

**Class - VIII**  
**Subject - English**

**Time - 3.00 hours**

**M.M. - 80**

**General Instructions -**

- (i) The question paper is divided into 3 sections -
- |             |                                     |            |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Section - A | Reading                             | - 20 marks |
| Section - B | Writing and Grammar                 | - 30 marks |
| Section - C | Literature and Supplementary Reader | - 30 marks |
- (ii) ALL questions are compulsory.

**SECTION - A (READING)**

**(20 marks)**

**Q. I Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow - (8 marks)**

Jotting down a shopping list, writing a birthday card, taking down a phone message, completing a form at the bank ..... handwriting is part of our daily lives. It is one's show to others and may be used to make judgments about them. It reveals the personality of a person to a great extent.

In recent years, modern technology has dramatically changed the way we communicate through writing. However, despite the increased use of computers for writing, the skill of handwriting remains important in education, employment and in everyday life.

Time devoted to the teaching and learning of letter formation in the early years will pay off. Legible writing may be produced comfortably. Working on speed and with little conscious efforts child can attend to the higher-level aspects of writing, composition and content. This is important when assessments are based on written work, particularly in time-limited written examinations, which remain a major form of assessment for many formal qualifications. Without fast and legible handwriting, students may miss out academically.

Beyond formal education, most employment situations will involve at least some handwriting.

Thus, handwriting with pen and paper still has an important role from early childhood through our adult lives. But more and more, people are shifting from, paper to electronic modes of communication. Interestingly though, many personal computers now have handwriting recognition capability so that handwriting as means of interacting with computers is becoming more common. It seems, therefore, that even in this modern age handwriting remains an important skill for communication.

**1.1 Answer the following questions briefly -**

**(1X8=8 marks)**

- (a) What are the uses of handwriting in everyday life ?
- (b) What does handwriting reveal ?
- (c) How is handwriting used by computers ?
- (d) Which is the major form of assessment ?
- (e) How can a child attend to the higher level aspects of writing ?
- (f) How may a student miss out academically ?
- (g) Which is an important skill for communication ?
- (h) The skill of handwriting remains important in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

**Q. II Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow : (12 marks)**

After the usual farewell party at school, the tears and the goodbyes, I came home with a big sigh of relief. I thought that I would cherish every minute of my retired life. I could laze around, watch TV to my heart's content, and sleep, chat with friends, God, what a luxury! After the first few days of initial euphoria, I started feeling restless and uncomfortable. I seemed as if I was useless. <https://www.cbseboardonline.com>

A letter from my daughter from Spain suddenly jolted me into action. "Amma, your grandson Madhav has vacation. I need your help. Can you come to take care of him?" The tickets arrived and I got busy making sweets, sambar powder, rasam powder and so on. After recuperating from my initial jet lag, I fell into my daughter's routine. An excited Madhav switched on the TV set for his favourite programme - Oh, my Sun TV, how I miss you so much! As my daughter would go off to the office, I was feeling bored at home.

My grandson's interest in cartoons was so contagious that I began watching them along with him. It began with passing interest, but as the days went by, it engrossed me with passion. I discussed the cartoons with my grandson and my favourites happened to be The Big Bear and The Blue House. My favourite character was the donkey, I was transformed into a youngster as I applauded and enjoyed the movie thoroughly.

**2.1 Answer the following questions briefly :**

**(2X4=8 marks)**

- (a) What did the writer plan to do after retirement ?
- (b) Why did she start feeling restless and uncomfortable after the first few days of her retirement ?
- (c) What did the writer prepare before going to Spain ?
- (d) How did she feel she enjoyed the cartoons ?

**2.2 Fill in the blanks -**

**(1X4=4 marks)**

- (a) The writer felt bored because her daughter would go .....
- (b) The favourite character was .....
- (c) She missed watching ..... there.
- (d) She went to Spain to look after her .....

**SECTION B - WRITING AND GRAMMAR**

**(30 marks)**

Q. III The number of road accidents is on the rise, leading to death. This is primarily because of the increase in traffic and non-adherence to traffic rules. As Richa / Rahul write a letter to the Editor of the News Times in not more than 120 words expressing your concern and highlighting the need to follow traffic rules and drive cautiously. **(8 marks)**

Q. IV **Using the hints given below, develop a story in about 150-200 words along with a suitable title.** **(10 marks)**

Children's Day - pleasure trip - adventure camp - excitement - suddenly

**OR**

It was raining heavily - roads - cars- people - street lights - I was returning .....

Q. V **Rearrange the following words / phrases to form meaningful sentences -** **(1X4=4 marks)**

- (a) are / values / moral / in / life / important
- (b) build / character / they / the
- (c) also / they / help / to / succeed / life / in / us
- (d) incomplete / are / humans / values / without

Q. VI **Fill in the blanks with suitable relative pronouns : who, which, that, what** **(1X3=3 marks)**

- (a) God helps those \_\_\_\_\_ help themselves.
- (b) I mean \_\_\_\_\_ I say.
- (c) This is the problem \_\_\_\_\_ I can't solve.

**Q. VII Fill in the blanks from the words given in the brackets - (1X3=3 marks)**

- (a) He was so tired that he \_\_\_\_\_ (can, could) hardly stand.
- (b) Mohan says that honesty \_\_\_\_\_ (was, is) the best policy.
- (c) He cannot see unless he \_\_\_\_\_ (wore, wears) glasses.

**Q.VIII Fill in the blanks using the verb given in brackets in simple past tense - (1X2=2 marks)**

- (a) Yesterday I \_\_\_\_\_ (see) a pleasant dream.
- (b) A thief \_\_\_\_\_ (break) into the house last night.

**SECTION - C**

**(30 Marks)**

**(LITERATURE AND SUPPLEMENTARY READER)**

**Q. IX Read the extract and answer the questions - (4 marks)**

The poetry of earth is ceasing never :  
On a lone winter evening when the frost  
Has wrought a silence, from the stone there shrills  
The cricket's song in warmth increasing ever.

- (a) Name the poem and the poet. 02
- (b) Give antonym of the word 'frost' from the above stanza. 01
- (c) Name the season. 01

**Q. X Answer the following questions briefly - (2X5=10 marks)**

- (a) Why was Mill-wheel afraid to leave Jody alone ?
- (b) The writer expresses his great gratitude to Stephen Hawking. What is the gratitude for ?
- (c) Why did the grandmother ask the children not to kill the chuchundar ?
- (d) What did young Ernest wish when he gazed at it (the Great stone Face) ?
- (e) Who, by common consent turned out to be like the Great Stone Face ?

**Q. XI Answer the following questions -**

**(3X2=6 marks)**

- (a) What was the Great Stone Face ?
- (b) Why did Penny Baxter allow Jody to go find the fawn and raise it ?

**Q. XII Answer the following questions (Supplementary Reader) (2X5=10 marks)**

- (a) In what way is the forest pool different from the one which Ranji knew in the Rajputana Desert ?
- (b) Why had Framton Nuttel come to the "rural retreat" ?
- (c) "The fear was killing me." What was the fear ?
- (d) What is the important point the paper makes ?
- (e) What is Duttada expected to do on his return from London ?