

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BCM School, Basant Avenue, Dugri Road, Ludhiana</b>  <b>Paper Pattern Assignment</b>  <b>Class VIII</b>  <b>English (Code184)</b></p>	
	<b>Section- Reading</b>	
1	<p><b>Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>UPSIDE DOWN TREE</b></p> <p>1. The Baobab tree, which is among the largest and longest living trees on earth, is also one of the most unusual and remarkable trees. A native of Africa, it has flourished for thousands of years in the arid savannah close to the equator. The tree, which can grow up to 30 meters in height, has a very strange appearance. It has an enormous, bulbous trunk and stunted branches that look like gnarled roots spreading wide. The branches are bare for nine months of the year, since the tree puts out leaves only twice a year, for a few weeks at a time when the rains come to the plains. Thus the Baobab tree, for most of the time, looks as if it has been pulled out of the ground and stuffed back in upside down.</p> <p>2. The tree's unusual appearance has given rise to many interesting folktales about its origins. African Bushmen have a legend that tells of God Thora who took a dislike to the Baobab growing in his garden. He tossed it over the wall of paradise to Earth below, and although it landed upside down, it continued to grow! Another folk tale says that the Baobab was amongst the first trees to appear on Earth. When the palm tree, the flame tree and the fig tree appeared, the Baobab began to grumble that it wanted to be taller, to have brilliant flame coloured flowers, and bear tasty fruit too. The gods grew angry at this incessant wailing and pulled up the tree by its roots, and replanted it upside down to keep it quiet.</p> <p>3. There are only three months of rain in a year. So the Baobab spreads its roots wide and collects as much rainwater as it can. Then it stores the water in its bark and lower trunk for use during the dry months. Bushmen, and even elephants wandering through the desert extract water from the pulpy fiber when there is drought.</p> <p>4. The leaves of this tree resemble an outstretched hand with open fingers. Its large flowers are white and bell-shaped and open only at night. The tree produces an edible, gourd like fruit called 'monkey bread', which is a favourite with baboons. This fruit has the highest concentration of vitamin C of any plant.</p>	

5. The Baobab is a friendly nurturing tree and creates its own ecosystem as it supports the life of countless creatures from the largest of mammals to the thousands of tiny creatures scurrying in and out of its numerous crevices. Baobabs may live up to 3000 years! There are trees alive that were growing when the Roman Empire ruled Europe! Baobabs are very difficult to kill. Even when burnt, they will form new bark and keep on growing. When they do die, they simply rot from the inside and suddenly collapse, leaving only a heap of fibers. These majestic trees are revered by the people who live with them. In Africa, old Baobabs are given names. and each name begins with the word 'mother', for in the tough savannah grasslands the great Baobab is a mother of life, symbolising endurance, conservation, creativity and ingenuity.

**A. On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions:**

- List any two features that give the Baobab its unusual appearance.
- Why is Baobab called an 'an upside down tree'?
- How did the Baobab tree end up on the earth, according to the legend of African Bushmen?
- What connect does the writer draw out between the two interesting tales about Baobab's origin? (Paragraph 2)
- Give reason for the fact that 'Baobabs are very difficult to kill'.
- How does this tree create its own eco- system?

**B. Choose the most appropriate option for the following:**

- The word "gnarled" (Paragraph 1) means
 

(a) long and smooth	(b) bare and bald
(c) tall and wide	(d) twisted and
- The word 'scurrying' as used in paragraph 5 of the passage means which of the following?
 

(a) disappearing fast	(b) running quickly
(e) moving slowly	(d) surviving with

rough

difficulty

**C. Complete the following sentence:**

The fruit of Baobab tree is called \_\_\_\_\_.

**D. Complete following analogy with an appropriate word from fifth paragraph:**

conservation: destruction :: \_\_\_\_\_: weakness

**Section- Writing**

**2. Write a factual description on Diwali Celebration in your school using the hints given below. (Word limit 80-100)**

Diwali celebration----- every year----- all students took part ---- different activities ---- Essay Competition on eco-friendly diwali----

	<p>rangoli---- lantern making---- diya and candle decoration---- decoration by students--- enjoyed homemade special food ---- all cheerful---- speech by Principal-----awarded the winners for different activities---- memorable day</p>	
3.	<p><b>Write a story in about 100-120 words using the cues given below. Give a suitable title also.</b></p> <p>God's promise to a disciple to visit her---- disciple cleans her house and waits for God---- poor old lady knocks her door---- disciple doesn't help her---- tells her not to waste her time---- next, beggar comes at her door step---- she doesn't entertain him either ----- finally a child knocks her door----- she sends him away too-----dreams of God that night ----God tells him that he had come thrice at her door step, but she didn't bother ----- lady disappointed</p>	
<b>Section- Grammar</b>		
4.	<p><b>A. .Fill in the blanks with suitable words:</b></p> <p>The word 'folk' means people. Folk dances express the moods and feelings of a)_____ (the/ a/ an/ some) common people. Different regions b)_____ (at/ of/ for/ from) India have their own dances. c)_____ (Each/ All/ Whole/ Many) dance is accompanied by music and songs of the region to f)_____ (what/ which/ who/ whose) it belongs.</p> <p><b>B. Change the voice:</b></p> <p>a) He is enjoying the party. b) Will your uncle pay your school fees?</p> <p><b>C. Change the reported speech:</b></p> <p>a) The student said to the teacher, "Where are we going for a picnic?" b) Veena said, " Surbhi will not come tomorrow."</p> <p><b>D. Use a suitable idiom in place of the underlined words:</b> He is a cunning politician. He manages to <u>enjoy two fold benefits</u> – a good public image and huge contracts for his mining company.</p> <p><b>E. Give one word substitution for the following:</b> One who does not believe in the existence of God.</p>	
<b>Section- Literature</b>		
5.	<p><b>Read the extract given below and answer the questions:</b></p> <p>The only thing that makes you stronger is seeing somebody like you, achieving something huge. Then you know how much is possible and you reach out further than you ever thought you could.</p> <p>1. Who is the speaker of the above lines?</p>	

	<p>2.What endeared the scientist to the writer so that he said he was looking at one of the most beautiful men in the world?</p> <p>3. The phrase 'reach out' means _____.</p> <p>(a) walk hand (c) go out</p> <p>(b) move your (d) try to get</p>	
<p><b>6. Answer the following questions:</b></p>	<p>a) How did Jody look after the fawn after he accepted the responsibility of doing this?</p> <p>b) Why is mist called melancholy?(A Short Monsoon Diary)</p> <p>c) Why do you think the boy felt tempted to buy jalebis even though he knew it was wrong?</p> <p>d) Why did Ranji go back to the pool next day for second fight even though he was not willing?</p>	
<p><b>7.</b></p>	<p>Using your understanding of weather and seasons, describe the major changes observed as the rains progress for the period of June 24 to March 23. Support your answer with evidence from the chapter 'A Short Monsoon Diary' in 80–100 words.</p>	
<p><b>8.</b></p> <p><b>Replace the underlined words/ phrases with suitable words:</b></p>	<p>1. The ship <u>submerged</u> into the water.</p> <p>2. The shiny surface of the land was amazing.</p>	