

CLASS IX - ANNUAL EXAMINATION

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:

[20]

(a) Write an **original** short story that begins with the words: *He never thought...*

(b) 'Technology has destroyed Childhood.'

Express your views either **for** or **against** this statement.

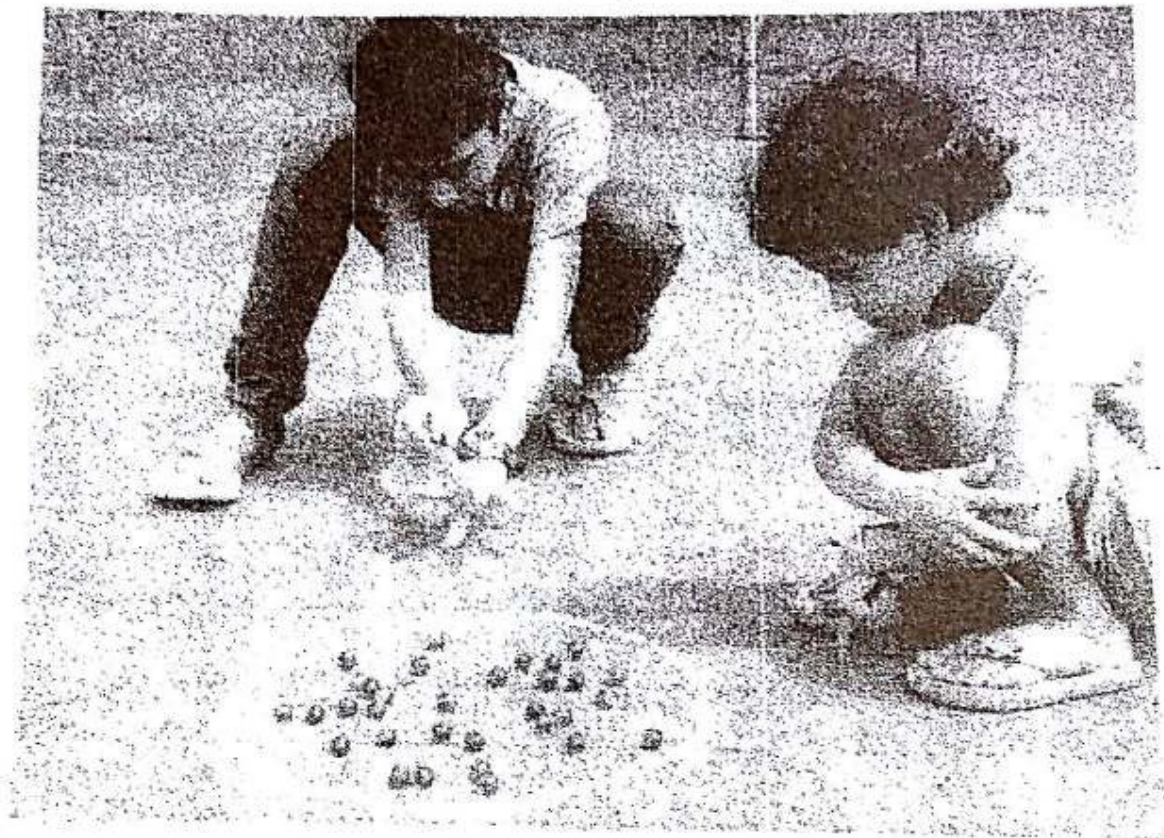
(c) *A kind action can go a long way.*

Narrate an incident from your own experience when someone was kind to you at a time when you were feeling very depressed. Give details of the kind action and say how this caused a change in you.

(d) Describe the sights and sounds of your school playground during the break-time. How does this change once the school bell is rung?

This Paper consists of 7 printed pages.

- (e) Study the picture given below. Write a short story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



Question 2

[10]

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

Select **any one** of the following:

- (a) Write a letter to the Principal of your school, requesting him / her to postpone the coming examinations. Give reasons for your request and say why the postponement will be beneficial to all the students.
- (b) You are being bullied in school.
Write a letter to your elder brother who lives in another place telling him about what is happening and how you are feeling. Seek his advice on a solution to the problem.

Question 3

- (a) Your school is organising a Book Fair. Write a notice to inform your schoolmates of the event. Ask them to donate old books for the fair. [5]
- (b) Write an e-mail to the Principal of a neighbouring school asking him / her to send students to visit the Fair and buy books. [5]

Question 4

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

There was one pet which Grandfather could not keep for very long. Grandmother was tolerant of some birds and animals, but she drew the line at reptiles. Grandfather should have known that there was little chance of being allowed to keep a python.

