

HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION, 2017-18

ENGLISH

Time : 3 hrs.

Class – VIII

M.M. : 80

Date – 21.09.2017 (Thursday)

Name of the student _____ Section _____

General Instructions-

- This paper is divided into four sections: A, B, C and D. All the sections are compulsory.
- Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions carefully and adhere to them.
- All questions of a particular section should be answered systematically.
- Do not exceed the word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION – A (Reading – 15 marks)

A.1 Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below – (5)

- Turmeric grows wild in the forests of South and Southeast Asia. It is one of the key ingredients in many Asian dishes. Indian traditional medicine, called Siddha, has recommended turmeric for medicine. In recipes outside South Asia, turmeric is sometimes used as an agent to impart a rich, custard like yellow colour. It is used in canned beverages, baked products, dairy products, ice cream, yoghurt, yellow cakes, orange juice, biscuits, popcorn colour, cereals, sauces, gelatines etc. It is a significant ingredient in most commercial curry powders.
- Most turmeric is used in the form of rhizome powder. In some regions (especially in Maharashtra, Goa, Konkan and Kanara), turmeric leaves are used to wrap and cook food. Turmeric leaves are mainly used in this way in areas where turmeric is grown locally, since the leaves used are freshly picked. Turmeric leaves impart a distinctive flavour. Although typically used in its dried, powdered form, turmeric is also used fresh, like ginger. It has a numerous uses in East-Asian recipes, such as pickle that contains large chunks of soft turmeric, made from fresh turmeric.
- Turmeric is widely used as a spice in South Asian and Middle-Eastern cooking. Many Persian dishes use turmeric as a starter ingredient. Almost all Iranian khoresh dishes are made using onions caramelized in oil and turmeric, followed by other ingredients. In India and Nepal, turmeric is widely grown and extensively used in many vegetables and meat dishes for its colour; it is also used for its supposed value in traditional medicine. In Vietnamese cuisine, turmeric powder is used to colour and enhance the flavours of certain dishes, such as banh xeo, banh khot and mi quang. The powder is used in

many other Vietnamese stir-fried and soup dishes. In Indonesia, turmeric leaves are used for Minangese or Padangese curry base of Sumatra, such as rending, sate padang and many other varieties. In Thailand, fresh turmeric rhizomes are widely used in many dishes, in particular in the southern Thai cuisine, such as the yellow curry and turmeric soup.

Choose the correct answer –

- i) Most turmeric is used in the form of-
a) curry b) rhizome powder c) yoghurt d) soup dishes
- ii) Turmeric leaves are used to wrap and cook food in which region?
a) Bihar b) Goa c) Delhi d) Hyderabad
- iii) Khoresh is one of the dish from-
a) Vietnam b) Indonesia c) Iran d) India
- iv) Which Indian traditional medicine has recommended turmeric for medicine-
a) agni b) siddha c) vajra d) rudra
- v) Which recipe contains large chunks of soft turmeric -
a) mi quang b) padangese c) pickle d) none of these

A.2 Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below –

(10)

- i. A robot is a virtual artificial agent that is guided by a computer programme or electronic circuitry. It is usually an electro-mechanical machine which can imitate or perform with a lifelike appearance. A robot may convey a sense of intelligence or thoughts of its own.
- ii. Robotics is a branch of engineering which involves mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, electronic engineering and computer science. It deals with the design, construction, operation and application of robots, as well as computer systems for their control, sensory feedback and information processing. These technologies deal with automated machines that can take place of humans in dangerous environments or manufacturing processes. The robots can resemble humans in appearance, behaviour and cognition in their mental ability to take decisions. The word robotics was first used in print by Isaac Asimov, in his science fiction short story 'Liar!', published in May 1941 in Astounding Science Fiction, according to the Oxford English Dictionary.
- iii. The idea of machines which could operate on their own or autonomously, began long back but researching into the idea of making them functional and be put to actual use grew in the 20th century. It had been often assumed that robot will be able to mimic humans and perform every task like human. Today, robotics is a rapidly growing field, as technological advances continue; researching, designing and building new robots serve various practical purposes, whether domestically, commercially or militarily. Many robots do jobs that are hazardous to people such as defusing bombs, mines

and exploring shipwrecks. Most of the research in robotics focuses on investigations into new types of robots, alternative ways to think about or design robots and new ways to manufacture them besides specific industrial tasks.

