south-western Asia to India. It lays one to three eggs in a stick nest in a tree, cliff or on the ground. It favours open dry habitats like semi-deserts, deserts, or savannah plains.</p> <p>3. The Tawny Eagle is a large bird of prey which is about 62 to 72 cm in length and has a wingspan of 165 to 185cm. It usually weighs 1.6 to 2.4 kg. Like all other eagles, it belongs to the family of Accipitridae.</p> <p>4. These eagles are relatively large and are considered to be rather handsome birds of prey with tawny upper parts and blackish flight feathers and tail whereas the lower back is very pale. The striking features of this type are its heavily feathered legs and dark markings on the wings especially the flight feathers.</p> <p>5. The call of the Tawny eagles is a crow-like barking, though, generally, it is a silent bird. It eats large fresh carrion of all kinds. It also kills and eats small mammals like rabbits, reptiles and birds.</p> <p>a) On the basis of your reading the above passage choose the most appropriate option and</p>	8

	<p>complete the sentences:</p> <p>i. The length of the Tawny Eagle is _____.</p> <p>a. exactly 62 to 72 cm b. about 62 to 72 cm c. 165-185 cm d. 1.6 to 2.4 kg</p> <p>ii. The Tawny eagle is found in _____</p> <p>a. Africa b. South –western Asia. c. India d. all the above</p> <p>b. State whether the following statements are True or False:</p> <p>i. Generally a silent bird but the Tawny Eagle does call at times.</p> <p>ii. Unlike all other eagles it belongs to the family of Accipitridae.</p> <p>c. Complete the following sentences:</p> <p>i. The most common places where the Tawny Eagle lays its eggs are _____</p> <p>ii. These eagles are found in semi- desert and desert regions because _____</p> <p>iii. The striking features of the Tawny Eagle are its _____</p> <p>d. Answer the following questions briefly:</p> <p>i. Why is the Tawny Eagle considered to be handsome?</p> <p>ii. What does this species of eagle feed on for its survival?</p> <p>e. Find <u>one word</u> from the passage which means the following:</p> <p>i. A group of living organisms which are similar and capable of exchanging genes. (para1)</p>	
2.	<p><u>Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:</u></p> <p>The seagull was afraid to fly. The vast expanse of water, stretched beneath, frightened him. He saw his brothers and sister fly over it but he could never muster the courage to fly. He ran to the edge of the ledge, flapped his wings but felt they would never support him, so he just ran back into the little hole and hid there. His parents tried their best to make him fly. They scolded him for not making an attempt to fly. They even threatened him that he would be left alone on the ledge to starve, but all their efforts were futile. The whole day the seagull watched his brothers flying about with their parents .He watched his brothers being taught to skim the waves and dive for fish but he never made an attempt. He was left alone. The seagull had not eaten for days. He saw his mother tearing at a piece of fish. Seeing her,</p>	7

the seagull cackled and kept crying 'ga,ga' begging her to bring the fish but she paid no heed to him. Suddenly, he uttered a joyous scream because she was flying towards him with the piece of dead fish in her beak but she did not come near him. She halted when she was just opposite him abreast of the ledge. The seagull was desperate and hunger made him dive at the fish. He fell into space and suddenly his wings spread outwards. His wings cut through the air and he gradually soared upwards.

He learnt to fly.

a) On the basis of your reading the passage complete the following sentences:

- i) The seagull could never muster the courage to fly because _____
- ii) He would go to the edge of the ridge, flap his wings but run back because _____

b) Choose the most appropriate option and complete the sentences:

- i) The sea-gull's parents tried their best to make him learn to fly by _____
 - a) threatening him that he would be left alone and soon starve
 - b) not scolding him
 - c) pampering and encouraging him
 - d) not scaring him and promising to be with him

ii) The seagull was forced to fly because he _____

- a) wanted to catch a herring
- b) wanted to join his brothers
- c) was desperate and hungry
- d) wanted to overcome his fear

iii) The mother halted just opposite him, because she _____

- a) wanted him to fly and take the dead fish
- b) did not want to give him the dead fish
- c) wanted him to fall into the water below
- d) wanted him to feel ashamed of himself

c) The synonym of the word useless from the passage is: (para-1)

