

BUDHA DAL PUBLIC SCHOOL PATIALA
FINAL EXAMINATION (16 March 2024)
ENGLISH
Class - VIII (Set - A)

Time Allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

PART - A

Q1. Read the passage carefully and answer any 10 questions that follow. (10×1=10)

1. Child marriages are rampant in North India. They continue to blight the lives of people. Children bound by marriage are victims of blind customs and superstitions prevalent in rural areas and certain urban concentrations among the weaker socio-economic groups. Nothing seems to stop this anti-social practice despite the Child Marriage Act passed as early as in 1929, which makes child marriage a grave offence.
 2. Why do child marriages take place and what can be done to prevent them from happening? The evil thrives because of illiteracy and other related causes the most important of which is the anxiety of parents to marry off their daughters at the earliest. In many high-illiteracy states, like Rajasthan, the practice of child marriage is in vogue. Akhha Teej is D-day for the parents of minor girls, since, on that day, the parents seek salvation from the anxiety of girls growing up in their midst.
 3. A child marriage is less likely to take place if the parents are literate or at least the father is. He is, then, aware of the legal minimum age for marriage and the health hazards his daughter will face by an early marriage. If the mother, otherwise literate, has been exposed to the importance of family planning, she is also less likely to solemnise her daughter's wedding before the legal minimum age.
 4. Among the other reasons that parents give away young daughters in marriage is the need, felt especially by families with more than one daughter, to keep wedding expenses down. By marrying two daughters simultaneously, parents save on expenses. Parental anxiety about grown-up (14 years and above) daughters going astray, forces the less educated to give away their female children in marriage.
 5. The Child Marriage Restraint Act in 1978, raised the minimum age of marriage for girls from 15 to 18 years and for boys from 18 to 21 years. The committee, on the status of women, in its report in 1974, had recommended that all offences under the Child Marriage Restraint Act should be made cognizable and special officers be appointed to enforce the law.
 6. The crux of the problem is that the role of a girl-child in traditional rural areas is circumscribed around marriage and motherhood.
- 1. Based on your understanding of the passage, choose the incorrect statement from the following :**
- a) A child marriage is less likely to take place if the parents are literate or at least the father is.
 - b) By marrying two daughters simultaneously, parents save on expenses.

A-1

- c) Child marriages are rampant in South India.
- d) Children bound by marriage are victims of blind customs and superstitions.

2. In the passage, the primary concern of the author is regarding

- a) Illiteracy, blind customs and traditions
- b) Role of girl child in rural families
- c) Marriage and legal marriage age
- d) An ineffective Child Marriage Act

3. What is Akhha Teej?

- a) The day when the family planning is exposed
- b) The day when parents seek salvation from the anxiety of girls growing up in their midst.
- c) The day when the daughter faces health hazards
- d) The day when two daughters marry simultaneously

4. What are child marriages?

5. Why do parents marry two daughters simultaneously?

6. In what circumstances will a child marriage be less likely to take place?

7. 'They continue to 'blight' the lives of people'. Substitute the underlined word with the most appropriate option from the following:

- a) Curse b) Ruin c) Bloom d) Brighten

8. Choose the option that correctly states the two meanings of 'salvation' as used in passage.

- A. Converting to Christianity
- B. Being saved from danger or ruin
- C. Harming others
- D. Preservation from harm
- E. Adopting priesthood

- a) A and E b) C and D c) B and D d) A and D

9. The minimum age of marriage for boys has been raised to _____.

10. Find a word from the (passage – 6) which means the same as 'Gist'

Q2. Read the following passage carefully.

