

## Half Yearly Examination 2023

Class - IX

Sub - English

**SET - A**

Time : 3 Hrs.

Full Marks : 80

The figures in the margin indicate full marks

### General Instructions

1. The question paper is divided into 3 sections A, B & C. All sections are compulsory.
2. Seperate instructions are given with each section & question, Whereever necessary. Read those instructions carefully and follow them carefully.
3. Do not exceed the word limit while answering the questions.

### Section - A: Reading - 20 Marks

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. The most beautiful humming birds are found in the West Indies and South America) The crest of the tiny head of one of these shines like a sparkling crown of coloured light) The shades of colour that adorn its breast are equally brilliant) As the bird flits from one object to another, it looks more like a bright flash of sunlight than it does like a living being.

2. But, you ask, why are they called humming birds? It is because they make a soft, humming noise by the rapid motion of their wings - a motion so rapid, that as they fly, you can hardly see that they have wings.) One day when walking in the woods, I found the nest of one of the smallest humming birds.) It was about half the size of a very small hen, and it was attached to a twig no thicker than a steel knitting needle. It seemed to have been made of cotton fibres and was covered with the softest bits of leaf and bark.) It had two eggs in it, and each was about as large as a small sugarplum.)

3. When you approach the spot where one of the birds has built its nest, it is necessary to be careful. The mother bird will dart at you and try to pick your eyes. Its sharp beak may hurt your eyes most severely and even destroy your sight.

4. The poor little thing knows no other way of defending its young, and instinct teaches it that you might carry off its nest if you find it.

A. Complete the following statements by choosing the correct options: 1×5=5

i. The nest of the humming bird was about \_\_\_\_\_ the size of a very small hen.

- a) half                      b) full                      c) one-third                      d) one-fourth

ii. The shades of the colour of that adorn the breast of the humming bird is quite \_\_\_\_\_

- a) dull    b) brilliant  
c) both a & b                                      d) None of the above

iii. You can hardly see that the humming birds have wings because of the -

- a) rapid motion of their wings as they fly  
b) humming noise as they fly  
c) shining colour their wings  
d) invisible wings due to a bright flash of sunlight

iv. The mother bird will dart at you and try to peck your eyes when you -

- a) throw stones at her nest.  
b) try to steal her eggs from the nest  
c) threaten the bird near her nest  
d) approach the spot where one of these birds has built its nest.

✓ **v.** The instinct of the humming bird teaches it that you might carry off its \_\_\_\_\_ if you find it.

a) hive

b) burrow

c) nest

d) den

**B. Answer the following questions:**

**1×5=5**

✓ **i.** Where are the most beautiful humming birds found?(Para-1)

✓ **ii.** Why are they called humming birds? (Para-2)

✓ **iii.** What did the narrator find one day when walking in the woods? (Para-2)

✓ **iv.** How many eggs were there in the nest? (Para-2)

✓ **v.** How big were the eggs? (Para-2)

**2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: -**

- ✓ **1.** Experts say that what customers buy in the name of herbal cosmetics is often the same synthetic cosmetic with a herb or two added, which works to lure customers. A product that says it is 100% natural may be misleading in the sense that it's difficult to stabilize a fully natural base and is always quite expensive, requiring advanced technology. The desired shelf life of a product is expected to be at least two years, but that of a purely herbal product would be restricted to about six months. Also, the product won't be aesthetically appealing as a synthetic product. Hence manufacturers of herbal products have to include synthetic base ingredients to balance the formula.
- ✓ **2.** Herbal ingredients might also cause allergies as they may contain a large number of constituents which may be allergic to that user. Thus the concept of using 'total extracts' may be harmful, because there are several other ingredients going into the product. Also, things like pH need to be considered before using it.
- ✓ **3.** According to the law experts, customers suing someone is considered extreme. Given the legal system in India and the long-drawn litigation process, consumers tend to pursue legal action.

against manufacturers / distributors in the event of any problem. However, with the dawn of consumer forums and more effective laws protecting the interests of the consumers, the trend is slowly moving towards this direction.