- i) futile
- ii) desperate
- iii) skim
- iv) attempt

d) The antonym of the word plunged from the passage is: (para-2)

- i) soared
- ii) stretched
- iii) abreast
- iv) threatened

SECTION B - WRITING (20 MARKS)

3. With the information provided below write a biographical sketch of Thomas Hardy. Do not

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	<p>include any extra information. Write the sketch in about 50 words:</p> <p>Name: Thomas Hardy, British novelist and poet Birth: 2nd June, 1840, Stinsford, United Kingdom Parents: Thomas Hardy and Jemima Hardy Education: Received education till the age of 16 Famous Short stories: The Three Strangers, A Mere Interlude, Alicia's Diary etc. Famous Novels Made into Movies: Far from the Madding Crowd, Jude and Tess Death: 11th January, Dorchester, United Kingdom.</p>	
4.	<p>With the help of the information given in the box, rewrite the report on the Annual Day celebrations of Mount Carmel School.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>20th Annual Day celebration – Tuesday – 4th January, 2017 – Chief Guest – Director – Institute of Commerce and Arts – the Middle Section - great zeal and enthusiasm – appreciated - the efforts - grand success.</p> </div> <p style="text-align: center;">ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATIONS AT MOUNT CARMEL</p> <p>Chennai, 5th January: Mount Carmel School held its _____ on _____. The _____ was Mr. Pramod Gupta _____. The students of _____ _____ participated _____ in the cultural programme. The Chief Guest _____ of the staff and students. The Annual Day celebration _____.</p>	4
5.	<p>You are Supriya \Suraj, the Student Secretary of the 'Travel and Explore' wing of your school. Draft a Notice in not more than 50 words, to be put up on your school notice board, informing students about the 7-day excursion to Garudmaachi, Pune as part of the extended learning programme. Include all relevant details.</p>	4
6.	<p>i) Write a letter to the Vice-Principal of your school seeking permission for a study tour to visit the Al-Hoota Caves in Nizwa.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>ii) You have to deliver a speech in the morning assembly of your school. Prepare a speech,</p>	8

	telling the students how exercise and games can keep you healthy and fit. Write in about 120 words.	
	SECTION-C-GRAMMAR (20 MARKS)	
7.	<p>This passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and its correction. Underline the word you provide:</p> <p>(a) The Panchatantra is a collection for animal fables of (a) _____</p> <p>(b) India. It is certainly the more frequently translated literary (b) _____</p> <p>(c) work of India. This stories are among the most widely known (c) _____</p> <p>(d) in the world. The original Sanskrit work, which a scholars (d) _____</p> <p>(e) believe is composed in the 3rd century. In other words, (e) _____</p> <p>(f) these animal fables are as old as we are able for imagine. (f) _____</p>	3
8.	<p>In the passage given below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the words that come before and after it. Underline the word provided.</p> <p>a) How of us ever think about the less fortunate children? a) _____</p> <p>b) Have we ever stopped to offer street children a kind look b) _____</p> <p>c) or even a morsel of food to fill stomachs? c) _____</p> <p>d) Do hearts reach out to these less fortunate ones d) _____</p> <p>e) who slog from morning till evening? Let's make effort e) _____</p> <p>f) to reach out to them. A smile, a kind word is than enough f) _____</p> <p>to make them happy.</p>	3
9.	<p>Re-arrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences:</p> <p>i) discipline/ a must/ are/ we /at school/at/ or /home/ whether/is</p> <p>ii) discipline/ the/ childhood /is /best/ to inculcate/period/</p> <p>iii) things/ learns /and /easily/ quickly /young mind/ the</p>	3
10.	<p>Do as directed within the brackets:</p> <p>i) He will not come here. He will not send a representative. (Combine the sentences and rewrite using neither...nor)</p>	3

