

BCM SCHOOL, BASANT AVENUE, DUGRI ROAD, LUDHIANA
CLASS: VIII
ENGLISH ASSIGNMENT -1

- I. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions. (7)
- (1) The home of elephants, our forests and grasslands, is shrinking day by day. There are reservoirs, railway lines, roads, pipelines and human habitation on their paths of migration- the elephant corridor. Elephants have to cross all these between one patch of forest to another. This corridor too is not free from encroachments, barriers or difficulties.
- (2) It is not elephant habitat alone that has suffered but elephant societies, too. When males are killed for their tusks (ivory), the sex ratio is skewed. When a mother elephant is killed- as she may be- in retaliation for suspected crop- damage, a fast-plying train and electrocution or by consuming pesticide by mistake, that family loses their leader and direction. When elephant babies are separated or smuggled out of their family for our recreation or service in temples and camps, they are orphaned. When their habitat is fragmented they are disconnected from their relatives and they become refugees in their own land.
- (3) Elephants are social beings like us. They care for their young ones and fellow family members like we do. From studying them, many biologists and elephant scientists say that we should not see the elephants as an object. We need to recognise them as sensitive creatures, as another society. Unless we understand their need and feel their pain; conserving elephants will continue to be a challenging task.

Choose the option you consider the most appropriate.

- I. The term 'elephant corridor' as used in paragraph 1 of the passage means
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| (a) forests and grasslands | (c) areas of human population |
| (b) reservoirs, railway lines, roads etc. | (d) route of elephant migration |
- II. Elephants become 'refugees' because of
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| (a) imbalance between males and females | (c) loss of habitat and separation from families |
| (b) smuggling of their tusks | (d) exploitation in temples and camps |

On the basis of the reading of the passage, answer the following questions.

- I. How have human beings obstructed the path of elephant migration ?
- II. How is an elephant family affected when the mother is killed ?
- III. Why are elephant babies captured ?
- IV. In what sense are elephants 'social beings' like humans ?
- V. Find the word from the passage which means the same as 'broken or separated into distinct parts' . (Paragraph 2)
- II. Your school is organising an exhibition of children's art, for which some students are required as volunteers. As the Head Boy/ Head Girl of your school, write a notice in about 50 words for the Students' Council Notice Board, requesting all the members to attend a meeting to finalise the list of volunteers. Invent the necessary details like date, time and place of the meeting. (3M)

III. You are Rahul Sharma, a resident of Sector 15, Vasundra Enclave, New Delhi. Write a letter to the editor of 'The Times of India' complaining about the nuisance created by the loudspeakers. (5M)

Hints-

Use of loudspeakers – common sight – organisers don't bother – continue till late night – creates nuisance – especially for students and senior citizens – request to look into the matter .