- iv. Robotics engineer designs robots, maintain them, develop new applications for them, and conduct research to expand the potential of robotics. Robots have become a popular educational tool in some middle and high schools, raising interest in programming, artificial intelligence and robotics among students. Computer science courses at several universities now include programming of a robot in addition to traditional software engineering-based coursework. Many schools are beginning to add robotics programmes to their after-school curriculum. The Lego Company began a programme for children to learn and get interested about robotics at a young age. Some schools use a robot system in which the pieces come in sets, and are made of plastic for middle schools, and of metal for high schools. Both can be constructed to perform simple tasks, or whatever the student would like the robot to do.

i) Answer these questions-

(1×4=4)

- a) Define robotics?
- b) When was the term 'robotics' first used?
- c) What do robotic engineers do?
- d) How can the robots resemble humans?

ii) Say whether True or False-

(2)

- a) A Robot may convey a sense of intelligence or thoughts of its own.
- b) The Mego Company began a programme for children to learn and get interested about robotics at a young age.

iii) Complete the statements-

(2)

- a) A robot is a _____ that is guided by a computer programme.
- b) It had been often assumed that robots will be able to _____.

iv) Choose the correct option-

(2)

- a) 'Cognition' means to- (para ii)
i) think ii) think and process iii) register but not process iv) learn
- b) The antonym for 'autonomous' is- (para iii)
i) dependent ii) independent iii) perform iv) automatic

SECTION - B (Writing – 20 marks)

- B.1** You are Mohan/Mohita, Sports Secretary of your school. Inform the students of class VI-XII about the final match of the Inter School Football Match which is going to be held in your school. Draft a **notice within 50 words** to be put up on the school notice board, with all necessary details. Put the notice in a box. **(5)**

OR

You have lost your standard VIII progress report card when you were in the auditorium. Your teacher has advised you to put up a notice to this effect. As Ashok/Ashima, of St. Xavier's School, Delhi, draft this **notice** in not more than **50 words** giving all the details.

B.2 Your school has recently celebrated 'Teacher's Day'. You've understood the importance of teachers in students' life. You want to improve yourself to be a better student. Share your thoughts in the form of **diary entry within 100 words**. You may use the following clues : (7)

- * Teacher – a role model
- * realised how important school education is
- * had a learning day
- * memorable teachers' day

OR

Describe an incident, in about **100 words**, when you were able to overcome a challenge because you were determined to prove your worth. Say what the challenge was and how you managed to achieve your goal. You may use the following clues :

- * determination
- * never give up attitude
- * felt happy to overcome your fear
- * finally achieved it

B.3 As Vineet/Vidya of Nehru Nagar, Raipur, write **a letter within 120-150 words** to your grandmother, asking her to come and live with you as your mother is suffering from ill health and your father is on a business tour. (8)

OR

Rohan/Renu read a review about the Mumbai attacks due to terrorist activities in India. He/She decides to write **an article within 120-150 words** for the school magazine on the topic '**Disaster Caused By Terrorism and The Need to Preserve Peace**'. You may use the following clues :

- * News are like threat now a days
- * terrorism is the reason behind it
- * common people are the sufferers
- * international peace is the solution

SECTION – C (Grammar - 20 marks)

C.1 The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the correct answer in the blank provided along with the incorrect words. (1/2×6=3)

	Incorrect	Correct
One field where China find India	a) _____	_____
in a advantageous position is the	b) _____	_____
availability of English speaking workforce.		
Nine states has already introduced English as a	c) _____	_____
compulsory subject in China.		
Others will be postpone this decision only for their disadvantage.	d) _____	_____
Let us played our part in this global society which is	e) _____	_____
emerge from the 21 st century.	f) _____	_____

C.2 Rearrange the jumbled words to form meaningful sentences - (3)

- a) unbelievable / the / found / story / I
b) put up / appreciated / the exhibition / class 8 / everybody / the students / of / by
a) this / yesterday / which / burgled / is / the house / was

C.3 Do as directed:

i) Rewrite these affirmative sentences as negative sentences without changing their meaning – (1×2=2)

- a) Shreya is more intelligent than Mita
b) Lara accepted the invitation for the party.

ii) Fill in the blanks with the correct words - (1×2=2)

- a) Neha ____ know where her book is. (don't/doesn't)
b) One of my cousins ____ going abroad to take up a job. (is/are)
c) Nobody _____ (know/knows) where the treasure is hidden.
d) The clothes _____ (was/were) expensive but she bought a few.

iii) Underline the Phrases in these sentences and write their types - (1×2=2)

- a) To ridicule others is despicable.
b) To score a century is the captain's objective at this point.

iv) Underline the Clauses in these sentences and write their types - (1×2=2)

- a) Don't go before he comes.
b) What he did was very hurtful.

v) Underline the finite verbs and circle the non-finites - (1×2=2)

- a) Nita likes collecting sea shells.
b) Mohit helped his aunt to carry the suitcase.

vi) Circle the non-finite verbs and identify their kinds - (1×2=2)

- a) Francisco's first love is swimming.
b) My brother likes to dance.

