

DEVAMATHA CMI PUBLIC SCHOOL
HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION 2017 - 2018

Std.IX**ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE (101)**

Time : 3 h.

Marks : 80

Section A - Reading (20 Marks)

Section B - Writing & Grammar (30 Marks)

Section C - Literature (30 Marks)

General Instructions :

1. Answer all the questions.
2. Do not write anything in the question paper.
3. All the answers must be correctly numbered as in the question paper and written in the answer sheet provided to you.
4. Ensure that questions for each section are answered together.
5. Read each question carefully and follow the instructions.
6. Strictly adhere to the word limit given with each question. Marks will be deducted for exceeding the word limit.

Section A - Reading (20 marks)

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :

Legends will tell you that flamingoes are no ordinary visitors to Kutch. They were the honoured guests of King Lakho and he had forbidden the hunting of flamingoes, which came to Kutch from various parts of the world every year to breed. For centuries the region has been a haven for the migratory bird. Today, Flamingo City, an island in the middle of the Rann of Kutch, known the world over as one of the biggest breeding grounds of the Greater Flamingo, is strewn with bodies of hundreds of flamingo chicks. The parents of these chicks have fled the island due to lack of food. Zooplanktons, algae and small fish that these birds survive on are dying due to a sudden increase in the salinity of the Rann waters. One can even see dead fish floating.

Flamingoes need salt-encrusted, damp mud to build nests. The place where they build their nests has to be inaccessible to predatory cats and birds. It should also have sufficient food. The right mix of sweet and brackish water in the Rann is crucial for the proliferation of planktons and algae that the flamingoes feed on. Faced with starvation flamingoes have fled the island leaving their chicks to fend for themselves. Till date around a thousand flamingoes have died.

Maharaj Kumarshri Himmatsinghi, a member of the royal family of Kutch and an expert on the birds of Kutch, traces the problem of increased salinity in the Rann waters to the construction of dams on rivers that flow into the region. He emphasizes that efforts should be made to ensure that, at least some water flows into the Rann. In fact over the years, the number of flamingoes coming to the island have decreased because of the change in salinity of the Rann water. In 1945, Salim Ali, the late ornithologist, had found 5 lakh birds on the island. Since then, the number has not gone above 2.2 lakh. However, the studies carried out on the Flamingo City so far cannot be taken as 100 per cent accurate because very few ornithologists have conducted regular studies on flamingoes in the area.

- A On the basis of your reading of the passage given above, complete the following sentences. Write the answers in your answer sheet. (1x5=5)

1. Planktons and algae, which form the food of flamingoes, require _____ .

2. Ornithologists find it difficult to conduct regular studies on flamingoes in the Rann as _____.
3. To conduct long term studies on the bird, _____.
4. The increase in salinity in the Rann waters is due to _____.
5. Kutch was referred to as a haven for flamingoes with the availability of two things. They were _____ and _____.

B. Find words from the passage, which mean the same as the following, from the paragraphs indicated: (1x3=3)

1. increase in number (para 2).
2. lessened (para 3)
3. run away (para 2)

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

The Nobel prize is a set of annual international awards bestowed in a number of categories by Swedish and Norwegian committees in recognition of academic, cultural and/or scientific advances. The will of the Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel established the prizes in 1895. The prizes in Chemistry, Literature, Peace, Physics, and Physiology or Medicine were first awarded in 1901. The related Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences was established by Sweden's central bank in 1968. The Nobel prize itself was made of the mixture of gold and silver with 24carat or 4.8 g gold coating. Between 1901 and 2015, the Nobel Prizes and the Prize in Economic Sciences were awarded 573 times to 900 people and organisations. With some receiving the Nobel Prize more than once, this makes a total of 870 individuals (821 men and 49 women) and 23 organisations.

The prizes are awarded in Stockholm, Sweden, except for the peace prize which is awarded in Oslo, Norway. The Nobel Prize is widely regarded as the most prestigious award available in the fields of literature, medicine, physics, chemistry, peace, and economics.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awards the Nobel Prize in Physics, the Nobel Prize in Chemistry, and the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences; the Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institute awards the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine; the Swedish Academy grants the Nobel Prize in Literature; and the Nobel peace Prize is awarded not by a Swedish organisation but by the Norwegian Nobel Committee.

