

SAMAGRA SHIKSHA, KERALA
Summative Assessment – Term I 2025 – 26

ENGLISH

Time : 1½ hrs
Total Score: 40

Std : VIII

INSTRUCTIONS:

- ♦ 15 minutes is given as cool off time.
- ♦ This time is to be used for reading the question paper.
- ♦ You are not supposed to write anything during the cool off time.
- ♦ Attempt the questions according to the instructions.

Questions 1-3: Read the excerpt from *A Long Walk with Granny* and answer the questions that follow.

(3x1=3)

It was a big landslide. Earth, trees and bushes had given way and come crashing down completely blocking the road. Nor was it over yet. Debris was still falling. Mani saw rocks hurtling down the hill and into the river. "Not a suitable place for a bus stop," observed Granny, who couldn't see a thing. Even as she spoke, a shower of stones and small rocks came clattering down on the roof of the bus. Passengers cried out in alarm. The driver began reversing, as more rocks came crashing down. "I never did trust motor roads," said Granny.

The driver kept backing until they were well away from the landslide. Then everyone tumbled out of the bus. They could tell it would take days to clear the road. Most of the passengers decided to return to Nain with the bus. But a few bold spirits agreed to walk to Mussoorie, taking a short cut up the mountain which would bypass the landslide.

1. How does the narrator describe the landslide?
2. What did the passengers decide to do?
 - A. Most of the passengers decided to return to Nain.
 - B. Some of the passengers tumbled out of the bus.
 - C. A few of the passengers agreed to walk to Mussoorie.
 - D. Both A and C.
3. Pick out the word from the passage which means 'scattered pieces of rubbish or remains'.

Questions 4-6: Read the lines from *Hope is the Thing with Feathers* and answer the questions that follow.

(3x1=3)

Hope is the thing with feathers
 That perches in the soul,
 And sings the tune without the words,
 And never stops at all.
 And sweetest in the gale is heard;
 And sore must be the storm
 That could abash the little bird
 That kept so many warm.

I've heard it in the chilliest land,
And on the strangest sea,
Yet, never, in extremity,
It asked a crumb of me.

4. What, according to the poet, is special about the song sung by the bird?

5. Pick out an example for metaphor from the given lines.

6. Where can we hear the song sung by the bird?

- A. in the strangest valley
- B. in the sky
- C. in the chilliest land
- D. both A and C

7. Read the lines from *The Seven Ages of Man* and write a brief paragraph summarizing the ideas contained in the lines using the hints given below. (1x4=4)

All the world's a stage,
And all the men and women merely players;
They have their exits and their entrances;
And one man in his time plays many parts,
His acts being seven ages.

At first the infant,

Mewling and puking in the nurse's arms;

And then the whining school-boy, with his satchel

And shining morning face, creeping like snail

Unwillingly to school.

And then the lover,

Sighing like furnace, with a woeful ballad

Made to his mistress' eyebrow.

(Hints: world is a stage - men and women play different roles - infant - schoolboy - lover - soldier, etc. - literary devices - simile - alliteration)

Questions 8-10: Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. (3x1=3)

Once Fred and George walked slowly across the valley. Suddenly, Fred stopped, sat down on a large stone and said, "I can't go any further. I'm exhausted!" George looked at him for a minute. "Oh come on!" he said. "It's not very far now. Only five or six miles at the most." Fred pointed to some trees about half a mile ahead. "There's a hut among those trees," he said. "Perhaps we can spend the night there." "I'll go and take a look," George said. He ran down the path towards the hut and vanished among the trees. Fred followed more slowly. "What's it like inside?" he asked when he reached the hut.

"Not bad," George called back. "It feels a little damp, but there's some wood in one corner, so we can light a fire." The two boys cleaned out the hut and lit a fire. Then they had supper. They were both tired and they did not talk much. Before they went to bed, they put plenty of wood on the fire. George fell asleep almost at once, but Fred lay awake for a long time, watching the flames. Then he too fell asleep.

Suddenly he was awake again. The fire was nearly out. He could hear noises outside. It sounded like voices. He woke up George. "It's only the wind," he grumbled. "Go to sleep again!" But it wasn't the wind! The voices came nearer until they were just outside the hut. The door opened and a light shone on their faces "They're here!" a voice called out. A policeman was standing in the doorway. He addressed the two boys. "You've given us a lot of trouble," he said. "We looked all over the valley for you two!"

