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**INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT  
MIDDLE SECTION  
FIRST TERM EXAMINATION 2018-19**



**SUBJECT - ENGLISH**

Code: MYEN 03

CLASS: VIII

Time Allotted: 2 ½ Hrs.

19.09.2018

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.

8

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

**1.** Dolphins are warm-blooded aquatic mammals. They are warm blooded because their body temperature remains the same irrespective of their surroundings. Unlike fish they have lungs as well. There are more than 32 varieties of dolphins that thrive in salt water and 5 species of river dolphins that live in fresh water. Baby dolphins are born in water .The infant dolphin is pushed to the surface for its first breath.

**2.**The torpedo-shaped bodies help the dolphins to move through water very easily and quickly. The paddle –shaped forelimbs called flippers and the dorsal fin found on their backs, help dolphins to balance when they swim while the powerful tail fins called flukes propel the dolphins through water. A layer of fat called blubber which lies beneath the skin keeps the dolphin warm.

**3.** Dolphins locate objects in their path by making a series of clicking and whistling sounds. When the sound reflects from an object near them, an echo is produced.

**4.** There are many species of dolphins and their sizes vary.They can consume 14 kilograms of fish per day. Although dolphins are widespread, most of the species are found in the warmer waters of the tropical zones. Dolphins are simply amazing creatures and are considered to be very friendly and intelligent.

**a) On the basis of your reading the above passage, choose the most appropriate option and complete the sentences.**

i) The paddle-shaped forelimbs of a dolphin are called\_\_\_\_\_.

a) flippers                      b) blubbers                      c) flukes                      d) dorsal fins

ii) The torpedo-shaped bodies help the dolphins to\_\_\_\_\_

a) move through water      b) balance in water      c) propel through water      d) all the above

**b) State whether the following statements are True or False.**

- i) Dolphins do not eat fish.
- ii) Unlike fish, dolphins have lungs.

**c) Fill in the blanks and complete the paragraph.**

Dolphins are amazing creatures. These ii) \_\_\_\_\_ mammals are very friendly and ii) \_\_\_\_\_. By making a series of iii) \_\_\_\_\_ and iv) \_\_\_\_\_ sounds they can locate an object in their path. There are both salt water and v) \_\_\_\_\_ water dolphins.

**d) Answer the following questions briefly.**

- i) How do the forelimbs and dorsal fin help the dolphin?
- ii) Why are dolphins warm-blooded?
- iii) Where are the dolphins mostly found? Why?

**e) Provide the **antonym** of word **limited** from the passage. (para 4)**

**2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

7

1. On April 10, 1912, the Titanic, the largest ship afloat, left Southampton, England on her maiden voyage to New York City. The White Star Line had spared no expense in assuring her luxury. A legend even before she sailed, her passengers were a mixture of the world's wealthiest, and immigrants.

2. She was declared as the safest ship ever built, so safe that she carried only 20 lifeboats – enough to provide accommodation for only half her 2,200 passengers and crew. It was believed that since the ship's construction made her "unsinkable", her lifeboats were necessary only to rescue survivors of other sinking ships.

3. Four days into her journey, at 11:40 P.M. on the night of April 14, she struck an iceberg. The collision was fatal and the icy water soon poured into the ship.

4. It became obvious that many would not find safety in a lifeboat. Each passenger was given a life jacket but survival would be impossible when exposed to water, four degrees below freezing point. The great ship slowly slid beneath the water two hours and forty minutes after collision.

5. The next morning, the liner 'Carpathia' rescued 705 survivors. One thousand five hundred and twenty-two passengers and crew were lost. Subsequent inquiries attributed the high loss of life to an insufficient number of lifeboats and inadequate training in their use.

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

- i) Even with life jackets survival would be impossible because \_\_\_\_\_
- ii) The high loss of life was due to \_\_\_\_\_

**b) Choose the most appropriate option and complete the sentences.**

i) The Titanic carried only twenty life boats because \_\_\_\_\_

- a) she was considered **to be** the safest ship ever built
- b) her construction made her unsinkable
- c) her life boats were necessary only to rescue survivors of other sinking ships
- d) all the above

ii) The world's safest ship sank because \_\_\_\_\_

- a) she hit an iceberg
- b) water poured into the ship
- c) the engines developed a snag
- d) both (a) and (b)

iii) The liner 'Caparhia' rescued \_\_\_\_\_

- a) 705 survivors      b) 1,522 survivors      c) 2,200 survivors      d) 1,912 survivors.

