

Std IX

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ENGLISH Paper – 1

(Two hours)

Answers to this paper must be written on the paper provided separately.

You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.

This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.

The time given at the head of this paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.

Attempt all five questions.

The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [].

You are advised to spend not more than 30 minutes in answering Question 1

and 20 minutes in answering Question 2.

Question 1

(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question.)

Write a composition (300 - 350 words) on any one of the following:

- a) There are some books which help to change one's life for the better. Refer to a book, the reading of which has inspired you to become a better person. State briefly the central theme of the book and in what way this book has changed your life.
- b) Relate an interesting incident that occurred when your parents were out of station and left you to manage the house alone.
- c) Write a story beginning with "It was a cold winter night"
- d) "Children should help with household tasks as soon as they are able to do so."
Express your views either **for** or **against** this statement.
- e) Study the picture given below. Write a short story or description or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it.



Question 2

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)

Select one of the following:

[10]

- (a) Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily on the mushrooming of various coaching centres and how extra tuitions have become a common feature in a student's life.
- (b) One of your grandparents has completed one hundred years of age. Write a letter congratulating him/her, expressing gratitude, praise and admiration for the way he/she has lived his/her life.

Question 3

[5+5]

- (a) Your school is hosting an interschool Quiz competition. Draft a notice for the School Notice Board giving all relevant details of the event.
- (b) Write an e-mail to Principal of a neighbouring school requesting him/her to send a team to participate in the Quiz.

Question 4

It was a dull autumn day and Jill Pole was crying behind the gym.

She was crying because they had been **bullying** her. This is not going to be a school story, so I shall say as little as possible about Jill's school, which is not a pleasant subject. It was Co-educational, a school for both boys and girls, what used to be called a "mixed" school; some said it was not nearly so mixed as the minds of the people who ran it. These people had the idea that boys and girls should be allowed to do what they liked. And unfortunately what ten or fifteen of the biggest boys and girls liked best was bullying the others. All sorts of things, horrid things, went on which at an ordinary school would have been found out and stopped in half a term, but at this school they weren't. Or even if they were, the people who did them were not **expelled** or punished. The Head said they were interesting psychological cases and sent for them from and talked to them for hours. And if you knew the right sort of things to say to the Head, the main result was that you became rather a favourite than otherwise.

That was why Jill Pole was crying on that dull autumn day on the damp little path which runs between the back of the gym and the shrubbery. And she hadn't nearly finished her cry when a boy came round the corner of the gym whistling, with his hands in his pockets. He nearly ran into her.

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"Can't you look where you're going?" said Jill Pole.

"All right," said the boy, "you needn't start-" and then he noticed her face, "I say Jill," he said, "what's up?"

Jill only made faces; the sort you make when you're trying to say something but find that if you speak you'll start crying again.

20

"It's Them, I suppose- as usual," said the boy grimly, digging his hands further into his pockets. Jill nodded. There was no need for her to say anything, even if she could have said it. They both knew.

"Now, look here," said the boy, "its no use..."

He meant well, but he did talk rather like someone beginning a lecture. Jill suddenly flew into a temper (which is quite a likely thing to happen if you have been interrupted in a cry)

25

"Oh, go away and mind your own business," she said. "Nobody asked you to come **barging** in, did they? And you're a nice person to start telling us what we all ought to do, aren't you?

I suppose you mean we ought to spend all our time sucking up to Them, and currying favour, and dancing attendance on Them like you do."

30

“Oh Lord!” said the boy, sitting down on the grassy bank at the edge of the shrubbery and very quickly getting up again because the grass was soaking wet. His name unfortunately was Eustace Scrubb, but he wasn't bad sort.

“Jill!” he said, “Is that fair?”

“I d-don't know and I don't care,” sobbed Jill.

35

Eustace saw that she wasn't quite herself yet and very sensibly offered her a peppermint. He had one too. Presently Jill began to see things in a clearer light.

“I am sorry, Eustace,” she said presently.

(a) Give the meaning of each of the following words as used in the passage.

One word answers or short phrases will be accepted.

(i) *bullying*

(ii) *expelled*

(iii) *barging*

[3]

(b) Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words.

(i) Why do you think she was crying behind the gym? [2]

(ii) Who is the ‘Them, referred to in line 19? [1]

(iii) Why did Jill fly into a temper? [2]

(iv) Which sentences tell us that both Jill and Eustace Scrubb had suffered similarly? [2]

(v) When did Jill begin to see things differently? [2]

(c) What kind of school did the children go to? Write your answer in not more than 50 words .

[8]

Question 5

(a) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]

In the olden days , when merchant ships usually _____ (1) (employ) teenage boys as part of the crew, a lad applied for one of these jobs. The owner of the _____ (2) (ship company) asked him what he _____ (3) (can) do.

“I can do my best,” the boy answered, “to do what you are kind enough _____ 4)(let me try.”

What have you done?” asked the owner.

I _____ (5) (saw) and split wood for my mother for nearly two years,” replied the boy

“What have you not done?” asked the employer.

After some _____ (6) (think) the boy said, “I have not gossiped in school for over a year.”

“That's enough,” said the merchant, “I _____ (7) (take) you aboard my vessel and I hope some day _____ (8) (see) you as its captain. A boy who can master a wood-pile and control his tongue must have good stuff in him.”

(b) *Fill in each blank with an appropriate word:*

- (i) They decided to impose extra excise duty _____ luxury goods.
- (ii) The students prefer the new syllabus _____ the old.
- (iii) The chairman has consented to preside _____ the function.
- (iv) The monkey jumped _____ the compound wall and escaped.
- (v) After the defeat, he brooded _____ what he had said.
- (vi) It is not easy to part _____ your friends.
- (vii) The dictator had hunger _____ power.
- (viii) We last played the match three months _____.

[4

(c) *Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using and, but or*

- (i) The windows of the temple were smashed by hooligans. It was an ancient temple.
- (ii) There are some things on the shelf. All those things are valuable.
- (iii) You are suggesting something. Tell me that.
- (iv) He was very tired. He could not keep his eyes open.

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(d) *Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each.*

Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence.

(i) English is spoken by people all over the world.

(Use : **speak**)

(ii) I believe that he is innocent.

(Use : **innocence**)

(iii) None but the brave deserve the fair..

(Begin: **Only**)

(iv) As soon as you become an adult , you will have to earn your daily bread..

(Begin: **On becoming**)

(v) Either you or I must go to the market.

(Begin : **If**

(vi) He is still in his teens, but he is prudent enough.

(Begin: **Although**

(vii) It is better to reign in hell than to serve in heaven.

(Begin: **To serve in heaven**

(viii) Besides keeping a watch on his movements, the police tapped his phones..

(Begin: **The police not only**....)