

Father Agnel School Vaishali

Class _VIII

English

Q 1. Read the following passage and answer the question:-

Several arguments have been advanced by the supporters of the proportions that higher education in India should not be opened to all in the first place. They maintain, making higher education open to all leads to the deterioration of standards of education. There is a steady decline in the educational Standards in India over a period of time. A graduate of the times when higher educational facilities were available to a selected few, had much higher standard than the graduate of today. The reason is that Tom, Dick and Harry has not the capacity and ability of comprehending higher truths of life which higher education seeks to discover. Even in ancient India, Taxila and Nalanda Universities had very rigid and Stringent rules and regulations, these Universities maintained one of the highest standards of teaching and learning in the world. The graduates of these universities were the very class and essence of humanity, whose scholarship evoked admiration of the mightiest and wisest rulers of those times. Great Sanctity was therefore attached to these temples of higher learning. Things have come to such a pass that anyone who is adept in copying and cheating can easily pass higher examination. Efforts have been made to discourage the students from indulging in unfair practices, but to no avail.

a) If we make higher education open to all, the standards of scholarship will.....

- i. not be affected at all.
- ii. be adversely affected.
- iii. be the first inevitable casualty.
- iv. achieve a high water mark.

b) The Universities of Taxila and Nalanda in ancient India.....

- i. were liberal enough to grant admission to any or everybody who came there for this purpose.
- ii. had no rules for admission.
- iii. had very rigid rules for admission.

Q2. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow

Students tend to lose their pencils, break them without thinking and find all sorts of non-writing uses for them. The pencil in your hand is one of the most remarkable and useful tools in the world. Pencil was invented in about 1622 in Germany. He was the first person to mass-produce them. Staedtler did not use lead, and there is no lead in your pencil. However, some pencils did use lead until the early twentieth century. Lead will make a mark, but it is toxic and not safe to use either in the hands or around the face and mouth where many pencils sometimes stray. Staedtler used black graphite, a soft form of carbon. Graphite is still used today. It is mixed with clay and wax and heated to high temperatures. The modern pencil is a superb piece of technology. The pencil is less messy than ink, can be easily erased, and makes clear, dark, smooth, and smudge free lines. The modern pencil can produce a continuous line twenty-two miles long. That's a distance of 116,160 foot-long rulers laid end to end. Enjoy your pencil. For a few cents each, it's a remarkable bargain.

- a) Mention three improper ways in which students make use of pencils
- b) Lead is rarely used to make pencils. Why so?
- c) Of what material are pencils made of?
- d) Why can we consider the modern pencil to be a superb piece of technology?
- e) The modern pencil can produce something fantastic. What is it?
- f) Find words in the passage that mean the following:-
 - i) Poisonous
 - ii) Removed something completely

Q3. Read the poem carefully and answer the questions that follow

I lay in sorrow

My grief a proud man heard,
His looks were cold, he gave me gold,
But not a kindly word.
My sorrow passed, I paid him back,
The gold he gave to me,
Then stood erect and spoke my thanks,
And blessed his charity.
I lay in want, and grief and pain,
A poor man passed my way,
He bound my head, he gave me bread,
He watched me night and day.
How shall I pay him back again?
For all he did to me,
Oh! Gold is great, but greater far,
Is the heavenly sympathy.

a) The poet was in a state of.....in the beginning of the poem.

- i. happiness
- ii. Sorrow
- iii. loneliness
- iv. Excitement

b) The proud man didn't say any.....

- i. harsh word.
- ii. sarcastic word.
- iii. kind words.

iv. sympathetic words.

c) The poor man.....his head and gave him.....

d) Why can't poet repay the kindness of the poor man?

