



# B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS  
A CBSE DAY-CUM-BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

POST MID TERM EXAMINATION- 2025-26  
ENGLISH

Class: VIII  
Date: 12.1.26  
Admission no:

Time: 1hr  
Max Marks: 25  
Roll no:

## General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains FOUR sections: READING, GRAMMAR, WRITING and LITERATURE. 2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

## SECTION A: READING SKILLS

### 1. Read the passage and answer the questions.

(7 Marks)

The small village of Kethuli was once known only for its quiet fields and gentle river. But in recent years, a remarkable change has taken place. The villagers discovered that their soil was ideal for growing a rare medicinal herb called Arovia. Scientists from nearby cities soon visited the village and confirmed that the herb had great healing properties. This discovery brought new opportunities—but also new challenges.

With the rising demand for Arovia, many villagers shifted from traditional farming to cultivating this herb. Their incomes improved, and the village slowly transformed into a busy marketplace. However, over-harvesting of Arovia began affecting the natural balance of the land. The riverbanks started eroding, and some wild animals disappeared from the forests.

Realizing the danger, the village council invited environmental experts to guide them. The experts suggested sustainable farming methods: limiting the use of chemicals, planting more trees, and allowing parts of the land to rest each season. The villagers agreed, and within a year, the river became cleaner, and the forest life began to return. The success of Kethuli showed that development and nature can coexist—if people act responsibly and think about the future.

I. What was Kethuli originally known for?

(1)

- a) Arovia herb                      b) Wildlife  
c) Quiet fields and a gentle river   d) Large markets

II. How did Arovia cultivation affect villagers' income?

(1)

III. What problem arose due to over-harvesting Arovia?

(1)

- a) Increase in rainfall.      b) Riverbanks began eroding.  
c) Population decreased.   d) Roads were damaged.

IV. Find a word from the passage that means "very special or uncommon."

(1)

V. Which method was NOT suggested by the experts?

(1)

- a) Planting more trees.      b) Using more chemicals.  
c) Allowing land to rest.      d) Sustainable farming.

VI. Who invited environmental experts? (1)

VII. Why were scientists interested in the village? (1)

- a) For tourism. b) To study the river.  
c) Because of the rare herb Arovia. d) To build factories.

**SECTION B- GRAMMAR** (4 marks)

2. Rewrite the following sentences using conditionals without 'if' (use: Unless, As long as, Provided that, In case): (1x2=2)

I. If you need help, call me.

II. If you don't hurry, you will miss the bus.

3. Change the following sentences into the passive voice: (1x2=2)

I. People speak English around the world.

II. My brother will finish the project tomorrow.

**SECTION C-WRITING SKILL** (4 marks)

4. Write **any one** of the following:

I. You are Riya/Raj. Your mother called while your sister Anjali was out for her tuition class. Your mother asked Anjali to start preparing dinner and to remind her that guests will arrive by 8 pm. Write a message for Anjali.

**OR**

II. Write a short biography of Kalpana Chawla in about 80–100 words using the following clues:

**Born** – 1962, Karnal, India **Education** – Aeronautical engineering, **pursued studies in the US**

**Career** – NASA astronaut, first Indian-origin woman in space **Famous missions** – STS-87, STS-107

**Death** – 2003, Space Shuttle Columbia disaster. **Qualities** – brave, determined, inspirational.

**SECTION D – LITERATURE** (10 marks)

5. Answer in one word/sentence. (1x3=3)

I. What was written on the pedestal of Ozymandias's statue?

II. What remains of Ozymandias's statue now?

III. Who gave an interesting talk on earthworms in the seminar in "A Trip to Kerala"?

6. Answer **any 2** of the following questions in about 40-50 words. (2x2=4)

I. What does the traveler describe when he talks about the statue in the desert?

II. Why did Rahul Alvares travel to Kerala with his father, and what was his purpose there?

III. Describe Rahul's experience during his alone journey back to Goa from Kerala.

7. Answer **any 1** of the following questions in about 60-80 words: (1x3=3)

I. How does the ruined statue in "Ozymandias" reflect the poem's message about power and time?

II. How is organic farming helpful for farmers these days?

\*\*\*\*\*ALL THE BEST\*\*\*\*\*