**SINDHI HIGH SCHOOL,BENGALURU** 

**HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION (2023-24)**

**SUBJECT – English**

**Class: VII Marks: 80**

**Duration : 2 hrs 45 mins**

**Date: 04/10/2023 Reading Time: 15 mins**

**Number of printed sides: 7 Writing Time: 2½ hrs**



**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. This paper consists of three sections.

Section A Reading - 20 marks

Section B Writing & Grammar - 20 marks

Section C Literature - 40 marks

1. Attempt all questions adhering to the word limit.

**SECTION A (READING) (20 Marks)**

1. **Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: (1x10=10)** 
   1. William Shakespeare widely considered as the greatest writer was born on 26th April 1564.He plays a significant role in the evolution of English vocabulary. His vocabulary, as selected from his works crosses 17,000 words in number which is four times that of an average well-educated conversationalist in the language .He greatly increased the number of words in common use.

* 1. The outstanding feature of him was his command over language. Shakespeare had sparse formal education and even without a dictionary to consult, he systematically studied his own language. Shakespeare was well known in his life as a rapid writer. His mind and hand went together. His publishers reported- ‘What he thought, he acted with easiness’.

* 1. Shakespeare used some famous quotes like – ‘*All that glitters is not gold’-* *(from The Merchant of Venice)*, ‘*Jealousy is a green-eyed monster’- ( from Othello)* in his plays. He wrote around 38 plays and is credited by the Oxford English dictionary with the introduction of nearly 3,000 words into the language. He introduced words like apostrophe, baseless, amazement, dislocate etc.

* 1. Shakespeare’s works have proved to be sturdy, unshakeable through the centuries transforming to newer forms. His works are reinterpreted in diverse cultural contexts. His plays have lent themselves to film adaptations including the Vishal Bharadwaj’s movies Maqbool ( Macbeth) and Omkara( Othello).

**On the basis of your understanding of the above passage answer each of the questions given below with the help of options that follow:**

1. According to the passage, the word not introduced by Shakespeare was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a) amazement c) apostrophe

b) dictionary d) baseless

1. Shakespeare’s quote ‘***Jealously is a green-eyed monster.***’ is from his famous play \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

* + 1. The Merchant of Venice c) Macbeth
    2. Othello d) King Lear

1. When was Shakespeare born ?
   * 1. 26th April 1546 c) 26th April 1645
     2. 26th April 1654 d) 26th April 1564
2. Shakespeare wrote around \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ plays.
   * 1. 17000 b) 38 c) 3000 d) 1546
3. The outstanding feature of this writer was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. his ability to enact c) his command over language
5. his physical appearance d) his dancing style
6. Which option comes closest to the meaning of the word **“sparse”** from the given

options?

* 1. a lot c) very little
  2. too much d) neutral

1. What did the publishers report about Shakespeare ?
2. They said that he acted with ease c) They said that he was arrogant
3. They said that he acted with dizziness d) They said that he had no knowledge
4. Shakespeare’s quote- “All that glitters is not gold” means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

a) looks are deceptive c) all that glitters is valuable

b) worthy objects looks beautiful d) gold that shines enables value

9. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_is a Indian drama film adapted from William Shakespeare's Macbeth, directed by Vishal Bharadwaj.

a) Maqbool c) The Blue Umbrella

b) Omkara d) Haider

**10. Find the words from the passage which mean the same as-**

a) fast (para 2 )- \_\_\_\_\_ b) important (para 1)- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**II. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below. (1x10=10)**

1. Chameleons can change their skin colour, but not because they choose to. The chameleon changes colour to help it avoid its enemies. It is a form of camouflage, a disguise that allows it to blend in with its surroundings. The change is actually determined by environmental factors such as light and temperature.

2. So how exactly do chameleons change colors? The outer layer of their skin is see-through. Beneath that are layers of special cells filled with pigment—the substance that gives plants and animals (including you) colour. To display a new colour, the brain sends a message for these cells to get bigger or smaller. As this happens, pigments from different cells are released, and they mix with each other to create new skin tones. For instance, red and blue pigment may mix to make the chameleon look purple.

3. Bright sunlight darkens the skin. On cool nights, the colour fades to a creamy colour. The colour changes when the chameleon is excited, angry or scared. The colour change is rapid and increases when the chameleon is handled, injured or approached by another chameleon.

4. There are many types of chameleons. Almost half of them are found on the African island of Madagascar. Others occur mostly in the Sahara desert, with a few in western Asia and southern Europe. Chameleons live in trees, where they usually eat insects. Very large chameleons can even use their sticky tongues to catch birds.

1. What is the reason for a chameleon to change its skin colour?

1. To attract its prey c) To blend in with its surroundings
2. To communicate with other chameleons d) To show off its beauty

2. What factors determine a chameleon’s colour change?

1. The food it eats c) Light and temperature
2. The time of day d) The size of the chameleon

3. How does bright sunlight affect a chameleon’s skin colour?

1. It lightens the skin c) It turns the skin blue
2. It darkens the skin d) It has no effect on the skin colour

4. In which type of habitat do chameleons primarily live?

1. Underwater c) Desert
2. Grasslands d) Trees

5. What do chameleons usually eat?

1. Plants c) Fish
2. Small mammals d) Insects

6.How do chameleons catch their prey?

1. By using their claws c) By using their sticky tongues
2. By using their teeth d) By using their tails

7. Where are almost half of all chameleons found?

1. Africa c) Europe
2. Asia d) Australia

8. What happens to a chameleon’s skin colour when it’s excited, angry, or scared?

1. It turns yellow c) It changes rapidly
2. It turns blue d) It remains the same

9. What is the purpose of a chameleon’s camouflage?

1. To attract its prey c) To avoid its enemies
2. To communicate with other chameleons d) To regulate body temperature

10.Very large chameleons catch \_\_\_\_\_\_ with their sticky tongue.