4. At times it is not just manipulate manufacturers and passive consumers but sometimes weak and absent rules regarding the process of manufacturing can also get fake production licenses. Also one cannot make a generalisation that synthetics are safe while naturals are harmful. I would say that the difference is that if one is a known devil (synthetics) the other is unknown. Unlike the case of synthetic cosmetic, herbal cosmetics are still in a wascent stage. You don't have well-defined standards for the use of raw materials in the production of herbal cosmetics.

5. Finally, customers can also check out their cosmetics by using the 'Cosmetics ingredient dictionary', a database of 19,000 ingredients. It claims to help users check out what a chemical compounds they use daily. This App lets you feed the names of the ingredients written on the container into the app and then get the reading about it.

A. Complete the following statements by choosing the correct options: 1×5=5

i. As per the passage, customers in India don't easily sue someone because -

- a) legal systems are pathetic
- b) legal systems are long-drawn
- c) Clients lose their time and money
- d) All the above

ii. The desired shelf life of a purely herbal product is about -

- a) eight months
- b) six months
- c) nine months
- d) one year

~~iii~~ The cosmetics ingredients dictionary is a database of \_\_\_\_\_ ingredients.

- a) 22,000      b) 21,000      c) 20,000      ~~d) 19,000~~

~~iv~~ A word from the passage (para-4) that means the same as 'skillful at influencing in an unfair way' is -

- a) Manipulate                      b) Encouraging  
c) Incompetent                      d) Decorative

~~v~~ Natural cosmetics have much shorter life than the synthetic ones.

- a) True                      b) False

**B. Answer the following questions:**

**1×5=5**

- ~~i~~ Why is it misleading when a product is labelled as 100% natural? (para-1)
- ~~ii~~ What is the desired shelf life of a product? (para-1)
- ~~iii~~ How can herbal ingredients cause allergies? (para-2)
- ~~iv~~ How can customers check out their cosmetics?(para-5)
- ~~v~~ What does the Cosmetics ingredients dictionary let you feed? (para-5)

### **Section - B: Writing Skills - 20 Marks**

- ~~3.~~ a) Write an analytical paragraph in about 100-120 words on "Drug Addiction among young generation" with the help of the following hints. 5

[Hints: Drug addiction—major problems—young generation—frustrated people are victims—takes into an imaginary world—dangerous effect—to prevent]

or

- b) Write an analytical paragraph in about 100-120 words on "Books are our best friends". You may take the help of the given hints:

[Hints: Books enlighten, cheer, encourage, break loneliness — never leave in need — a welcome escape from boredom.]

4. a) You visited a village fair recently. Write a diary entry in about 100-120 words about your visit. 5

or

- b) Write a short story based on the points given below. Give a suitable title of it. (word limit 100 - 120 words)

[Points: Midas, a king — extreme greed for gold — prays to God for golden touch — God grants the prayer — everything turns into gold — his daughter too — gets disappointed — prays to take back the boon.]

5. a) Study the conversation between two friends given below and complete the paragraph that follows by filling in the blanks. 1×3=3

Gouri : I will give you a nice gift on your birthday.

Ritu : What gift will you give?

Gouri : If I tell you now that will spoil the fun.

Gouri told Ritu that (i) \_\_\_\_\_

Ritu asked Gouri (ii) \_\_\_\_\_

Gouri said that (iii) \_\_\_\_\_

- b) Fill in the blanks with the suitable options given below:  
(any four) :- 1×4=4

i. I know very \_\_\_\_\_ about him.

a) little      b) many      c) more      d) some

ii. Bread and butter \_\_\_\_\_ everybody's basic need.

a) are      b) have      c) is      d) am

iii. You \_\_\_\_\_ abide by the traffic rules.

a) must      b) may      c) might      d) can

iv. The children \_\_\_\_\_ to visit the zoo, yesterday.

- a) go      b) going      c) went      d) gone

v. Very \_\_\_\_\_ people came up with a solution to this difficult sum.