(10 × 1) = 10

1. When a person is called 'great', there is always a reason behind it. The deeds of that person make him great or hateful. Everybody is aware of the fact that Alexander is called 'Alexander the Great'. He is known by this adjective because he was not only a great conqueror but also a nice human being. Alexander set the clearest example of his regard for women when he defeated the Persian forces. The Persian King Darius III fled for his life. He departed in such a haste that the royal entourage, including his family, was left behind.
2. After his great victory, Alexander was astounded to see the quarters that were left behind by the defeated Persian king. There were huge piles of gold and silver. Even daily implements were made of gold. There was a magnificent bathtub and luxurious beds. King Darius' family including his elderly mother, the queen, and his two daughters were there as well.
3. Alexander could have done the worst to these women and no one would have blinked an eye. Naturally, the women were in the deepest depths of terror and despair. But Alexander was an honourable man. He immediately had the message conveyed to the women that Darius had escaped; that he, Alexander, would not harm them; and that they would continue to receive

the same treatment and protection that they had under their own king. He made every effort to lighten their sense of anxiety and humiliation of being taken prisoners. He gave them an allowance bigger than the allowance they had before.

4. The old queen mother was so grateful for Alexander's kind treatment that she grew to love and respect him with all her heart. When the Persian king heard of the consideration that Alexander had shown to his family, he is said to have proclaimed, 'No one deserves to inherit my throne more than Alexander.'

On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions.

- a. What qualities made Alexander known by the adjective 'Alexander the Great'?
- (i) A great conqueror (ii) A nice human being
(iii) Regard for women (iv) All of these
- b. What is the correct order of the information given below:
- I. There was a magnificent bathtub and luxurious beds.
II. Alexander was an honourable man.
III. Alexander was a great conqueror and a nice human being.
IV. The old queen mother was grateful for Alexander's kind treatment.
- (i) III, II, I, IV (ii) II, III, I, IV
(iii) III, I, II, IV (iv) IV, II, I, III
- c. What surprised Alexander on achieving a great victory over Persian King?
- (i) Huge piles of gold and silver (ii) Love and respect given to him
(iii) His royal entourage (iv) None of these
- d) Who was very grateful for Alexander's kind treatment as according to the passage?
- i) Old queen mother ii) Persian king
iii) Alexander's daughter iv) King's family
- e) Which word in para 4 means the same as 'deliberation'?
- i) Treatment ii) Inherit iii) Consideration iv) Proclaimed
- f) Alexander showed a nice regard for women when he defeated the _____.
- g) _____ made efforts to lighten the sense of anxiety and humiliation among women of being taken as prisoners.
- h) The Persian King left his family behind after his loss to Alexander. (True/False)
- i) Find a word from the passage which means the same as 'embarrassment'. (para 3)
- j) Find a word from the passage which is opposite in meaning to 'unimpressed'. (para 2)

WRITING (16 Marks)

- Q3.** You are Anita/Anish. You stay in a hostel and share a room with Hita/Manish, your classmate. You have been detected with Typhoid fever and some other complications. For this reason you have to be admitted in a hospital immediately. Draft a message telling your roommate why and where you are going and that you will be back in 7 days. Also request him/her to submit your Maths notebook for checking.

(4)

Q4a) Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper complaining about the problems created by the use of loudspeakers in your locality at odd hours in about 120 words. (6)

Hints:

Locality near hospital, loud speakers late at night, aged and children face problems, students cannot study, concerned authority to take actions.

OR

b) Looking at the increasing obesity among school children, write an article on the topic – "Obesity among school children" taking help from the hints below, together with your own ideas in about 120 words.

Hints :

Problem of being overweight is common now a days, Sedentary life style of children, Watching TV, Social networking sites, Junk food, Cold drinks, physical exercise and games should be involved.

Q5a) Write a debate in about 120 words expressing your views for the topic "Is climate change primarily caused by human activity"? (6)

Hints:

Large scale deforestation, pollution, advancement of technology, exploitation of natural resources

OR

b) Here is a brief but incomplete outline of a story. Making use of the given hints, write a story with a suitable title including a setting, more characters, dialogues and a dramatic ending.