e) Give a suitable title to the poem

Q4 . Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow

An important reason for ants' success is their ability to talk-not with words but with tastes and smells. Their vocabulary is made up of a mixture of substances they produce in various parts of their bodies and emit via their glands. The so-called pheromones are signals that other ants can smell and taste. The messages they communicate set off a specific kind of behavior; fetching food, for instance, or looking after the brood or feeding the queen. Furthermore, ant-talk is not limited to food. Ants use a hundred different scents to communicate a hundred different messages. With such a sophisticated array of messenger fragrances, ants organize complicated tasks with close-to- perfect efficiency. Every ant is a specialist with a vocation of its own. The queen has one of the biggest workloads-laying eggs round the clock. Despite the presence of queen, an ant colony is not a monarchy. The word 'queen' is actually a misnomer. "She doesn't reign over the others," says Holldobler, "She's a machine for laying eggs." From morning till night she produces her daughters, the sterile workers of the colony. Males don't have to do much and the queen only produces them when reproduction time is approaching. Their main job is to fertilize the winger females. After that they die. Messengers don't have much free time either. When you see a handful of ants scurrying around in the kitchen without any apparent purpose, it doesn't mean they've lost their bearings. They're scouts foraging for food. Once they've found something edible, they report back to base, depositing their chemical spores on the way. "Food located, please collect," is the taste and smell message for the other members back at the nest.

- Ants can communicate with_____ .
- They are clever enough to_____ .
- The queen-ant has nothing to do but_____ .
- Male ants are produced at_____ .
- Stray ants are often on a mission_____ .

Q5 Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:-

So beautiful was she that when the young Fisherman saw her he was filled with wonder, and he put out his hand and drew the net close to him, and leaning over the side he clasped her in his arms. And when so he touched her, she gave a cry like a startled seagull, and woke, and looked at him in terror with her mauve amethyst eyes, and struggled that she might escape. But he held her tightly to him, and would not suffer her to depart. And when she saw that she could in no way escape from him, she began to weep, and said, T pray thee let me go, for I am the only daughter of a King, and my father is aged and alone. 'But the young Fisherman answered, T will not let thee go save thou

makes me a promise that whenever I call thee, thou wilt come and sing to me, for the fish delight to listen to the song of the Sea-folk, and so shall my nets be full. 'Wilt thou in very truth let me go, if I promise thee this?' cried the Mermaid. 'In very truth I will let thee go,' said the young Fisherman. So she made him the promise he desired, and swore it by the oath of the Sea-folk. And he loosened his arms from about her, and she sank down into the water, trembling with a strange fear. Every evening the young Fisherman went out upon the sea, and called to the Mermaid, and she rose out of the water and sang to him. Round and round her swam the dolphins, and the wild gulls wheeled above her head.

1. On the basis of your reading of the passage complete the following statements:

- (a) The young fisherman pulled the Mermaid out _____ .
(b) The Mermaid found herself too helpless _____ .

2. Answer the following questions-

- (a) Where was the Mermaid found?
(b) What promise did the Mermaid make?
(c) Did the Mermaid back out of it?

3. Find the words from the passage which means the same as--Shaking.

Writing section

Q1. Give a brief description in about 100 words of a mall in your town by using the following hints

- *Largest shopping mall
- *Spacious and air conditioned
- *Purchases done by the elite of the city
- *Variety of things
- *Well behaved staff

Q2. Describe the Annual Prize Day celebration of your school.

Hints:-

- * Date and time-22 April,2011at 12 pm at school auditorium
- *chief guest_ Mr.Kalra the District collector
- *activities -Welcome notes by the principal
- * prize distribution
- *cultural programme
- *blessings by the chief guest
- * vote of thanks.

Q3. Write a bio sketch of Tathagat Avater Tulsı a young Indian physicist .Use the following points

- *Birth-9September 1987 in Bihar
- *Educational achievement:- Completion of High School at the age of 9,B.Sc.at 10,and M.Sc.at the age of 12 from Patna science college , PhD ,at the age of 21 from Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.
- *Career- Youngest faculty member in I.I T Mumbai, as the assistant professor in physic department.
- *Compliments given by Media:- The most gifted Asian youngster by the time magazine ,Super teen by Science magazine ,Master Mind by the Week

Q4. Write a bio sketch of Joanne Rowling-British Novelist

Hints:-

- * Pen name:- J.K.Rowling Robert Galbraith
- *Born:-31 July 1965 Yate, Gloucestershire
- *Education:- St. Michael's Primary school, The university of Exter ,England.
- *Work:- Best known for Harry Potter.

Q5. Your school is holding a summer camp for training students in Football and Table tennis .Write a notice for the school notice board of Father Agnel School Vaishali. You are the Sports captain of the school

Q6.- You are Akhil Verma ,the head boy of Modern Public school .Write a notice in not more than 50 words for the students of class 8 informing them about an inter class debate competition, Give the necessary details

Q7.write an article highlighting the urgent need for reducing pollution.

