

Section A: Reading

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

- (1) Trees are one of the most useful gifts of nature. They grow in forests, parks, gardens and even along roadsides. Trees provide us with oxygen, fruits, flowers, wood and medicines. They also give shade and make our surroundings cooler and greener.
- (2) Forests are home to many animals, birds and insects. They provide them with food and shelter. Trees also help to hold the soil together and prevent soil erosion. Their roots absorb rainwater and help maintain the water cycle. In this way, forests play an important role in keeping nature balanced.
- (3) However, cutting down too many trees can create serious problems. Deforestation can lead to soil erosion, loss of wildlife and changes in the climate. Without enough trees, the air can become more polluted and temperatures may rise. Therefore, it is important to protect forests and plant more trees.
- (4) Everyone can help in protecting trees. We can avoid wasting paper, plant saplings and take care of the trees around us. Small steps taken by many people can make a big difference. By protecting trees today, we can make the Earth healthier and safer for future generations.

Choose the correct option:

1. What do trees provide us with?

- i) Only fruits
- ii) Oxygen, fruits, wood and medicines
- iii) Only shade
- iv) Only flowers

2. What is one negative effect of cutting down too many trees mentioned in the passage?

- i) It increases rainfall.
- ii) It provides shelter to animals.
- iii) It can cause soil erosion.
- iv) It makes the air cleaner.

3. Answer the following questions in two–three sentences.

- i. How do trees help in maintaining the water cycle?
- ii. Why are forests important for animals and birds?
- iii. Why is it important to protect trees?
- iv. Make a sentence of the word 'deforestation' in your own words.
- v. Find a suitable antonym of the word 'dangerous' from the given passage.
(Paragraph 4)
- vi. Give a suitable title to the passage.

Section B: Creative Writing and Grammar

II. Notice Writing

You are the **Head Girl/Head Boy** of your school. Your school is organising a **Calligraphy Competition** for students of **Classes VI to VIII**. Write a notice informing the students about the competition. Include the date, time, venue, eligibility and registration details in your notice.

III. Paragraph Writing

Write a paragraph in **100–120 words** on the topic **“The Importance of Reading Books”**. Include the benefits of reading and explain how reading can help students in their studies and daily life.

Hints:

Importance – source of knowledge – improves vocabulary – develops imagination – helps in studies – improves concentration – increases confidence – good use of free time – develops reading habit – conclusion: books are our best friends

IV. Do as directed.

- a) Rohan and I are going to the library. _____ are looking for a storybook.
(Fill in the blank with a suitable pronoun.)
- b) My father _____ (go) for a morning walk every day.
(Fill in the blank using Simple Present Tense.)
- c) The children _____ (play) in the park right now. *(Fill in the blank using Present Continuous Tense.)*
- d) The teacher _____ us a new lesson yesterday. *(teach)*
(Fill in the blank using Simple Past Tense.)
- e) While I _____ (read) a book, my brother was watching television.
(Fill in the blank using Past Continuous Tense.)
- f) She _____ already _____ her homework. *(complete)*
(Fill in the blanks using Present Perfect Tense.)

- g) When we reached the station, the train _____ already _____. (*leave*) (*Fill in the blanks using Past Perfect Tense.*)
- h) The boy ran _____ to catch the bus. (*Fill in the blank with a suitable adverb.*)
- i) _____! I have forgotten to bring my notebook. (*Fill in the blank with a suitable interjection.*)
- j) She bought _____ umbrella and _____ colourful bag from the market. (*Fill in the blanks with suitable articles.*)
- k) The cat is hiding _____ the table. (*Fill in the blank with a suitable preposition.*)
- l) The mountain is _____ than the hill near our village. (*high*) (*Fill in the blank using the correct degree of adjective.*)
- n) **Choose the correct synonym of the underlined word:**
 The fog was so dense that we could not see anything at all.
 i) dark ii) black iii) hard iv) thick
- o) **Choose the correct homophone:**
 Our (Principal/Principle) appreciated the performance of the dancers.
- p) **Choose the correctly spelt word:**
 There was a long _____ at the ticket counter.
 i) queue ii) queu iii) queue iv) queueu
- q) **Give one word for the following:**
 A long journey specially by sea is called a _____.

Section C: Literature

V. Read the following extract carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Daadi wanted Vikram and Vaibhavi to remember the useful knowledge they had learnt from her. She told them that many spices found in their kitchen could be helpful in dealing with common health problems. She also encouraged them to share this knowledge with their friends. However, she reminded them to consult an elder before using these natural remedies.

- Who is the speaker in the extract, and whom is she addressing?
- Why did Daadi want the children to share the knowledge about natural cures with their friends?
- Which of the following best explains Daadi's final advice?
 - Children should use all spices without asking anyone.
 - Children should avoid using spices completely.

iii) Children should consult an elder before using natural remedies.

iv) Children should use spices only for cooking.

4. What does the extract tell us about the importance of traditional knowledge?

5. Find a word from the extract which means ‘ordinary or usual health problems’.

VI. Read the following extract carefully and answer the questions that follow:

One day, I fluttered from my nest,
To see what I could find,
I said the world is made of leaves, I
have been very blind.

1. Why did the bird leave its nest?

- a) It wanted to find food.
- b) It wanted to explore the world.
- c) It wanted to meet other birds.
- d) It wanted to build another nest.

2. What does the line “I have been very blind” suggest about the bird?

- a) The bird could not see properly.
- b) The bird realised that its earlier understanding of the world was limited.
- c) The bird was afraid of flying.
- d) The bird had lost its way.

3. How did the bird’s idea about the world change as it grew?

4. Which quality of the bird is reflected in the extract?

- a) Curiosity
- b) Laziness
- c) Anger
- d) Fear

5. Find a word from the extract that means ‘moved or flew lightly’.

VII. Answer the following questions

1. Mention some of the uses of the neem tree.
2. How do we know that natural cures are passed from one generation to another?
3. How did the man and his wife get help from the kotwal?
4. Discuss the importance of friendships as portrayed in the poem ‘A Friend’s Prayer’.

VIII. How does neem contribute to environmental sustainability and agriculture?