**c) Answer the following questions in brief**

- i) When did the Titanic set sail? Who were the passengers on board the ship?
- ii) When did she hit the iceberg? How much time did the ship take to sink after the collision?
- iii) Despite the lifeboats, why was survival considered to be impossible?

**d) Give the synonym of the word *evident* from the passage (para 4)**

**SECTION B - WRITING (20 MARKS).**

3. The state of Kerala has been hit by a devastating flood. Thousands have been rendered homeless and the huge loss of life and property has brought life to a standstill. Draft a notice to be put up in your school Notice Board urging students to contribute generously in cash or kind to help rebuild the state. Write the **NOTICE** in about 50 words. Include all relevant details. 4
4. **Write a précis of the following passage. Provide a suitable title.** 4

Teaching is the noblest of all professions. Teaching is the one profession that creates all other professions.

A teacher has a sacred duty to perform. He has the responsibility to mould the character of young children. Apart from developing their intellect, he instills in them the right values of life. He teaches them to be truthful, honest, caring and to be sympathetic towards the needs of others. These virtues are not easy to be imbibed. Only he who himself leads a life of simplicity, purity and rigid discipline can successfully cultivate these habits in his pupils.

A teacher shapes the life and future of a student.

A teacher always remains young. He may grow old in age, but being in constant contact with budding youths keeps him happy and cheerful. It is not that a teacher has no worries on his mind, but the delightful company of innocent children makes him forget his worries. A teacher is a doctor who cures ignorance and an artist who inspires creativity.

**(168 words)**

5. **Read the following telephonic conversation between Aastha and Shravani. It was time for Shravani to leave for her music class so She leaves a written message for her mother. Write the message in about 50 words. Put the message in a box.** 4

Aastha: Hello dear. Is mother at home?

Shravani : No, aunty ,she has gone to the market.

Aastha: Oh. Will she be back soon?

Shravani: I don't think so aunty. Why, anything urgent?

Aastha: Not as such, but please convey the message that tomorrow instead of 10 a.m. we will meet the official at the Embassy at 9a.m..

Shravani: Surely aunty, I will convey the message.

Aastha: Thanks dear .Please remind her to carry the required documents and if she has any problem due to the change in time, ask her to call me as soon as possible.

Shravani: Surely aunty.

Aastha: Thanks dear. Bye and take care.

Shravani: Bye aunty.

6. i) The students' chairs and desks in your class room are in bad condition .The chairs are rather uncomfortable as they are either very low or the sitting space is very narrow and the desks with uneven surfaces are broken. Write a letter of complaint in about **120 words** to your Vice Principal highlighting the problems and requesting him to resolve the issue. 8

**OR**

ii) You have to deliver a speech in the morning assembly of your school. Prepare a speech in about **120 words** on the '**Advantages of Teamwork.**'

### **SECTION C - GRAMMAR(20 MARKS)**

7. **In the following passage one word is missing in each numbered line. Write the missing word along with the words before and after.** 3

a) Environmental Pollution refers the excessive level \_\_\_\_\_

b) of dangerous pollutants present various elements \_\_\_\_\_

c) of the environment such air, water, soil, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

d) Environment consists of nature, air water. \_\_\_\_\_

e) Environment plays important role in the growth \_\_\_\_\_

f) and preservation of life. There a keen relation between \_\_\_\_\_

natural environment and living things.