- a) few      b) little      c) many      d) much

c) The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each sentence. Identify the incorrect word and write the correct word against each number as shown in the given example:

1×3=3

Incorrect    Correct

One night, I was returning home

by a taxi

by

in

i) The roads was almost empty as it was

\_\_\_\_\_

ii) quite late in night. Suddenly I realised

\_\_\_\_\_

iii) that everything look unfamiliar outside

\_\_\_\_\_

### Section - C: Literature- 40 Marks

6. Choose any one of the extracts below and answer the questions that follow:

1×5=5

a. Not surprisingly, Evelyn delights her audiences. In 1991, she was presented with the Royal Philharmonic Society's prestigious Soloist of the Year Award. (Says master percussionist James Blades, "God may have taken her hearing but he has given her back something extraordinary.) What we hear, she feels far more deeply than any of us. That is why she expresses music so beautifully."

- i. Where has the extract been taken from?
- ii. "God may have taken her hearing but he has given her back something extraordinary." Who said this?

- iii. What extraordinary ability has been given by God to Evelyn?  
iv. Which award has been presented to Evelyn?  
v. The noun form of the word 'beautifully' is \_\_\_\_\_.
- a) beautify      b) beauty      c) beautiful      d) beautifying

or

b. Margie went into the schoolroom. It was right next to her bedroom. And the mechanical teacher was on and waiting for her. It was always on at the same time everyday except Saturday and Sunday. Because her mother said little girls learned better if they learned at regular hours.

The screen was lit up and it said: "Today's arithmetic lesson is on the addition of proper fractions. Please insert yesterday's homework in the proper slot."

- i. Where has the extract been taken from?  
ii. Where was Margie's School?  
iii. How many days in a week did Margie have class?  
iv. What did Margie's mother say?  
v. The noun form of the word 'insert' is \_\_\_\_\_.
- a) inserting      b) interest      c) inserted      d) insertion

- c. Choose any one of the following extracts below and answer the questions that follow: 1×5=5

Wind, come softly.

Don't break the shutters of the windows.

Don't scatter the papers.

Don't throw down the books on the shelf.

- i. Name the poet and the poem of the extract.  
ii. How does the poet ask the wind to come?



iii. Books are on the \_\_\_\_\_

- a) table      b) almirah      c) shelf      d) window

iv. Find out the meaning of the word 'scatter' from the options given below:

- a) shutter                      b) break  
c) remove                      d) throw in different directions

v. Does the wind listen to the poet? <https://www.tripuraboard.com>

or

d. And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black  
Oh! I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.

i. Here 'I' refers to -

- a) John Keats                      b) Robert Frost  
c) Lord Tennyson                d) Subramania Bharati

ii. Here 'both' means -

- a) the poet and his friend      b) two colours  
c) two roads                      d) two days

iii. The poet left the first road \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) because others did the same  
b) because it was muddy

✓ c) in a hope that he would travel on it some other day

✓ d) as he was in a hurry

④ iv. The poet was full of strange doubt whether -

✓ a) he would return to his hometown.

b) he would stand over there again

c) the road would be leafless

d) he would come again to walk over it

⑤ v. 'Trodden' means -

✓ a) Stopped

b) Stepped on

✗ c) Slip

d) Sleep

7. Answer the questions below in short within 40-50 words each: (Any four)  $3 \times 4 = 12$

i. When was the deafness of Evelyn first noticed? Why did Evelyn's world become colourless?  $1 + 2 = 3$

ii. Which road did the poet choose? What was the poet's dilemma?  $1 + 2 = 3$

iii. When and how did Bismillah Khan get his big break?

iv. What does the poet mean by "The wind God winnows"?

✓ v. Why does Margie call the old school funny?

8. Answer the following questions within 40-50 words (any two):  $3 \times 2 = 6$

✗ i. How did Toto come to the narrator's house?

✗ ii. Give the names of Grandfather's pets. Where did they live?

✗ iii. Why did the child's parents refuse for the flute's music? Where did he meet the kind hearted person?  $2 + 1 = 3$

9. Answer the following questions in about 100-120 words:  
6×2=12

i. ~~a)~~ "The Road Not Taken" is a metaphor of life - Justify the statement.

OR

b) After reading the story, "The Fun They Had". What idea do you form of an ideal school? 6

ii. a) How did Toto behave with other animals?

OR

b) Compare the attitude of the child before and after his separation from his parents in the fair.

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