

Please check that this question paper contains 15 questions and 12 printed pages.

**CLASS-VIII**  
**ENGLISH (COURSE 'A')**  
**(TERM-II)**

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**Time Allowed : 3 hrs.**

**Maximum Marks : 80**

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**General Instructions :**

1. This paper consists of four sections A, B, C and D.
  2. Attempt all questions.
  3. Do not write anything on the question paper.
  4. All the answers must be correctly numbered as in the question paper and written in the answer sheet provided to you.
  5. Ensure that questions of each section are answered together.
  6. Read each question carefully and follow the instructions.
  7. Strictly adhere to the word limit given with each question. Marks will be deducted for exceeding the word limit.
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**Section-A (Reading)**

**(20 Marks)**

1. Read the following passage carefully : (10)

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

1. A gentleman was repeatedly picking up starfish along a beach in Mexico. He was throwing them into the sea. When asked why he was doing so he

said, “I am throwing these starfish back into the ocean because they came in with the high tide and now the tide has receded, they will die here, stranded.

2. “But there must be thousands on every beach. You can’t possibly make a difference” asked the other man. The man smiled, lifted yet another starfish and as he threw it back into the sea, said, “made a difference to that one.”
3. The story shows that it is not the big things only that really count in life. In fact all great people built their character by doing small day-to-day good actions. Mahatma Gandhiji, once was standing in the open compartment door of a speeding train. He was lost in his thoughts when one of his ‘chappals’ slipped from one of his feet and fell down. The moment he realized it was gone, he dropped the other one too.
4. On being asked why he did so, he replied, “One chappal is of no use to me, nor to him who finds the dropped one. So he might as well have the full pair.” This incident shows that nothing was too insignificant for Gandhiji.
5. Believe firmly that even one person can change the entire world. He may not be able to do a whole lot physically to change the world, but that person has the power to inspire and set an example for others which may affect the outcome of any situation.

1.1 Answer the following questions briefly :

- (a) What was the gentleman doing with the starfish at the shore ? Why? (2)
- (b) How did he make a difference by doing that action ? (1)

- (c) What did Gandhiji do when he realized that one of his 'chappals' fell down from his foot ? (1)
- (d) What explanation did he offer for his act ? (2)
- (e) What does it show about Gandhiji's attitude ? (1)
- (f) How can a person's action change the world ? (1)

1.2 Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following :  
(1×2=2)

- (a) to move back or away (para 1)
- (b) small or unimportant (para 4)

2. Read the following poem carefully :

### **THE QUIET LIFE**

Happy the man whose wish and care  
A few paternal acres bound.  
Content to breathe his native air  
In his own ground.  
Whose herds with milk, whose fields with bread,  
Whose flocks supply him with attire;  
Whose trees in summer yield him shade,  
In winter fire:  
Blest; who can unconcernedly find  
Hours, days and years, slide soft away

In health of body, peace of mind.

Quiet by day:

Sound sleep by night; study and ease

Together mixt, sweet recreation

And innocence which most does please with meditation.

Thus let me live, unseen unknown

Thus unlamented let me die,

Steal from the world, and not a stone

Tell where I lie.

– *Alexander Pope*

Fill in the blanks with one suitable word and complete the passage given below:

(1×5=5)

The poet says a man with small wishes, staying in his own (a) \_\_\_\_\_ land leads a life full of (b) \_\_\_\_\_. All his basic requirements like food and clothing are fulfilled in his own village by his (c) \_\_\_\_\_ and animals. He is lucky to lead life at its own pace and enjoy good (d) \_\_\_\_\_ and peace of (e) \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Read the following passage carefully : (5)

1. As parents we strive hard to give our children the best of everything. We ensure to give them all possible comforts, facilities, pleasure and exposure so that they can have a wonderful life. But the most important thing parents forget to provide their children is 'self-worth'. If your child doesn't love himself, he will not have the ability to give love. If he keeps on demanding himself, he might become successful but will never feel powerful. Give your child the gift of self worth and his life will be a rocking affair.