	<p>ii) To fly kites is a good sport, but to bet on them is bad. (Rewrite the sentence using Gerunds in the place of infinitives)</p> <p>iii) He was given a trophy. He was given a cash prize.(Combine the sentences and rewrite using not only....but also)</p> <p>iv) You _____ take the medicine twice daily.(Fill in with modal-verb indicating advice)</p> <p>v) _____ I use your pen?(Fill in with modal-verb indicating formal permission)</p> <p>vi) You can borrow the paint box. You need the artist’s permission.(Combine the sentences and rewrite using Infinitive)</p>	
11.	<p>Do as directed within the brackets:</p> <p>i) When was the work completed by you? (Change to Active Voice)</p> <p>ii) Throw the garbage in the dustbin. (Change to Passive Voice)</p> <p>iii) Father says that dogs are faithful to their masters.(Change to Direct Speech)</p> <p>iv) He said, Hurrah! “We have won the match.” (Change to Indirect Speech)</p>	4
12.	<p>Rewrite the sentences according to instructions given within brackets combine the two sets of simple sentences:</p> <p>i) The house is very quiet .The children have gone out.(Combine into a Complex Sentence)</p> <p>ii) The sea was smooth. We went for a boat ride.(Combine into a Simple Sentence)</p> <p>iii) Akshat went to visit his friend. He was not at home.(Combine into a Compound Sentence)</p> <p>iv) I joined the Quiz Club. I was in the sixth grade(Combine using an Adverb Clause)</p>	4
SECTION D-LITERATURE (25 MARKS)		
13.	<p>Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“When majesty stoops to folly. Reverse thy doom And, in thy best consideration, check This hideous rashness: answer my life my judgement, Thy youngest daughter does not love thee least.’</p> <p>i) ‘i) Majesty’ in the above extract refers to _____</p> <p>a. a. King Lear b. Earl of Kent c. Duke of Albany d. Duke of Cornwall</p> <p>ii) ‘ii) My’ in the above lines refer to _____</p>	4

	<p>a. a. Kent b. King of France c. Duke of Albany d. Regan</p> <p>iii) By 'hideous rashness' the speaker implies, the decision to _____</p> <p>a. disown and deprive Cordelia and entrust the Kingdom to Goneril and Regan</p> <p>b. banish Kent for attempting to make Lear break his vow.</p> <p>c. deprive Goneril and Regan of their share of the kingdom.</p> <p>d. imprison Cordelia for failing to meet Lear's demand for expression of love.</p> <p>iv) The speaker wanted Lear to reverse his judgement to disown Cordelia because:</p> <p>a. Cordelia loved him truly and it would be disastrous to entrust the kingdom to Goneril and Regan</p> <p>b. he did not want Lear to go against the law of the land.</p> <p>c. he wanted to marry Cordelia and inherit the kingdom.</p> <p>d. Cordelia had requested him to convince Lear to entrust the kingdom to her.</p>	
14.	<p>Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.</p> <p>The Long withered grass in the sunshine is glancing The bare trees are tossing their branches on high; The dead leaves, beneath them, are merrily dancing, The white clouds are scudding across the blue sky.</p> <p>(a) How does the poetess visualize the movement of the dead leaves?</p> <p>(b) What is the withered grass doing in the sunshine?</p> <p>(c) Name the poetess. In which season of the year was this poem written?</p>	3
15.	<p>Answer any <u>SIX</u> of the following questions in about 30 - 40 words:</p> <p>i) Why do you think Behrman was considered a failure in art? How did he prove it wrong later?</p> <p>ii) How do we know that the incident that takes place in the poem is entirely the boy's imagination?</p> <p>iii) What was the narrator's reaction when his guest suggested 'Foyots'? Why did he go ahead with the lady's plans?</p> <p>iv) How do we know that along with the poetess the wind helped nature to experience</p>	12

	<p>happiness and pleasure?</p> <p>v) Why does Lear disown and deprive Cordelia of her share of the kingdom?</p> <p>vi) How did the fall of the ivy leaves affect Johnsy's recovery?</p> <p>vii) Why does Kent say 'Lear is mad'? Why did he speak against his judgement?</p>	
16.	<p>Answer <u>ONE</u> of the following questions in about 120 words.</p> <p>i) Do you think Lear was right in his decision to entrust the kingdom to Goneril and Regan? What was the outcome of his rash decision?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>ii) Why did the narrator choose the cheapest dish on the menu? How did he react when his guest ordered the most expensive food items?</p>	6