

MAR THOMA RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL, THIRUVALLA

FIRST TERMINAL EXAMINATION, 2017- 2018

ENGLISH PAPER 1

CLASS VIII

MARKS: 80
TIME: 2 hours

QUESTION 1

Write a composition of 250- 300 words on:

“Destruction of animals and their habitat by human race; and the need to prevent it.” (15)

QUESTION 2

“Traffic jams in your city/town are getting worse day after day.” Write a letter to the Deputy Commissioner of Police (traffic) complaining about the problem and offering suggestions for improvement. (10)

QUESTION 3

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow (15)

Bird Behaviour

The nestlings of fairy- wrens don't have much of a choice when it comes to listening to their mothers. The birds much reproduce a particular sound learned from their mothers to be fed. According to study published in the journal *Current Biology*, researchers call the sound a 'learned password'. The team discovered the remarkable mother -chick ritual by chance, when they noticed that the mothers were chirping at their eggs long before it hatched. The researchers realised that the call made by the nestlings in order to be fed was different in each nest, suggesting it might be learned.

The team also observed that each nest's 'password' was heard within the call that the mothers made to their unhatched eggs. In order to prove that the chicks were learning the sound from their mothers, the team swapped eggs between two different nests. Once hatched, the chicks produced the begging call of their foster mothers- proof the call was in fact, learned in the egg. This back and forth between mother and nestling is believed to have been developed to prevent another species of birds - the cuckoos- from invading the nest and stealing the fairy-wrens' food. The cuckoo lays its eggs in other birds' nests. Often it removes one of the other bird's eggs to make room for its own. As the baby cuckoo is born, it pushes out the other baby birds from the nest until it is the only one left, so that the parent birds can devote their attention to it.

a) Answer the following questions (2 marks each)

1. What must the young fairy- wrens do when they are hungry?
2. What is a 'Learned password'? How is the password taught?
3. Why did the researchers swap the eggs of the fairy-wrens?
4. Why was this feeding call developed by the fairy-wren?

5. What is that the cuckoo nestlings do once the egg hatch?

b) Find words from the passage for these meanings

1. young birds
2. someone who looks after the young ones like a parent.
3. enter by force without permission
4. to give
5. a ceremonial act

QUESTION 4

A. Change the sentence into *passive voice*

(4)

1. Somebody had stolen my purse
2. I gave him a book for his birthday.
3. They called off the meeting.
4. The jury agreed upon the verdict.

B. Rewrite the sentences using *question tags*.

(4)

1. Your neighbor went on vacation _____.
2. Mahesh has been to Germany _____.
3. Horses are animals, _____.
4. Rani doesn't look happy _____.

C. Change the sentence into *active voice*.

(4)

1. The teacher was pleased with the boy's work.
2. The injured were taken to hospital by the fireman.
3. The complicated equipment is skillfully operated by the technician.
4. This box can be lifted by that little boy.

D. Complete these sentences with the suitable *tense form of the verbs* in the brackets. (8)

1. I (learn) _____ English for seven years now.
2. But last year I (not / work) _____ hard enough for English.
3. My marks (not / be) _____ really that good then.
4. During my last summer holidays, my parents (send) _____ me on a course to London.
5. It (be) _____ great.
6. I (learn) _____ a lot.
7. At the moment I (revise) _____ English grammar.
8. And I (begin / already) _____ to read the units in my English textbook

E. Complete this conversation with the *present perfect tense* form of the verbs in the brackets.
(4)

1 Ritika: _____ (you/ever/ be) to Srilanka.

Paul : No, _____ (I/never/be) to Srilanka.

2 Abhishek: I lost my library book last week. _____ (you/see) it anywhere?

Saurav : Yes, _____ (I/see) it with Raj.

F. Rewrite these sentences in their *negative and question forms*. (8)

1. They are scared of spiders.

2. Harsh helps in the kitchen.

3. You know the answer.

4. The two little penguins are learning to swim.

G. Pick out the *verbs that indicate tenses*. (4)

My aunt lives in Delhi with us and runs a fashion boutique. Usually, she leaves for work at about 9 a.m. and takes the bus to South Delhi. This week she visited an important designer from Mumbai. They talked about a new line of clothes for the summer. My aunt's business is growing fast and is becoming successful.

H. Write a paragraph in *simple past tense* with the points given below. (4)

the day starts well – by early morning we complete most of the works – aunt washes the dishes
- we children clean the room - everyone helps mother to make the meal – by 1 p.m the guests
arrive - mother serves a delicious meal – they really enjoy the lunch