

Total Score: 80

Time : 2:30 hrs.

Standard : IX

INSTRUCTIONS

- 15 minutes is given as cool off time
- This time is to be used for reading the question paper
- You are not supposed to write anything during the cool off time
- Attempt the questions according to the instructions

Questions 1-5. Read the passage from 'The Last Leaf' and answer the questions that follow.

1×5=5

Old Mr. Behrman was a painter who lived on the first floor beneath them. He was past sixty. Behrman was a failure in art. He had always wanted to paint a masterpiece, but he had never yet begun to paint it. For many years he had painted nothing, except now and then something in the line of commercial or advertising work. He earned a little money by serving as a model for those young artists who could not pay the price for a regular model. But he always talked about the great masterpiece he was going to paint. For the rest, he was a fierce little old man who regarded himself as a watch-dog and protector for the two young artists living above him, of whom he was very fond.

Sue found Behrman in his poorly-lighted studio. In one corner of the room stood a blank canvas which had been waiting for twenty-five years to receive the first line of the promised masterpiece. She told him of Johnsy's fancy, and how she feared she would, indeed, light and fragile as a leaf herself, float away, when her slight hold upon the world grew weaker.

1. Why was Mr. Behrman thought to be a failure in art?
2. How did Mr. Behrman earn his livelihood?
3. For whom did Mr. Behrman serve as a protector?
4. What did Sue tell Mr. Behrman about Johnsy?
5. Combine the following sentences using 'so...that'.

- a) Mr. Behrman's studio was dimly lit.
- b) Sue could not see anything clearly.

Questions 6-10. Read the lines from the poem 'On Killing a Tree' and answer the questions that follow.

1×5=5

So hack and chop
But this alone wont do it.
Not so much pain will do it.
The bleeding bark will heal

And from close to the ground
Will rise curled green twigs,
Miniature boughs
Which if unchecked will expand again
To former size.

6. What will happen if the boughs are left unchecked?
7. Pick out an example of alliteration from the lines given above.
8. What, according to the poet, won't be enough to kill a tree?
9. How does the bleeding bark react to the inflicted pain?
10. What does 'curled green twigs' represent in the poem?

a) the pain of the tree b) survival instincts of the tree c) failure to cope with hacking
d) inability of the tree to heal and survive.

11. Read the following lines from the poem 'A Prayer in Spring' and prepare an appreciation focussing on its theme, imagery and poetic devices. 5 × 1 = 5

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers to-day;
And give us not to think so far away
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here
All simply in the springing of the year.

Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,
Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;
And make us happy in the happy bees,
The swarm dilating round the perfect trees.

Questions 12-16. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. 1 × 5 = 5

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands, a jewel in the Bay of Bengal, captivate visitors with their unparalleled beauty. Clean white-sand beaches border the turquoise waters, where vibrant coral reefs teem with diverse marine life. Each island seems like a canvas painted with lush greenery, creating a harmonious blend of nature's wonders. The beaches, such as Radhanagar Beach on Havelock Island, rank among the world's best, offering a tranquil retreat and stunning sunsets. The islands bear witness to significant historical events. Cellular Jail, located in Port Blair, stands as a solemn monument to India's struggle for independence. A visit to Cellular Jail provides a reminder of the sacrifices made during the fight for freedom, adding a historical depth to the enchanting group of islands. Moreover, the islands are home to indigenous tribes, contributing to their cultural richness. The Jarawa, Sentinalese, Nicobarese, and others have unique traditions and lifestyles. This historical and cultural tapestry, woven alongside the islands' scenic splendour, makes the Andaman and Nicobar Islands a destination where beauty and history intertwine, offering a multifaceted experience for those fortunate enough to explore its shores.

12. What makes the Andaman and Nicobar Islands a destination where beauty and history intertwine?

13. Where is the Cellular Jail located?

2/5

14. Which are the indigenous tribes residing in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands?

15. Why do the beaches, like Radhanagar Beach, rank among the world's best?

16. Give a suitable title to the passage.

Questions 17-18. Answer any ONE of the following.

7×1=7

17. Leo Auffman, a weird dreamer, is inspired to build a machine that creates happiness. However, his wife makes him aware of the irony of the invention. Prepare a **narrative** of the events that unfold in the story 'The Happiness Machine.'

(Hints : Auffman invents happiness machine - asks wife to test it - turns gloomy when wife expresses disinterest - machine catches fire when he enters - realises real happiness.)

18. Sue and Behrman in the story 'The Last Leaf' have several traits in common apart from their different predilections. **Compare and contrast** the characters of Sue and Behrman in the story 'The Last Leaf'.

(Hints : Sue and Behrman - Both kind and considerate - Behrman is selfless - Sue is sensitive and thoughtful)

Questions 19-21. Answer any TWO of the following questions.

5×2=10

19. The Teens Club of your school has decided to conduct an awareness programme based on the topic 'Self Esteem and Self Respect'. A noted psychologist has agreed to deliver a speech. Prepare a **notice** inviting everyone to the programme.

20. Mr. Behrman was quite upset when he heard about the plight of Johnny. He wrote down his feelings in his personal diary. Prepare the likely **diary entry**.