The various prizes are awarded yearly. Each recipient or laureate, receives a gold medal, a diploma and a sum of money, which is decided by the Nobel Foundation. As of 2012, each prize was worth 8 million SEK (c, US \$ 1.2 million, 0.93 million, 0.6 million). The prize is not awarded posthumously; however, if a person is awarded a prize and dies before receiving it, the prize may still be presented. Though the average number of laureates per prize increased substantially during the 20th century, a prize may not be shared among more than three people.

A. Answer the following questions :

1. _____ and _____ give the Nobel Prize award (1)
2. _____ invented the Nobel Prize. (1)
3. Where are the Nobel Prizes awarded? (2)
4. _____ awards the Nobel Prize in Physics. (1)
5. What are the different types of Nobel Prize? (2)

6. What is the importance of Nobel Prize? (1)
7. What is the prize made up of? (1)
8. Each prize is worth ----- (1)
9. The Nobel Peace Prize is awarded by the ----- (1)
10. Give a suitable 'Title' to the passage given above. (1)

Section B – Writing & Grammar (30 marks)

3. A) The poem 'The Brook' dramatises beautifully the course of man's life in a symbolical way. Write a diary page expressing the images that appeal to you the most (write in about 150 words) (8)

B) Write a story beginning with the words (Write in 200 - 250 words):

"As I answered the telephone, little did I realise how my life was about to change." (12)

4. A) Complete the following passage by choosing the most appropriate option from the ones given below: (1x3=3)

Research (a) _____ that honeybees have a very strong nose that (b) _____ them smell a lot more than just sweet nectar. A company in Britain has made use of this sense and (c) _____ to train bees for detecting bombs and drugs. Soon they will be put to work at the airport as well.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| a) i) showed | ii) showing | iii) shows | iv) shown |
| b) i) helped | ii) helps | iii) is helping | iv) help |
| c) i) was managing | ii) manage | iii) manages | iv) managed |

5. The following passage has not been edited. One word is missing from each line. Write it in your answer sheet along with the word before and after it. (1x4=4)

- a) A man getting very impatient. Again and again
- b) he would peep the doctor's room to see how
- c) many patients were left. After a long time his turn.
- d) came, he got up said, "Sorry doctor, I don't have a headache now."

	Before	Missing word	After
a)	_____	_____	_____
b)	_____	_____	_____
c)	_____	_____	_____
d)	_____	_____	_____

6. Read the words and phrases given below. Rearrange them to form meaningful sentences: (3)

- a) now a days/ in the market/ there are just/ selling/ too many brands/ ice-creams/ of
- b) there were/ varieties/ just two or three/ different/ a decade ago/ to choose/ from
- c) try/ some people/ a new brand/ who/ come back/ again and again/ for it

Section C – Literature (30 marks)

7. Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow: (1x4=4)

A) '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) Whom does 'I' refer to?
- ii) What do you mean by 'trodden'?
- iii) What does 'both' in the first line refer to?
- iv) What is the poet doubtful about?

OR

B) 'The pair set daily goals; Monday, the sixth fence post, Tuesday the seventh fence post, Wednesday.....'

- i) Identify the 'pair'.
- ii) Which word in this extract is the synonym of 'targets'?
- iii) What were their daily goals?
- iv) Why did they need to set daily goals?

8. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each: (2x4=8)

- a) Why was Gaston not interested in buying the villa in the beginning?
- b) Write a note on the change of Lord Ullin's mind.
- c) Why, did the grandmother in the story 'How I Taught My Grandmother To Read' remain illiterate?
- d) What are the guesses the poet makes with regard to the Solitary Reaper's Song?

9. Answer any one of the following questions in about 120-150 words: (8)

A) Gaston has proved his cunningness in business matters, but as far as moral ethics are concerned, there is a definite lack of it in him.

Discuss the values he should have possessed with reference to 'Villa for Sale'.

OR

B) 'Education can Make One Independent'. Write an article in about 150 words highlighting the important values that we learn through the lesson 'How I taught my Grandmother To Read.'

10. Answer anyone of the following questions in about 180 - 200 words. (10)

A) Describe the funny episode of the cheese in your own words.

OR

B) Write a character sketch of Uncle podger as depicted in the novel, 'Three Men in a Boat.'