

BCM SCHOOL, BASANT AVENUE, DUGRI, LDH
ENGLISH ASSIGNMENT (Feb,2025)
CLASS: IX

SECTION A- READING SKILLS

Q 1. Read the passage given below.

1. Nature is our mother, our first teacher. The greatest lesson that she teaches us is to maintain an equilibrium in life. We learn to maintain composure through our joys, sorrows and fears. In fact, there are a thousand lessons that nature can teach us, provided we look for them.

2. With time, a sapling grows into a full-grown tree; something so tiny and delicate develops into a strong tree capable of supporting others. No matter how tall it grows, how much it may flourish, or how many animals and birds it may support, its roots are firmly buried from where once it rose. That's a lesson – to keep ourselves grounded, respect and embrace our roots, and give something back to those humble belongings that nurtured us into who we are.

3. Then there is a message of peaceful coexistence. 'I am because we are'. Nature provides every creature a chance to exist. However, the existence of one creature or being depends on the existence of others. The tiger eats the antelope; without the antelope, the tiger wouldn't survive. Likewise, without tiger, the abundance of antelopes would cause them to starve to death.

4. I wonder if you have noticed that when the birds or squirrels see a predator, they give out an alarm call to their fellow creatures about the lurking danger. They put themselves in danger to save the lives of others. Many animals, like the salmon, usually die after they spawn, but this doesn't stop them. One life extinguished for the betterment of others is a small price to pay.

5. The snow melt in the warmth of spring to give birth to fresh green leaves. In autumn these leaves age into shades of gold only to be buried in the cold grave of winter. Change is inevitable; the sooner we embrace this, the better is for us. We must also understand that even in pair there is growth. If you cut a hole in a tree, it will grow around it. No matter what may come in its way, a river will continue to flow. Similarly, no matter what grief may break your heart, nature teaches that life goes on.

6. Keep in mind life isn't about making lists and trying to be one step ahead of others. Life is to live. Take a break - stop being a workaholic, and smell the rose, do whatever makes you feel happy and most of all spend some time with nature to pick up some valuable lessons.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

- i. According to the author, what is the greatest lesson being taught by nature?
- ii. What does the writer advise in the para 6?
- iii. What does the phrase 'I am because we are' conveys?
- iv. List one quality that the birds and squirrels display when they warn others of possible danger.
- v. Select the option with the underlined words that can substitute the word *lurking* in one phrase (paragraph 4).
 - a. The policeman caught the person who was wondering aimlessly through the city.
 - b. The thief knew that remaining hidden was the best strategy to avoid being caught.
 - c. The policeman was caught on camera while pouncing with force, to grab the culprit.
 - d. The burglar was walking boldly into the house thinking it was devoid of residents.
- vi. A portmanteau word like smog (smoke + fog), is a blend of words which are parts of multiple words combined into new words. From the option given below, select a portmanteau word that appears in para 6.
 - a. coexistence
 - b. full- grown
 - c. workaholic
 - d. flourish

vii. The 'change of season' in the passage is an example of the fact that nothing lasts forever. (True / False)

viii. Complete the given analogy correctly with a word from para 2.

Survive: vanish:: _____ strong

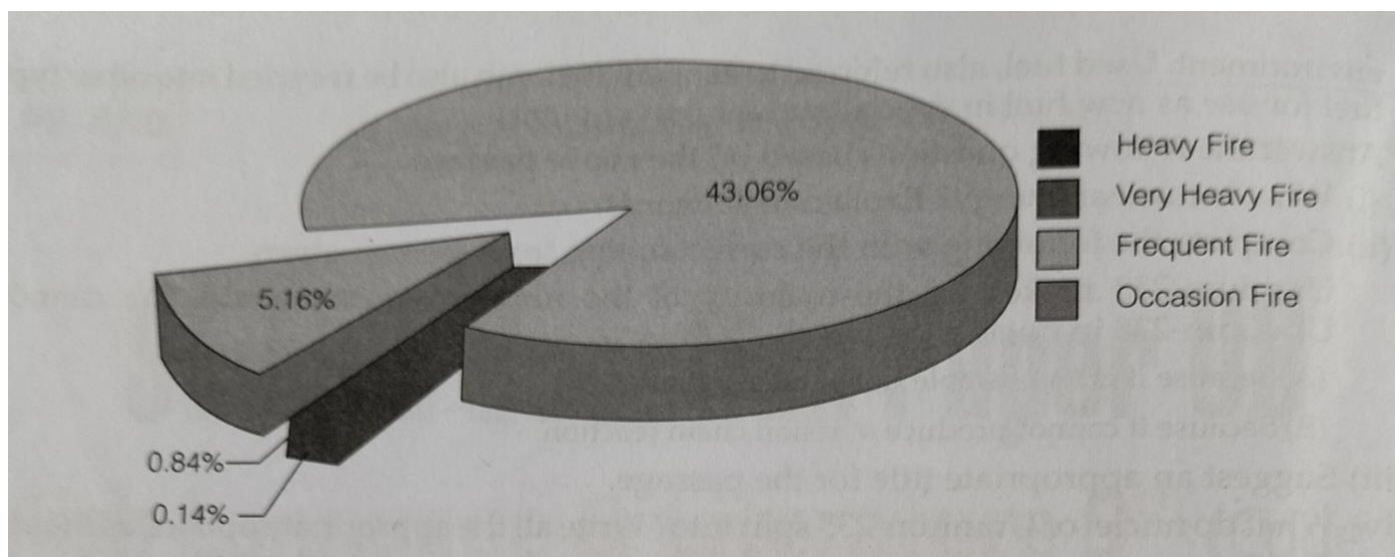
Q 2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