21. Read the following passage and prepare five questions based on it.

It was still light when the rain woke me up. I was lying under a section of three seats turned upside down. There was no sign of my mother, of any other passengers, or of the plane. All I could hear were frogs croaking - and the rain. I had a bump on my head and a gash in my foot. I felt no pain, but I couldn't muster the energy to move and look round. Thus I spent the whole night lying under the seat half-asleep, in shock.

Questions 22-25. Answer any TWO of the following questions.

6×2=12

22. Tarun fell down thrice on the track, but he managed to finish the race and walked to a louder applause of the audience. The news hit the headlines the next day. Prepare the likely **news report**.

23. Happiness is an emotional state characterized by feelings of joy, satisfaction, contentment and fulfilment. Prepare a **write-up** on the topic 'Machines cannot create happiness' in the light of your reading of 'The Happiness Machine.'

24. Imagine that you meet the grandmother in the play 'Listen to the Mountain'. Prepare the likely **conversation** between you and the grandmother in the play.

25. Rajam in the story 'The Trio' is quick witted, smart, well dressed and always has an edge over the others. Prepare the **character sketch** of Rajam.

26. Prepare a profile of Sachin Tendulkar using the details given below.

6×1=6

Birth	: 24 April 1973
Place of Birth	: Mumbai, Maharashtra
Famous as	: Indian cricketer and captain
Nickname	: Little Master, Master Blaster, God of Cricket.

Batting	: Right-handed.
First Test Debut	: 15 November 1989, against Pakistan.
Awards and Honours	: Arjuna Award(1994), Padmashri(1999), Padmavibhushan(2008), Bharat Ratna(2014)
Autobiography	: Playing It My Way

Questions 27-31. Read the table given below which contains a list of the signature dishes of a few Indian states and answer the questions that follow. 1×5=5

Name of the Dish	Indian State	Main Ingredients
Kosha Mangsho	West Bengal	Mutton, Potato, Onion & Spices
Papaya Khar	Assam	Raw papaya, Khar, Mustard oil & Spices
Dhokla	Gujarat	Gram flour, Lemon juice, Sugar & Spices
Poha	Madhya Pradesh	Rice flakes, Tomato, Potato, Peanuts & Spices
Bisi Bele Bath	Karnataka	Rice, Dal, Carrot, Cashew, Jaggery, Tamarind juice & Spices
Dalma	Odisha	Pumpkin, Papaya, Yam, Brinjal, Potato, Unripe banana, Jaggery & Spices
Appam	Kerala	Boiled rice, Coconut, Sugar & Yeast

27. Pick out the non-veg dish from the table given above.
28. What is the signature dish of Gujarat?
29. Which is the only dish prepared without using spices?
30. Name the dish that has the most number of primary ingredients.
31. Which Indian state's signature dish has rice flakes as its main ingredient?
32. Complete the paragraph given below selecting appropriate words from those given in brackets. 1×4= 4

Juliane's father and mother who were conducting research in the jungle came across new varieties of insects. To figure out more about them, they decided to have a meeting with John who was an (a) Ali, a very famous (b), who studies about various aspects of human race, was also with John. As the discussion was going on, Juliane's father experienced severe heart pain. So, they immediately set out to visit Dr. Lekshmi who was a (c) Dr. Lekshmi, after careful examination, informed them that there was nothing to worry. But she advised him to consult a (d) as he had rashes on his legs.

(cardiologist, entomologist, dermatologist, neurologist, anthropologist)

33. The sentences given below place emphasis on the doer of the action. Rewrite them placing emphasis on the receiver of the action. 1×2=2

The teacher scolded Swaminathan. Then he resumed the lessons.

34. Report the following dialogue.

1×2=2

Rajam: What have I done to offend you?

Mani: You called me a sneak yesterday.

a) Rajam asked

b) Mani replied

35. Complete the paragraph using the appropriate form of the phrasal verbs given in brackets.

1×5=5

Rajam (a) at Nallappa's grove where Swaminathan and Mani were waiting for him. As soon as he reached there, Rajam fired a shot in the air from his gun. Mani was really (b) by the gunshot. But soon they had a discussion and (c) their misunderstanding. Swaminathan's face also (d) with excitement at this amicable settlement. To show his goodwill, Rajam also (e) of his pocket half a dozen of biscuits.

(patch up, light up, turn up, taken aback, pull out, dawn on)

36. Complete the following conversation between Sue and Johnsy suitably.

1×5=5

Sue : (a) ?

Johnsy : I am looking at those ivy leaves. They fall one by one and I feel that my death is near.

..... (b) ?

Sue : No. Don't be silly. The doctor didn't say any such thing.

Would you mind (c) ?

Johnsy : Yes I do. I don't need wine anymore. I am about to die. There goes another leaf.

Sue : Please stop talking nonsensical things.

If you remain quiet, (d)

Johnsy : Can't you complete your painting in the other room?

Sue : I would rather (e)

Johnsy : Okay then. Stay back but please stop giving sermons.

37. Identify the Noun Phrase in subject position and the verb phrase from the sentences given below.

1×2=2

a) The beautiful stories of O. Henry touch our heart and give us valuable lessons about life.

b) Leo Auffman invented 'The Happiness Machine.'