8. What did Fred point out among the trees?

9. Complete the statement given below.

Before supper, the boys _____.

- A) opened the door
- B) cleaned out the hut
- C) sat and talked
- D) lit a fire

Now, choose the right option.

- i) A
- ii) C
- iii) Both B and D
- iv) None of the above

10. Frame an appropriate question tag for the sentence given below.

You have given us a lot of trouble, _____?

Questions 11–13: Answer either A or B.

(3x4=12)

11. [A] The unexpected landslide and the falling of the debris on his way to Mussoorie disturbed Mani. Late in the evening, Mani jotted down his feelings in the form of a diary. Draft the likely **diary entry**.

OR

11. [B] Abdul Kalam's eagerness to support his family is quite commendable. Based on your reading of *Little Things Matter*, prepare the **character sketch** of young Abdul Kalam.

12. [A] Kalam had to deliver newspapers to the residents of Rameswaram everyday before he left for the school. He had a conversation with one of his friends regarding his routine and the reasons behind it. Prepare the likely **conversation** between Kalam and his friend.

OR

12. [B] Describe the picture given below using suitable descriptive adjectives.



13. [A] Mani and Granny find it extremely difficult to continue the journey after the landslide. Mani sends an email to the office of the Border Roads Organisation in Mussoorie to clear the road and ensure necessary arrangements for rescue operation. Draft the likely email.

OR

13. [B] Read the picture given below. Prepare a paragraph describing it in the light of your reading of the lesson *A Prescription for Life*.



14. Prepare a brief profile of Emily Dickinson based on the hints given below.

(1x4=4)

Name	: Emily Dickinson
Birth	: 10 December, 1830, Massachusetts
Famous as	: American poet
Known for	: Innovative style
Themes	: Death, immortality, nature.
Notable works	: 'Because I Could not Stop for Death', 'I Heard a Fly Buzz When I Died', 'Success is Counted Sweetest'
Death	: 15 May, 1886

Questions 15-17: Read the news headlines and answer the questions that follow.

(3x1=3)

INDIA TO EVACUATE ITS NATIONALS FROM ISRAEL

INDIA CLINCHES SERIES WIN AGAINST AUSTRALIA IN FINAL MATCH

GLOBAL LEADERS MEET IN TOKYO TO DISCUSS CLIMATE CHANGE

ISRO SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHES NEW WEATHER SATELLITE

15. Identify the headline that tells about an achievement of ISRO.

16. Which headline reflects India's concern over expatriates?

17. What does the meeting of global leaders in Tokyo indicate about international relations?

- A) Countries are competing for technological dominance.
- B) There is a growing global consensus on environmental issues.
- C) Nations are focusing only on their individual energy needs.
- ~~D)~~ Diplomatic relations are weakening due to war.

18. Fill in the blanks using appropriate phrases given in bracket.

(3x1=3)

The eye specialist was ~~made~~ (a) ~~up~~... when he found out the real condition of Granny's glasses. He could easily ~~catch~~ (b) ~~up~~ that they were no longer usable. Hence, he told Granny to ~~try~~ (c) ~~out~~ different lenses.

(try out, taken aback, catch up, make out)

19. Edit the following passage. Errors are given in bold.

(4x½=2)

However, my new job had to be ~~fit~~ ^{~~fixed~~} (a) into my regular routine. Among my siblings and cousins, I had shown ~~an~~ (b) early aptitude for mathematics. My father had arranged for me to take ~~tution~~ (c) from our mathematics teacher. My teacher ~~had~~ (d) a condition that we should reach his home at dawn after having taken a bath.

20. Complete the conversation between Kalam and his mother.

(3x1=3)

- Mother : What are you thinking of so deeply?
- Kalam : I am planning to take up newspaper distribution.
- Mother : (a)?
- Kalam : I am taking it up because I want to help our family in this situation.
- Mother : That's good. But make sure that your studies are not affected.
- Kalam : Sure! I'll need to freshen up and reach the teacher's house by 4 a.m. at least.
- Mother : Then, you had better ~~...~~ (b)
- Kalam : I am ready to wake up at 3 a.m. everyday.
- Mother : If you get up by then, (c)
- Kalam : Now I'm sure I'll be able to manage it.