



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-MS

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)

Ans: - Their incomes improved.

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)

Ans: - rare

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)

Ans: - The village council.

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.

Ans: - Call me in case you need help.

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

Ans: - You will miss the bus unless you hurry.

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

I. People speak English around the world.

Ans: - English is spoken around the world by people.

II. My brother will finish the project tomorrow.

Ans:- The project will be finished by my brother 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.

MESSAGE

Date: 29 November 2025

Time: 5:30 pm

Anjali,

Mummy called and said that guests are coming by 8 pm. She asked you to start preparing dinner as soon as you reach home. She will be late from work.

— Riya/Raj

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.

Ans: -Kalpana Chawla was born in 1962 in Karnal, India. She studied aeronautical engineering and later moved to the United States for higher studies. Her passion for flying and space led her to join NASA as an astronaut, becoming the first Indian-origin woman to go to space. She was part of two important missions—STS-87 and STS-107. Sadly, she died in 2003 during the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster. Kalpana Chawla is remembered as a brave and determined woman who continues to inspire millions.

SECTION D – LITERATURE

(10 marks)

(1x3=3)

5. Answer in one word/sentence.

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

Ans: - My name is Ozymandias, King of Kings."

II. What remains of Ozymandias's statue now?

Ans: - Only ruins in the desert.

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

Ans: -Dr. Sultan Ismail.

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?

Ans: - The traveler describes a ruined statue with a shattered face and a broken trunk. The expression on the face still shows pride and authority despite the decay.

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

Ans: -Rahul travelled to Kerala with his father because his father had been invited to conduct seminars on organic farming.

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

Ans: - Rahul travelled alone by train from Kerala back to Goa, and it was an exciting and memorable experience for him. Although it was a long journey, he enjoyed the independence and the views from the train, and he felt proud of managing the trip on his own.

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?

Ans: - The ruined statue shows that even the greatest rulers cannot escape the effects of time. Ozymandias once believed his power was unmatched, but all that remains of his empire is a broken statue buried in the desert. This decay highlights the poem's message: human achievements and pride eventually fade, while nature and time remain stronger than any king's authority.

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

Ans: -Organic farming is helpful for farmers because it reduces the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, making crops safer and healthier. It also improves soil fertility and preserves the environment, which leads to sustainable farming. Additionally, farmers can earn more as organic products often fetch higher prices in the market.

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