Q8. Write an article on the hazards of television watching for children.

Grammar

1. Fill in the blanks with the correct of the verbs given in the brackets.

- The police _____ four thieves last night.(catch)
- I was ____ food when he came in.(cook)
- It ____ since 9'oclock.(rain)
- I certainly____ my colleague if I had been there.(help)
- Stars ____ in the sky at night.(twinkle)
- All the students ____ the class work when the teacher came in.(do)
- Mahesh ____ tomorrow from Patna.(come)
- The patient ____ before the doctor came.(die)

2. Underline the verbs in these sentences. Write G for gerunds, I for infinitives, and P for participles.

- He is fond of writing letters.
- It is better to forget things that make us unhappy.
- It is impossible to get back a lost opportunity.
- Seeing the bright sunshine, he opened the window.
- A burnt child dreads the fire.
- He works hard to make both ends meet.
- We are used to getting up early.
- I do not people quarrelling over trivial issues.

3. In each of these sentences, identify the SUBJECT, FINITE VERBS, and NON-FINITE VERBS

- Peter went to buy some vegetables.
- The children enjoy swimming all through the summer.
- Buzzing all day long the bees collected nectar.
- Tired after running the marathon, she slept somewhere.
- We saw a man carrying a heavy basket.
- The teacher looks worried.

- Teach me to speak French.
- I'm fond of reading.

4. Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

- I ___ my project assignment yesterday.(will finish/am finishing/finished)
- My brother ___ video games every evening.(played/is playing/plays)
- Rahul ___ last night.(have not eaten/did not eat/are eating)
- The students ___ attention in the class.(are not paying/were not paid/will not paying)
- He ___ the book after a month.(will return/was return/return)
- He ___ by the time I reached the office.(was leaving/left/had left)
- Raj ___ this beautiful painting.(has created/create/is created)
- I ___ New York many times.(gone/have been/has been)

5. Change the sentences from ACTIVE to PASSIVE VOICE

- I made this jam.
- Sanatan cooks our meals.
- She wrote a beautiful poem.
- She has invited Rohit to the party.
- My brother was renovating the house.
- Why did they waste so much food?
- The gardener is planting the saplings.
- Sherry will join the sports club.

6. Change these sentences from PASSIVE to ACTIVE VOICE

- The electric bulb was invented by Edison.
- The tourists had been taken around the fort by the guide.
- Why was the work not finished by your brother?
- The siren is going to be sounded by us.
- The Taj Mahal, one of the wonders of the world was built by Saha Jahan.
- He was scolded by the class teacher for his rude behavior.
- His father is regarded by everybody as the wisest person of this colony.
- The victory will be celebrated by the team tomorrow.

8. Complete these IMPERATIVE SENTENCES into the PASSIVE VOICE

- Let the trees be _____.
- Let the clothes be washed_____.
- Let the decorations be_____.
- Let the children be_____.

- You are advised to _____.
- You are requested to _____.

Literature

Q1. Read the extract of the poem and answer the questions that follow:-

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light;
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

- (a). What do phrases "flying cloud" and "Frosty light" mean?
- (b). Find out the rhyme scheme of the stanza?
- (c). What does dying year suggest?
- (d). When do you celebrate New Year?

Q2:- Answer these questions with reference to the context:-

"You do not know me, but I know you. I'm that enemy of yours who swore to revenge himself on you, because you executed his brother and seized his property."

- (a) Who is the speaker?
- (b) Whom he is talking with?
- (c) Why did the speaker come to the listener?
- (d) What had happened in the end?

Q3. Answer these questions with reference to the context:-

"You have already been answered."

- (a) Who had already been answered?

(b) What an answer is referred to here?

(c) Had the speaker answered him?

Q4. What were three questions occurred to the king? How would the answers to these questions help him?

Q5. List 3 questions you would like to have answers for?

Q6. If you were given 3 wishes what would you ask for?

Q7. Do you make New Year resolutions? What are some of your resolutions for this year? Have you kept them all?

Q8. What are the changes the poet wants in the new year.(poem- Ring out, Wild bells to the wild sky)

Q9. Write the summary of the poem- Ring out, Wild bells to the wild sky.

Q10. Use these words and phrases in sentences of your own.

- Undertake
- Draw up
- Absorbed
- Frail
- Resolved
- Threshold