Hints :

Ashema's brother Parikshit got a new mobile phone, she did not get any, her parents allowed Parikshit to go out to meet and party with his friends but Ashima did not have that privilege.... what happens next?

Section – C GRAMMAR (14 Marks)

Q6. In the following passage, there is one error in each line. Underline each error and write the correction in the space provided. (4)

	Error	Correction
I was very late for school for morning, and I was	a)
terribly afraid off being scolded, especially as Monsieur	b)
Hamel is told us that he would examine us on participles,	c)
and I have not know the first thing about them, For	d)
a moment I think of staying away from school	e)
and wandering from the fields. It was such a warm,	f)
lovely day. I did hear the blackbirds whistling	g)
of the edge of the wood, and in the Rippert field.	h)

Q7. Do as Directed:

(10)

1. He said to me, "Have I told you not to play with fire?" (Change the sentence into indirect speech)
2. He is rich _____ to maintain a luxury car. (Fill in the blank with suitable Adverb of Degree)
3. The new app is _____ user – friendly _____ useful. (Fill in the blank with suitable conjunction)
4. Next summer, I will _____ take pottery classes _____ learn how to crochet. (Fill in the blank with suitable conjunction)
5. Hamid has travelling all around the globe since 2011. (Spot the error and write the sentence correctly in Present Perfect Continuous Tense)
6. A customer _____ to the shop early in the morning and _____ four loaves of bread and a carton of milk bottles. (come, buy) (Fill in the blank with simple Past or Present Perfect)
7. but you/ taken/ out of/ nobody/ could have/ me/ this mess. (Rearrange the sentence)
8. Why are you in such a hurry _____ time I see you? (either/ each/ every)
9. Brave _____ won many battles for the king. (Choose the correct homophone) (knight/ night)
10. Despite her fear of public speaking, she had to _____ and deliver the presentation. (Fill in the blank with suitable idiom which means to face a difficult situation bravely)

LITERATURE (30 Marks)

Q8. Reference to context

(4)

"His eye was on the Inchcape float;
Quoth he, 'My men, put out the boat,
And row me to the Inchcape Rock,
And I'll plague the Abbot of Aberbrothok."

1. Write down the rhyme scheme for the above stanza. (1)
2. Who is the speaker? (1)
3. Why did the speaker want to plague the Abbot of Aberbrothok? (2)

Q9. Reference to Context

(4)

"He was sure to come every evening. Instead of money for his goods, he would be paid in grain, somewhat higher than the cost of his fare."

1. Who is 'he' referred to in the above lines?
2. What did he carry in his basket?
3. Why did the boys wait anxiously for his arrival?
4. How was he paid for his goods?

Q10. Answer the following questions: (Do any four)

(3×4=12)

- 1) Explain "A tree is rooted deep into the crust of the earth" with reference to the poem, "On killing a Tree".
- 2) What did the last leaf on the tree made Johnsy realise?
- 3) What did Calpurnia mean by saying that Caesar's wisdom was consumed in confidence?
- 4) Why was Valjean surprised when he was presented in front of the Monseigneur?
- 5) Describe Macavity's physical appearance.

Q11. The story, "An unlikely punishment" tells us about the transformation journey of Jean Valjean from evil to good. In this regard pen down the characteristics of Jean Valjean that makes him an exceptional character. Also mention his transformation story highlighting his character trails.

(5)

OR

"My parents want me to have another name." The story 'Choosing a name' revolves around a little boy, Gogol who was very sure about choosing a name for himself. Pen down few more characteristics of Gogol that make him such an adorable character.

Q12. Sir Ralph satisfactorily said, "The next who comes to the rock, wont' bless the Abbot of Aberbrothok." Write down a diary entry as Sir Ralph the Rover after slashing the bell from the Inchcape Rock.

(5)

OR

'A Psalm of Life' by Henry Wadsworth carries a message of hope and encouragement by quoting "Life is real! Life is earnest." Explain the line with reference to the poem.