(1) Forest fire is a major cause of injury and loss to forests. With the population increase, the frequency and subsequent damage due to forest fires is increasing day by day. The impact of the fire is diverse on the forest ecosystem. Besides directly damaging the forest trees, the fire also adversely affects forest regeneration, microclimate, soil erosion and wildlife etc.

(2) Very heavy fire, frequent forest fire and occasional fire damage is noticed only over 0.84 percent, 0.14 percent, 5.16 percent and 43.06 percent of the forest areas, respectively. Only 6.17 percent of the Indian forests are subjected to severe fire damage annually. In absolute terms, out of around 63 million hectares of forests, an area of around 3.73 million hectares can be presumed to be affected by fires annually.

(3) In most of the cases, the forest fire causes retrogression of forest vegetation. Forest fire is one of the major degenerating factors, which extensively damages the growing stock and its generations and makes the area vulnerable to erosion. It has wide-ranging adverse ecological, economic and social implications.

(4) Forest fires in India are generally ground fires. About 35 million hectares of forest area is affected by fires annually. About 95 percent of the forest fires are caused by human beings, especially to promote new flush of grasses, collection of minor forest produce or to prepare land for shifting cultivation. While statistical data on fire loss in India are very weak, it is estimated that the proportion of the forest areas prone to forest fire annually ranges from 33% to over 90% in different states.



Answer the following questions based on the above passage.

(i) Which of the following is not true as per the passage?

- a) Most deforestation occurs due to forest fires.
- b) The frequency of forest fires has increased rapidly.

- c) The ecosystem is heavily damaged due to forest fires.
- d) None of the above

(ii) Select the option that is true for the Assertion and Reason given below.

Assertion 6.07% annually Indian forests are subjected to severe forest fires.

Reason Only 5% of forest fires are caused by human beings.

- a) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, and the Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.
- b) Both the Assertion and the Reason are true, but the Reason is not the correct explanation of the Assertion.
- c) The Assertion is true, but the Reason is false.
- d) The Assertion is false, but the Reason is true.

(iii) What is the consequence of the increase of population in India?

(iv) What does a forest fire affect in an unfavourable way?

(v) Read the prompt and fill in the blank with the correct option from the given bracket.

Forest fire.....(indiretly/directly) damages the trees in the forest.

(vi) How do human beings contribute to forest fires?

(vii) Complete the sentence suitably.

The word 'regeneration' in Paragraph 1 is the opposite of

(viii) How much is the estimated forest cover in India?

SECTION B- GRAMMAR AND WRITING SKILLS

Q 3. Attempt any ten of the following twelve questions:

i. Report the dialogue between Amar and Ankit.

Amar: What is your plan for today, Ankit?

Amar asked Ankit _____ .

ii. Amita said, “Why didn’t you deposit money?”

Wanda said, “I don’t want to continue with this membership.”

Amita asked Wanda why she had not deposited money. Wanda replied her _____ .

- a. that I didn’t want to continue with that membership
- b.to she don’t want to continue with that membership
- c. that she didn’t want to continue with that membership
- d.. she didn’t want to continue with this membership

iii. Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

People of different countries who live together did not turn against one another.

Error	Correction

iv Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line.

Today, the number of people who enjoys winter sports is bigger than that of twenty years ago.

Error	Correction
(a) the	a
(b) people	the people
(c) enjoys	enjoy
(d) is	are

v He _____ wake up early in the morning and go to work. [Fill with suitable determiner]

vi Identify the error in the given sentence and supply the correction.

After using computers for a long time, looking into a distance for about five minutes relaxed the eyes.

Error	Correction

vii. Report the dialogue between Shiva and doctor, by completing the sentence:

Shiva: How is she doing doctor?

Doctor: Your mother will recover quickly.

In response to the question about the well-being of Shiva's mother, the doctor said that _____.

viii. She has been working on the project for a week. (Change into Present Perfect tense)

ix. If I had known you were coming, I would have made a cake. (Change into Simple Past)

x. He says, "I don't want to play anymore."

Reported speech: _____

- a) He says that he didn't want to play anymore.
- b) He says that I didn't want to play anymore.
- c) He says that I don't want to play anymore.
- d) He says that he doesn't want to play anymore.

xi. Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line, form a news report: Education play an important role in building an individual's personality.