He never could resist buying unusual pets, and while we still had Toto, the monkey, he paid a snake-charmer in the bazar only four rupees for the young four-foot python that was on display to a crowd of eager boys and girls. Grandfather impressed the gathering by slinging the python over his shoulders and walking home with it.

The first to see them arrive was Toto, swinging from a branch of the jack-fruit tree. One look at the python, *ancient* enemy of his race, and he fled into the house, squealing with fright. The noise brought Grandmother on the verandah, where she nearly fainted at the sight of the python curled round Grandfather's throat. 10

"It will strangle you to death," she cried. "Get rid of it at once!"

"Nonsense!" said Grandfather. "He's only a young fellow – he'll soon get used to us."

"He might, indeed," said Grandmother, "but I have no *intention* of getting used to him. And you know your cousin Mabel is coming to stay with us tomorrow. She'll leave the minute she knows there's a snake in the house." 20

"Well, perhaps we should show it to her as soon as she arrives," said Grandfather, who did not look forward to the visits of relatives any more than I did.

"You'll do no such thing," said Grandmother.

"Well, I can't let it loose in the garden. It might find its way into the poultry house, and then where would we be?"

"Oh, how irritating you are!" grumbled Grandmother. "Lock the thing in the bathroom, then go out and find the man you bought it from, and get him to come here and collect it."

And so, in my awestruck presence, Grandfather took the python into the bathroom and placed it in the tub. After closing the door on it he gave me a sad look. 30

"Perhaps Grandmother is right this time," he said. "After all, we don't want the snake to get hold of Toto. And it's sure to be very hungry."

He hurried off to the bazar to look for the snake-charmer, and was gone for about two hours, while Grandmother paced up and down the verandah. When Grandfather returned, looking *crestfallen*, we knew he had not been able to find the snake-charmer.

"Well, then kindly take it away yourself," said Grandmother. "Leave it in the jungle across the river-bed. 40

"All right, but let me feed it first," said Grandfather.

(a) Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage: [3]

One-word answers or short phrases will be accepted.

(i) ancient (line 11)

(ii) intention (line 18)

(iii) crestfallen (line 37)

- (b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words.
- (i) How much did the python cost? [1]
- (ii) How did Grandfather impress the children in the bazar? [2]
- (iii) How did Toto respond when he saw the snake? [2]
- (iv) Why did Grandfather finally agree to return the python? [2]
- (v) Which sentence in the passage tells you that Grandfather wanted to be really kind to the python. [2]
- (c) In not more than 50 words, describe Grandmother's reaction when she saw Grandfather bringing the python into the house. [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]

Example:

(0) *found*

When they got home, Jo and Meg (0) _____ (find) Amy (1) _____ (read). She never (2) _____ (lift) her eyes from her book nor did she (3) _____ (ask) a single question. But Beth (4) _____ (want) every detail and her sisters were just as eager to tell her how much they had (5) _____ (enjoy) the evening. Jo (6) _____ (go) up to her room and (7) _____ (check) out her things. Everything (8) _____ (be) in its place.

- (b) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word: [4]
- (i) South Africa is famous _____ its diamonds.
- (ii) You can expect to hear from me _____ a few days.

- (iii) The city museum is closed _____ Sundays.
- (iv) I offered _____ help but they politely refused.
- (v) The train went _____ the tunnel.
- (vi) Put the clothes _____ the closet.
- (vii) The car went _____ the cliff and fell into the sea.
- (viii) Let us walk _____ the fields to the next bus stop.

(c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using **and, but** or **so**: [4]

- (i) He will make an excellent teacher. I believe it.
- (ii) The boys won the match. They rejoiced.
- (iii) The girl lives in Delhi. She has just joined the college.
- (iv) Sunil stayed at home and took care of their son. Shanti worked at a call centre.

(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. [8]

- (i) Mr. Rao is correcting the answer scripts of the last examination.

(Begin: The answer scripts.....)

- (ii) Ajay will attend the seminar if Dr. Sinha presents his paper.

(Begin: Unless.....)

- (iii) He did not understand fully what he was supposed to do.

(Use: lacked)

(iv) On being scolded, the girl started crying.

(Begin: When.....)

(v) I received the message and I left immediately.

(Begin: No sooner.....)

(vi) "Have you walked alone this long distance today?" he asked Aruna.

(Begin: He asked Aruna if.....)

(vii) This boy is talented and very hardworking.

(Begin: Not only.....)

(viii) In spite of all her efforts, Mary did not succeed.

(Begin: Despite.....)