



# GYANODAYA GURUKUL

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## Half Yearly Examination – (2019-20)

**Class: - VIII**

**F.M.: - 80**

**Subject: - ENGLISH**

**Duration: - 3 hr**

General Instructions:

- (i) All the questions are compulsory. Attempt all the sections.
- (ii) You may attempt any section at a time
- (iii) All the questions of a section should be attempted in the correct order.
- (iv) This paper contains 1-15 questions.

### SECTION – A (Reading Comprehension)

Q.1. Read the passage given below and answer carefully: (7)

One day the old emperor Shahjahan became ill. His son Aurangzeb, who always wanted to be the emperor, put his father in a jail. Jahanara begum, the eldest child of Shahjahan, did not leave her father and went to jail along with him. She said, "I shall share the suffering of my father. He needs me in his old age, and I shall never leave him." Shahjahan lived in the jail for seven years and then he died. During that period princess Jahanara stayed with him and took care of him. After the death of her father she returned to her own palace. She continued to live there and spent the rest of her life serving the needy and the poor. Before her death she gave away all her money to the poor and the needy. She was highly educated and well versed in Persian and Arabic, as well as a writer, painter and poet. Jahanara was Shahjahan's preferred child. Legend says that once when Aurangzeb was severely sick, Jahanara took care of him. Jahanara died on September 5, 1681, at the age of 67. Upon her death, Aurangzeb gave her the posthumous title: Sahibat-uz-Zamani (mistress of age).

On the basis of your reading the passage, answer the questions:

1. What was Aurangzeb's aim of life?
2. Who was the eldest child of Shahjahan?
3. Pick out and write the line from the passage which shows that Jahanara begum was a caring daughter?
4. What did Aurangzeb do when his father became ill?
5. Jahanara was a kind lady. Explain.
6. What did Jahanara do before her death?
7. Find words in the passage which mean the same as:

(a) King

(b) Sick

Q.2. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: (8)

One of the greatest mysteries of bird life is travelling. Every year during autumn and early winter birds travel from northern regions of Asia, Europe and America to the southern warmer lands. They

make the return journey again during spring and early summer. They are punctual unless they are delayed by bad weather. They face many dangers and hardships while travelling long distances through the air, over hills, forests, plains and large stretches of water. Sometimes sudden storms arise and drive them far out of course. Often, they are blown right out to sea and are drowned in the wild waves. At night bright lights attract and confuse the birds. They cannot fly at their fastest. The migration speed is usually from 48 to 64 km an hour and rarely exceeds 80.

- (a) When do the birds travel from northern regions to southern warmer lands and why?
- (b) What danger do they face when they are flying over the sea?
- (c) What happens to these birds at night when they see the lights?
- (d) When do the birds make their return journey?
- (e) What is the Migration speed of the birds?
- (f) Which is the greatest mystery?

### SECTION B (GRAMMAR AND WRITING)

Q.3. You are Neha/ Atul, the Head boy of your school. Write a notice for your school notice board about the ANNUAL DAY to be held next month, inviting names of the students who wish to participate in cultural activities. Give details of the date, venue, time and items to be held. Put the notice in the box. (7)

Q5. Complete the sentences below using the appropriate forms of the verbs in brackets. (4x1=4)

- a) I..... [Phone] you when I..... [get] back home from school.
- b) He \_\_\_\_\_ (call) me yesterday when I \_\_\_\_\_ (be) playing.

Q6. Transform the following sentences into indirect speech: (3)

- a) Penny said, "Do you really want it son?"
- b) "How are you feeling, Pa?" asked Jody.
- c) She says, "I will work hard"

Q.7. Rearrange the jumbled words given below to form meaningful sentences: (3)

- a) the/body/sleep is/essential/a good night's/for
- b) loss of/may also/appetite/they/experience
- c) an/dream/is/mind/activity/of

### SECTION -C (LITERATURE)

Q.8. A. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: 4x1=4

When I set out for Lyonesse  
A hundred miles away,  
The rime was on the spray;  
And starlight lit my lonesomeness

When I set out for Lyonesse

A hundred miles away.

(I) How far was Lyonesse?

- a. miles
- b. Hundred miles
- c. One and half miles
- d. Two hundred miles.

(II) What lit the poet's lonesomeness?

- a. Moonlight b. Starlight c. Torch d. Lamp.

(III) What was the weather condition there?

- a. It was hot
- b. Rime was on the spray
- c. It was raining
- d. It was dry

(IV) Pick out the meaning of "Rime"

- a. Frost b. Raindrops c. Sunshine d. None of these.

**OR**

B. Read the following and answer the questions that follow:

(1x4=4)

The poetry of the Earth is ceasing never;  
On a lone winter evening when the frost Has wrought a silence,  
from the stone there shrills the cricket's song,  
in warmth increases ever,  
And seems to one in drowsiness half lost;  
The grasshoppers among some grassy hills.

(a) Name the poem and the poet.

- (i) On the Grasshopper and Cricket, John Keats
- (ii) The Ant and the cricket, John Keats
- (iii) On the Grasshopper and Cricket, John Milton
- (iv) None of these.

(b) What brings silence in winter?

- (i) Night
- (ii) Frost

(iii) Rain

(Vi) Moon

(c) Who sings the poetry of Earth in winter season?

(i) Cricket

(ii) Frog

(iii) Grasshopper

(iv) Poet

(a) Write the words that rhyme together.

(i) song-one

(ii) shrills-hills

(iii) stone-some

(iv) warmth-winter

Q9.: - Answer any six of the following questions briefly: (6 x 2= 12)

a) Where do the snakes and rodents take shelter?

b) Why did Penny Baxter allow Jody to go find the fawn and raise it?

c) What did Mrs. Sappleton say about the open window?

d) What was the great story attributed to the Stone Face?

e) In what way is the forest pool different from the one which Ranji knew in the Rajputana desert?

f) What is Duttada expected to do on his return from London?

g) What is the scientist's message to the disabled?

h) Why did the boy not pay the school fees on the day he brought money to school?

i) What was Duttada's secret mission?

Q.10. Do you think it is right to kill an animal to save a human life? Give reasons for your answer. OR Inner beauty is more important than outer beauty. Explain it with reference to the chapter, 'A Visit to Cambridge'. (4)

**Question No 11 to 15 carrying 5 marks each: -**

Q.11. What were Whitaker and his team going to do with the eggs?

Q.12. Explain in brief the Ch-The Gogol's First Day?

Q.13. Who makes ornaments not only for human beings but what pets?

Q.14. Write in a few lines about your own opinion about the topic "The Last Class".

Q.15. Write the summary of the poem "In The Bazaars Of Hyderabad".