2. Introspect, who do you think you are ? Creative or dull ? Intelligent or good for nothing ? Isn't it a fact that what you believe you are, is something that your parents labelled you as ? The label you give to your child is the ultimate truth of his life. Your child will identify himself by not what he feels he is, but by what label you have given him. Tell your child he is an achiever, and he'll be. Tell him he is a loser, and he loses all the battles of his life.
3. Every child is unique. Each child has his own set of qualities, so there is no question of comparison. Your love will nurture his self-worth in every moment of his life.
4. Do you remember how you felt when you were last appreciated ? How good it made you feel about yourself ? The same applies for children. Appreciate your child whenever you see him doing something right. Create opportunities to boost his self-esteem. Enrol him to recreation of his choice and praise him on his progress and do not wait till he does it perfectly.
5. Express your love for your child. Let him know how much joy he has brought in your life. Hug him, spend time with him; do little things to make him feel cherished.

Answer the following questions briefly :

- (a) What is the mistake all parents make according to the writer ? (1)
- (b) Why giving a label to the child is the biggest damage ? (1)
- (c) Which essential fact should always be remembered by the parents ? (1)
- (d) How can one boost the self esteem of a child ? (1)
- (d) What must the parents give their children ? (1)

**Section–B (Writing)**

**(20 Marks)**

4. On the basis of the given telephonic conversation, write a message in not more than 50 words. Put the message in a box : (4)

Amrita : Hello! Is it 29861231 ?

Shweta : Yes, May I know who is speaking, please ?

Amrita : I am Amrita from Vijay Nagar. Could I speak to Priyanka, my classmate ?

Shweta : I am sorry. She has gone outside. I'm Shweta, her sister. Is there anything to convey ?

Amrita : Yes. She has my class notes and I have to prepare for the test which is going to start next week. Kindly tell her to return these today itself.

Shweta : I'm in a hurry right now, but I'll convey your message and ask her to return your class-notes.

Amrita : Thank you very much

Shweta : You're welcome.

**OR**

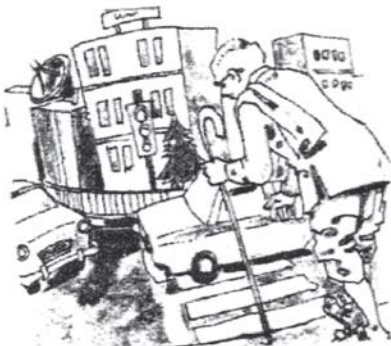
You are Manoj / Meghna, the Head Boy / Head Girl of St. Peter's School, Ranchi. Draft a notice for the House Captains and Vice-Captains to attend a meeting with Principal regarding the plantation of saplings in the school premises as a part of School Gardening Project to make the environment healthy and green. [Word limit : 50 words)

5. You are Akshit / Akshita. You feel that participation in sports and games helps one to develop in a healthy way. Sports not only provide physical exercise, they also develop qualities of courage, endurance and team spirit. Taking ideas from the unit 'Sports' and using your own ideas write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper in about 120-150 words encouraging the students to participate actively in sports and games. (8)

**OR**

The surroundings of your colony have fallen into neglect resulting in mounds of garbage, choked drains, overflowing dust bins that are becoming a breeding ground for mosquitoes and flies. You are Neha / Nitin, a resident of 246, Ambedkar Colony, New Delhi. Write a letter to the Editor of a national daily, drawing the attention to the careless attitude of the authorities towards the health of the people. You can refer to the unit 'Nature' of your English Reader along with your own ideas to write the letter. [Word limit : 120-150 words]

6. You saw a boy helping an old man to cross the road. Now, write an article describing the miserable conditions of the elderly who have been abandoned by their families and how they need to be taken care of. You may take ideas from the visuals given below. [Word limit : 120-150 words] (8)



## Alternative Question for Visually Challenged Students

Youth now-a-days are so obsessed with technology that they are seen spending most of their time on mobile phones, computers or laptops using social media and surfing net. Their indulgence and over-dependence on technology is weakening family bondings as parents too sometimes fail to keep a check on them. Write an article for the school magazine on the topic – How to Handle Technology the Right Way. (120-150 words) (8)

### Section–C (Grammar)

(15 Marks)

7. Read the notes given below and use the information to complete the paragraph that follows with suitable words or phrases. Do not add any new information. ( $\frac{1}{2} \times 6 = 3$ )

#### NEWSPAPERS

- satisfy our curiosity
- inform all the important happenings in the world
- find out the facts and report faithfully
- express public views
- make the citizens well informed and responsible
- watchdogs of democracy

A newspaper is a written information about current events. It (a) \_\_\_\_\_ our curiosity by keeping us (b) \_\_\_\_\_ of all the important happenings in the world. It is the duty of every newspaper (c) \_\_\_\_\_ the facts and report them faithfully. Newspapers form public opinion by (d) \_\_\_\_\_ their views. They strengthen democracy by (e) \_\_\_\_\_ well informed and responsible. Newspapers (f) \_\_\_\_\_ of democracy.