8. **Do as directed within the brackets.** 3

i) He did not have even a rupee. He could not buy a loaf of bread. (combine using **Infinitive**)

ii) The \_\_\_\_\_ door awakened the dog. (fill in with the **Participle** form of the verb creak)

iii) The thief saw the police. He ran away. (combine using **Participle**)

iv) When she is in the mood, she likes to bake cakes. (rewrite the sentence using **Gerund** in place of **Infinitive**)

v) I saw him \_\_\_\_\_ the road. (fill in with the Infinitive form of the verb **cross**)

vi) \_\_\_\_\_ is her hobby. ( Use the **Gerund** form of the verb **sing**)

9. **Do as directed within the brackets.** 3

i) He \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in with the Past Perfect form of the verb **finish**) his homework

before his mother reached home.

ii) The patients \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in with the Present Perfect Continuous form of the verb **wait**) for almost four hours since morning for the doctor to arrive.

iii) He \_\_\_\_\_ now. (**is studying / will be studying / was studying**---choose the correct usage and fill in the blank)

iv) The mechanic \_\_\_\_\_ the fan today. (Fill in with the Future Continuous form of the verb-**repair**)

v) The boy was \_\_\_\_\_ of his teachers because of his sincerity. (choose the appropriate idiom from options in bold and fill in the blank ---**in the good books/ in a fix**)

vi) The man went through the details of the interview procedure. He did not want \_\_\_\_\_ in front of other interviewers. (choose the appropriate idiom from options in bold and fill in the blank) ---**to call off / to cut a sorry figure**)

10. **Re-arrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences.**

3

i) a / land / of / diverse/ cultures/ is / India

ii) people of /cultures / religions/ and languages /different / live/ together/ in harmony

iii) must /we/ always /strive/for/peace and prosperity /nation /of our.

11. **Do as directed within the brackets.**

4

i) She says, 'I am fond of mangoes.' (convert from Direct to Indirect Speech)

ii) She said to the boys, 'Don't play in the garden.' (convert to Indirect Speech)

iii) She said to me, 'Where is the camera?' (convert to Indirect Speech)

iv) She said that she had passed the examination. (convert from Indirect to Direct)

12. **Do as directed within the brackets.**

4

i) Somebody \_\_\_\_\_ (use the **verb opened****transitively** and complete the sentence)

ii) The children \_\_\_\_\_ (use the **verb went** **intransitively** and complete the sentence)

iii) The policeman \_\_\_\_\_ (use the **verb caught** **transitively** and complete the sentence)

iv) The man received \_\_\_\_\_ (complete the sentence by supplying a **suitable object**)

**SECTION D-LITERATURE (25 MARKS)**

13. **Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.**

3

She looked at the three buckets, paint peeling off, a sad blot on this spotlessly clean hospital of which the entire community was proud of.'

i. 'She' in the above extract refers to \_\_\_\_\_

a) Radha Trivedi

b) PO's wife

c) Swaroopamma

ii) She wanted the buckets to be painted again because \_\_\_\_\_

a) the paint was peeling off

b) the buckets were painted yellow.

c) she wanted to make use of the colour

iii) The community was very proud of the hospital because \_\_\_\_\_

a) it was the fulcrum of the place and the only spotlessly clean building worth gazing at.

b) it had an well-equipped operation theatre.

c) it had the only refrigerator in the place.

14. 'Yet he was kind if severe in aught ,  
The love he bore to learning was in fault.  
The village all declared how much he knew;  
'Twas certain he could write and cipher too:  
i) Who is the 'he' referred to in the above context?  
ii) What skills of the school master are mentioned in the extract?  
iii) Why was he strict with his students? What opinion did the villagers have about the school master?
15. Answer any **SIX** of the following questions in about 30 – 40 words. 12  
i) Describe the land through which the poet and his mother were travelling?  
ii) Why did the swallow want to fly to Egypt? Why did he later decide not to fly to Egypt?  
iii) What did Edward Heinlein think when he saw the buckets painted yellow?  
iv) Why did Uncle D come to the narrator's house? Why was the narrator surprised?  
v) How do we know that the schoolmaster was skilled at arguing? How did the rustics react?  
vi) How did Dr. Radha Trivedi make sure everything was in place before Heinlein's visit?  
vii) What is Avurudhu? Why did the narrator and his siblings visit Aachchi on this day?
16. Answer **ONE** of the following questions in about 120 words. 6  
i) Why did the narrator feel that Aachchi disliked him? Why did his attitude towards Aachchi change and what did he wish to do?  
ii) How did the swallow and the Happy Prince help the people in the city before the Prince became blind? Illustrate your answer with examples from the lesson.

End of the Question Paper.