

Max.Score :40

Time:1.30 hrs

Standard - VIII

INSTRUCTIONS

- 15 minutes is given as cool off time.
- This time is to be used for reading the question paper.
- No writing is allowed during cool off time.
- Attempt the questions according to the instructions.

Questions 1- 5. Read the passage from the story 'The Merchant of Venice' and answer the following questions (1 x 5=5)

Antonio was a young and honest merchant in the town of Venice. He was the kindest man ever lived. He always came to the help of the people in trouble. He was greatly loved by all his fellow - citizens. Antonio had a bosom friend, Bassanio. He was a noble Venetian. He was not very rich. He had lived a luxurious life and squandered all the little money he had. Whenever he wanted money, Antonio helped him. (It seemed they had but one heart and one purse between them)

1. Who was Antonio?
2. Why was Antonio known as the kindest man ever lived ?
3. What type of a person was Bassanio?
4. Which sentence shows the intimate friendship between Antonio and Bassanio?
5. Pick out the word from the passage which means 'to spend money foolishly'.

Question 6-9. Read the following extract from the poem 'My Grandmother's House' and answer the following questions. (1x4 = 4)

There is a house now far away where once
I received love..... That woman died,
The house withdrew into silence, snakes moved
Among books, I was then too young
To read, and my blood turned cold like the moon.
How often I think of going
There, to peer through blind eyes of windows or
Just listen to the frozen air,
Or in wild despair pick an armful of
Darkness to bring it here to lie
Behind my bedroom door like a brooding
Dog.....

6. Which house is mentioned in the first line?
7. What happened to the house after the death of grandmother?
8. How are the eyes of the windows described?
9. Pick out an instance of simile from the lines above.

Questions 10-14. Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions that follow.

(1 x 5=5)

some frogs were travelling through woods and two of them accidentally fell into a pit. The other frogs which were safe upside understood how deep the pit was and saw no hope for the frogs to escape out of it. Both of these frogs started trying to get out of the pit but failed many times. The frogs on the safe side shouted at them to give up the pain of trying as it was not possible. Eventually, one frog heard the other frogs and decided to stop trying and fell down to death. However, the other frog went on trying and at last managed to reach the top.

The other frogs asked him, "Did you not hear us?" He explained that he was deaf and thought other frogs were encouraging him to get out. Some people around you may ask you to be on a safer side always and stop trying and taking risks. However, there is no gain without pain. So try hard to achieve success in life despite what life offers you.

10. Where were the frogs travelling through?
11. What did the frogs on the safe side shout?
12. What was the explanation given by the frog that reached safely to the top of the pit?
13. How can one achieve success in life?
14. Give a suitable title for the story.

Question 15. Prepare a profile of Ella Wheeler Wilcox using the details given below.

Use appropriate linkers wherever necessary.

(5 marks)

Name	:	Ella Wheeler Wilcox
Birth	:	1850
Place of birth	:	Johnstown, USA.
Known as	:	Author, poet
Nationality	:	American.
Notable work	:	Solitude
Autobiography	:	The Worlds and Eye
Death	:	1919

Questions 16-17. Attempt any *one* of the following.

(5x 1=5)

16. The disguised Portia saved the life of Antonio from the hands of Shylock in the story 'The Merchant of Venice'. After the trial in the court of the duke, Antonio met Shylock. Construct a possible dialogue between them. (Five exchanges)
17. Write a paragraph describing the incidents which led to the arrest of Rosa Parks.

Questions 18-20. Answer any *two* of the following.

(5x2=10)

18. The boy in the story 'The Nightingale and the Rose' was very sad when he was rejected by his beloved. He decided to write a **letter** to one of his intimate friends. Draft the likely letter.
19. The English club of your school has decided to stage the story 'The Merchant of Venice'. Being the secretary of the club, you are asked to prepare a **notice** to invite all to watch it. Draft the notice.
20. The lesson 'School for Sympathy' highlights the values like empathy and kindness. The writer E V Lucas was very much impressed by the education system of the school. He drafts his thoughts in the form of a **diary**. Prepare the likely diary entry.

Question 21. Edit the following.

(1x3 = 3)

The old man ^{speaks}~~speaks~~ (a) kindly to the lad, and asked him some hard questions. So clever was (b) the answers that the priest agreed to take the little ~~fellow~~ ^{fellow} (c) into the temple as an acolyte, and to educate him for the priesthood.

Question 22. Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions given in the bracket.

(1x3 =3)

Terenty came out^{of}..... (a) the kitchen-garden and begins striding^{to}..... (b) the village street. He walks quickly without stopping or looking^{down}..... (c) side to side. Fyokla can hardly keep up with him.

(down, of, from, to)