1. birds c) flowers
2. insects d) animals

**SECTION B- WRITING AND GRAMMAR (20 Marks)**

**III. On the basis of the information provided below, write a bio-sketch of Abraham**

**Lincoln. (5)**

**Born**: 1809 in Northern Kentucky

**Family:** Father- wealthy farmer, lost his land when Lincoln was 7, moved to Indiana

Mother - died when he was nine, family moved to Illinois soon after

**Education**: Little formal education, loved to read. Studied law by reading law books - became a lawyer in 1837, Springfield, Illinois

**Political Career**: Began early- served in State Legislature, in the U.S. House of

Representatives. Gifted Speaker, speeches against slavery, nomination for Presidency- won in 1860. Re elected in 1864.

**Death**: Assassinated by John Wilks Booth on April 15, 1865. Remembered for wisdom, compassion, patriotism.

**IV. Look at the picture given below and write a story in your own words by giving it a**

**suitable title. The starting line of the story is given. (5)**

Finally Sam’s exams got over and his holidays began. As promised his parents took …………………………



1. **Attempt all the questions by choosing the correct option. (10 marks)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1.** | **Fill the blank by choosing the correct option :-**    I was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (**play/playing** ) in the park, when my father \_\_\_\_\_\_(**called/calling**) me. | | | | | **1m** |
| **2.** | **Fill the blank by choosing the correct option, to complete the line :-**    My sister \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in America now.   1. live c) lives 2. lived d) living | | | | | **1m** |
| **3.** | **Select the most appropriate option :**    How \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ packets of food did you take for the picnic ? a) much c) many  b) more d) most | | | | | **1m** |
| **4.** | Raveena received a medal for the bravery shown’**.**    The **nouns** in the above sentence are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. | | | | | **1m** |
| **5.** | **Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word given in the bracket, for the given portion of a letter :-**  Dear friend,  I hope you are fine by the grace of God. Thank you so much for the gift that you  had \_\_\_\_\_(**send**). | | | | | **1m** |
| **6.** | **Read the sentence . Identify the error and supply suitable correction** :-  The boys together with the coach was practising for their match. | | | | | **1m** |
|  | | Error | | Correction |
| **7.** | **Choose the correct adverb in the blank given below.**    We\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (**recently/ frequently**) bought a new laptop. | | | | | **1m** |
| **8.** | **Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the word in the bracket.**    Last year, Lydia \_\_\_\_\_\_\_(**is**) the captain of the school basketball team. | | | | | **1m** |
| **9.** | **Complete the sentence by using a suitable form of comparison of the adjective given in the bracket.**  Our trip to Andamans was the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ one we’ve ever had. (**enjoyable)** | | | | | **1m** |
| **10.** | **Identify the error and supply correction for the following proverb. ‘*Actions speaks louder than words*.’** | | | | | **1m** |
|  | Error | | Correction | |
|  | |  | |
|  | | | |

**SECTION C – LITERATURE (40 marks)**

1. **Read the extracts given below and answer the questions** **that follow.** A***)“Amma, didn’t you tell me about Karna who gave away everything he had, even his***

***gold earrings, he was so kind and generous?”*** **(1x4=4)**

1. Which chapter have these lines been taken from?
   1. Gopal and the Hilsa fish b. A gift of chappals

c. Golu grows a nose d. The tiny teacher

1. Why was this sentence told?
   1. Because Rukku Manni had told her son about Karna earlier.
   2. Because Rukku Manni refused to forgive her son.
   3. Because Ravi gave away a pair of chappals.
   4. Because the music master was blaming Rukku Manni.

1. What was the reply given ?
   1. Ravi was asked to go inside by Rukku Manni
   2. Rukku Manni said Karna gave away his own things and not others.
   3. She said that those chappals would fit the music master
   4. She said that she was sorry
2. The meaning of the word ‘**generous**’ is \_\_\_\_\_
   1. selfish b. liberal c. meagre d. stingy

B) ***“Pull your socks up* (1x4=4)**

***Stand up straight***

***Say, “Thank you”.***

***Don’t interrupt***

***No one thinks you are funny***

***Take your elbows off the table”***

1. The above instructions from elders seem to –
   1. destroy their personality b. offend the elders

c. offend most of the children d. make the children joyful

2. Name the poem from which these lines have been extracted.

a. The Shed b. The Rebel

c. Chivvy d. The Squirrel

3. Who is the poet of this poem ?

a. Michael Rosen b. Frank Flynn

c. D.J Enright d. Mildred Bowers Armstrong

4. When should the children say “Thank you”?

a. When they have to sit down. b. When they are grateful for something

c. When they want to talk. d. When they decide to go home.

**VII Answer the following in 20 to 30 words. (2 x 5=10)**

1. What did the king do to show that he had forgiven the bearded man?
2. Why is it good to have rebels?
3. What is the speaker in the poem “The Shed” planning to do?
4. ‘On getting the gift of chappal, the beggar vanished in a minute.’ Why was he in such a hurry to leave?
5. Describe the squirrel as given in the poem.

**VIII Answer the following in 50 to 60 words. (3x4=12)**

1. Mention the three things we can learn from the lesson “The Tiny Teacher”.
2. Who was Gopal? What was the challenge given to him by the king? How did he win it?
3. Describe Golu’s meeting with the crocodile. What did the crocodile do to show that it was a real crocodile ?

4. What were the hermit’s answers to the three questions ? Which answer do you like the most and why?

**IX Answer in detail in 80 to 100 words. (5 x2=10)**

1. Give the character sketch of Kari.
2. What do you know about the homes of ants? Write a note about the queen ant.

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