8. The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each of these lines. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet. (½×6=3)

	Incorrect word	Correct word
A lot of food are actually wasted	E.g.     are	is
in our homes, say a report. It	(a)     _____	_____
is partly because retailers employs	(b)     _____	_____
several method to make you buy	(c)     _____	_____
more then you need. So next time	(d)     _____	_____
when you see a big discount in any	(e)     _____	_____
food item, made sure you really	(f)     _____	_____
need it before buying.		

9. Rearrange them following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences : 1×3=3

Eg. :     pilgrimage / place / Nepal / of / is considered / a

Nepal is considered a place of pilgrimage.

- (a) kingdom / Himalayan / this / change / has undergone / a / great
- (b) mystical / a / mountain nation / is / trekker's / this / paradise
- (c) tourists / place / a / Kathmandu / attracts / is / that / many / delightful

10. Given below is a set of instructions for a recipe. Read the instructions carefully and complete the paragraph that follows : (1×3=3)

**PREPARATION OF BANANA PUDDING**

- Crush six bananas into pulp
- Boil half kg of milk
- Add banana pulp and sugar
- Stir for two minutes and then remove it from heat

Six bananas are crushed into a pulp. Half a kg. of milk (a) \_\_\_\_\_. Banana pulp and sugar (b) \_\_\_\_\_ to the mixture. It (c) \_\_\_\_\_ for two minutes and then removed from the heat.

11. Choose the correct word from the options to complete the following passage.

(1/2×6=3)

The city police (a) \_\_\_\_\_ (have / has / had) decided to (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (take / taking / taken) action against drivers (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (whose/who/ those) attempt to overtake (d) \_\_\_\_\_ (over / from / in) the left (e) \_\_\_\_\_ (by / in / on) the city roads. All drivers who violate this rule (f) \_\_\_\_\_ (can / will / may) be punished.

**Section–D (Literature)****(25 Marks)**

12. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow : (4)

“Bangle sellers are we who bear  
Our shining loads to the temple fair.  
Who will buy these delicate, bright  
Rainbow tinted circles of light ?”

- (a) Name the poet of the above extract. (1)
- (b) What does ‘shining loads’ refer to ? (1)
- (c) Where are the bangle sellers taking their shining loads and why ? (1)
- (d) Which literary device is used in the last line of the above extract ? (1)

13. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow : (4)

“We can’t do this to her. She isn’t a young woman now.  
How will she find a new job ?”

- (a) Identify the speaker of the above extract. (1)
- (b) Who is being talked about in the above line ? (1)
- (c) “We can’t do this to her.” What does ‘this’ mean here ? (1)
- (d) What do the above lines tell us about the speaker ? Mention any two. (1)

14. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each : (2×6=12)

- (a) What idea do you get about the children who are singing ‘The Children’s Song’ ? (The Children’s Song)
- (b) Why did the disappearance of the flower ring upset Mr. Regnier ? (The Case of the Sharp Eyed Jeweller)

- (c) Why couldn't Swami deliver the letter to the headmaster even after the school ? (Father's Help)
- (d) Why was the narrator worried when they were waiting for asparagus to be cooked ? (The Luncheon)
- (e) How did the narrator and Baldev become friends in their childhood ? (The Undeserved Reward)
- (f) One who follows the path of truth can never be wrong. Comment. (Couplets)  
**(Value Based)**

15. You are Baldev. You are very happy that your childhood friend helped you in getting your son released from a false case of dacoity. Write a letter to your friend thanking him for his timely help. [Word limit : 80-90 words] (5)

**OR**

Imagine you are the narrator in the story 'The Luncheon'. Write a diary entry expressing your satisfaction on observing the woman put on a lot of weight when you meet her after twenty years. [Word limit : 80-90 words]