Option no.	Error	Correction
a	play	Plays
b	an	The
c	in	For
d	an	A

xii. I _____ some wood for the fire while you _____ the salad.

- a) was fetching/ have prepared
- b) will fetch/ prepare
- c) fetch/ are preparing
- d) have fetched/ prepared

Q4. Write a descriptive paragraph in about **100-120 words** on the basis of given inputs.

You were giving an exam when the invigilator caught two of your classmates cheating. Describe the situation.

Q5. Write a short story with the following beginning and give a suitable title to it. (100-120 words)

Satish was standing on the balcony watching the last rays of the Sun. Loud and angry voices in the street below distracted his attention. He ran down the stairs to see what had happened

SECTION D- LITERATURE

Q 6. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: (ANY ONE)

A) *Rush hour crowd Jostle for position on the underground train platform. A slight girl, looking younger than her 17 years, was nervous yet excited and felt the vibrations of the approaching train. It was her first day at the prestigious Royal Academy of Music in London and daunting enough for any teenager fresh from a Scottish farm. But this aspiring musician face the bigger challenge than most: she was profoundly deaf.* (The Sound Of Music)

i. How old was Evelyn when she went to Royal Academy of music?

- a. 17 years
- b. 10 years
- c. 13 years
- d. 15 years

ii. How did Evelyn feel at the underground train platform?

iii. State whether the following statement is *True / False*.

The first day in a great and renowned institution like The Royal Academy of Music was like a challenge to Evelyn Glennie.

iv. Fill in the blank with one word.

Evelyn Glennie wanted to become _____.

OR

B) *His bright eyes sparkled with mischief beneath deep-set eyebrows, and his teeth, which were a pearly white, were very often displayed in a smile that frightened the life out of elderly Anglo-Indian ladies. But his hands looked dried-up as though they had been pickled in the sun for many years. Yet his fingers were quick and wicked; and his tail, while adding to his good looks (Grandfather believed a tail would add to anyone's good looks), also served as a third hand. He could use it to hang from a branch; and it was capable of scooping up any delicacy that might be out of reach of his hands.* (The Adventures of Toto)

i. Name the chapter from which this extract has been taken.

ii. Who is the author of this chapter?

iii. Grandfather believed that a _____ adds good looks to anybody.

iv. Give a brief description of Toto, the monkey.

Q 7. Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow: (ANY ONE)

A) *Every tinkle on the shingles
Has in echo in the heart:
And a thousand dreamy fancies
Into Busy being start,
And a thousand recollections
Weave their air - threads into woof,
As I listen to the patter
Of the rain upon the roof.* (The Rain On The Roof)

i. What makes an echo in the poet's heart?

- a. The sound of raindrops on the roof
- b. The ringing bells of the church
- c. The melodious voice of a little girl
- d. The chirping of the birds

ii. What rises in the poet's mind?

iii. Which literary device is used in the line 'All I listen to the patter'?

iv. Fill in the blank with one word only.

The falling _____ creates immense pleasure in the poet's heart.

OR

B) *Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveller, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth* ('The Road Not Taken')

i. What does 'yellow wood' mean?

- (a) falling leaves
- (b) forest with yellow leaves in the autumn season
- (c) wood yellow in color
- (d) None of the above

ii. "Two roads diverged in a yellow wood." What do the two roads indicate here? What was the poet's dilemma?

iii. What does the poet's decision of taking less travelled road signify?

iv. Bring out the symbolism in the poem 'The Road Not Taken'.

Q8. Answer ANY FOUR of the following questions in about 40-50 words each:

i Why did the *pungi* become a generic name for "reeded noisemakers"? (The Sound of Music)

ii What kind of dreams did Kezia usually have? (The Little Girl)

iii Why did Einstein's playmates call him "Brother Boring"? (The Truly Beautiful Mind)

iv. What is the poet's advice to people in the poem 'Wind' ?

v. Why was Margie's mechanical teacher sent to the County inspector? (The Fun They had.)

Q9. Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in about 40-50 words each:

i. How did Iswaran pass his time in Mahindra's absence? (Ishwaran The Story Teller)

ii. Who was grandfather's travelling mate to Saharanpur? How did he try to keep his presence a secret?
(Adventures of Toto)

iii. When does the child realise that he has lost his way? How have his anxiety and insecurity been described?
(The Lost Child).

Q10. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 100-120 words:

i. 'The Snake and the Mirror', a story about a frightening incident is narrated in a humorous way. What makes it humorous?

ii. 'Cruel and harsh attitude is not enough to inculcate values and discipline among the children'. Elaborate it with the reference to the story 'The Little Girl'.

Q11. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 100-120 words.

i. Compare the attitude of the child before and after his separation from his parent in the story "The Lost Child". (The Lost Child).

ii. "Iswaran was a good cook as well as a good story teller "Elaborate with the help of examples. (Ishwaran The Story Teller)