C.4 Fill in the blanks with correct forms of the verbs given in the brackets. (½×4=2)

- a) Diana was _____ for her pen. (look)
b) The teacher asked the students _____ with their work. (continue)
c) The stranger _____ the shopkeeper to give him a packet of biscuit. (request)
d) Neha _____ down at the table to eat her breakfast. (sit)

SECTION – D (Reader – 25 marks)

D.1 Read the extract and answer the questions that follow – (1×3=3)

Hamid replied in injured tones, 'You burn your fingers on the iron plate. That is why I bought them.'

- i) Why did Hamid feel hurt?
- ii) Who used to burn her fingers on the iron plate? What had Hamid bought to relieve her of her pain?
- iii) How did the person to whom Hamid was speaking initially respond to the gift? Why did she respond in this manner?

OR

He saw a vast green sea beneath him, with little ridges moving over it- and he turned his beak sideways and crowed amusedly.

- i) Why did the seagull crow with amusement?
- ii) Where were the seagull's parents and siblings now?
- iii) Why was the seagull unable to rise above the sea?

D.2 Read the extract and choose the correct answer from the options given below (1×3=3)

— — — A simple Child,
That lightly draws its breath,
And feels its life in every limb,
What should it know of death?

- i) Who is the 'simple child' here?
 - a) sister Jane
 - b) John
 - c) the little girl
- ii) What is meant by 'lightly draws its breath'?
 - a) means the girl is untouched by any sorrow or pain
 - b) means the girl is happy and contented
 - c) means she is scared
- iii) Why does the poet use the word 'simple'?
 - a) to show that the little girl was innocent
 - b) to show that she was arrogant
 - c) to show that the little girl was sick

OR

'Somebody's mother' bowed low her head
In her home that night, and the prayer she said
Was, 'God be kind to the noble boy
Who is somebody's son, and pride and joy !'

- i) Who is 'Somebody's brother' ?
 - a) The young girl
 - b) The old lady
 - c) The rich lady
- ii) Why does somebody's mother pray for the boy?
 - a) because he helped her

- b) because he gave her money
- c) because he gave her food
- iii) Why is the boy called somebody's son, pride and joy?
 - a) because he had won a competition
 - b) because he had got first rank in class
 - c) because he had done a selfless deed of kindness

D.3 Answer these questions in brief. (within 30-40 words) – [Any five] (2×5=10)

- a) Where were the boys going? Why was Ameena reluctant to permit Hamid to go along with them?
- b) How did the seagull feel when he landed on the green sea?
- c) Which is the 'Children's Hour'? Why do you think it is called the 'Children's Hour' ?
- d) According to the girl, why were her siblings not separated from her?
- e) Why was Mother bewildered? How did she get wet?
- f) What was Jo very good at? How do we come to know about this talent of hers?

D.4 What do you think made the seagull take his first flight- his desperation or his mother's clever move? Support your answer with suitable instances from the story. **(within 50-60 words)** (3)

OR

Write a brief character sketch of Hamid. **(within 50-60 words)**

D.5 i) Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct phrasal verbs from the box- (1/2×2=1)

fell back, looks after, meet up, give in
--

- a) The seagull's parents did not want him to _____ to his fear of flying.
- b) After nearly a week, the enemy troops _____.

ii) Fill in the blanks with the correct idioms. (1/2×2=1)

- a) She is trying to get into IIT, but I think she is _____.
(bearing a grudge/chasing rainbows)
- b) My father bought a flat after his retirement as his _____.
(nest egg / chip on the shoulder)

D.6 Have you heard of 'random acts of kindness'? Do you agree with the statement, 'When you do good you feel good'? Describe any three ways in which you can make people around you happy and cheerful. **(within 60-80 words)** (4)

OR

The little seagull was frightened to fly because he thought he could never do it. If you were in such a position where you lacked confidence, what would you do? **(within 60-80 words)**

