

ENGLISH

Std : IX

Time : 2½ hrs
Total Score: 80

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 1-5: Read the excerpt from *Debts of Gratitude* and answer the questions that follow.
(5x1=5)

A few days ago I was sitting in the train, bound for Stockholm. It was early evening. There was little light in my compartment and none at all outside. My fellow passengers were dozing, and I was very quiet, listening to the rattling of the train.

And then I began to think of all the other times I had come up to Stockholm. It had usually been to do something difficult – such as to pass examinations. And now, I was coming to receive the Prize in Literature. That, too, I thought would be difficult.

Deep within me, however, was a wondrous joy at receiving this Prize. I tried to dispel my anxiety by thinking of those who would rejoice at my good fortune. There were my good friends, my brothers and sisters and, first and foremost, my old mother who, sitting back home, was happy to have lived to see this day. But then I thought of my father and felt a deep sorrow that he was no longer alive. I could not go and tell him that I had been awarded the Nobel Prize. I knew that no one would have been happier than he to hear this. Yes, it was a deep sorrow to me that I could not tell him.

1. How is the lighting described in the train compartment?
2. Who, according to the narrator, would have been the happiest at her good fortune?
 - A. Her father
 - B. Her brothers and sisters
 - C. Her good friends
 - D. Her uncle
3. What brought a feeling of sorrow in the narrator's mind?
4. Why does the narrator feel a sense of wondrous joy?
 - A. She was excited to be on the train.
 - B. She was going to receive the Nobel Prize.
 - C. She was going to Stockholm for the first time.
 - D. She was enjoying being with family.
5. Identify the **Noun Phrase** in the subject position and the **Verb Phrase** in the sentence given below.
My fellow passengers were dozing in the compartment.

Questions 6-9: Read the lines from the poem *Nothing Twice* and answer the questions that follow.

(4x1=4)

One day, perhaps some idle tongue
mentions your name by accident:
I feel as if a rose were flung
into the room, all hue and scent.

The next day, though you're here with me,
I can't help looking at the clock:
A rose? A rose? What could that be?
Is it a flower or a rock?

6. What does the phrase 'idle tongue' imply?
7. What imagery does the speaker use to show the reaction on hearing the name of the beloved?
- A. An idle tongue
- B. A rose with hue and scent
- C. A timely clock
- D. A warm embrace
8. Why does the speaker say that she can't help looking at the clock?
9. Identify the rhyme scheme of the second stanza.
10. Read the following lines from *Nothing Twice* and prepare a note of **appreciation** focusing on its theme, images and poetic devices.

(1x5=5)

Nothing can ever happen twice.
In consequence, the sorry fact is
that we arrive here improvised
and leave without the chance to practise.

Even if there is no one dumber,
if you're the planet's biggest dunce,
you can't repeat the class in summer:
this course is only offered once.

Questions 11-14: Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

(4x1=4)

The great advantage of early rising is the good start it gives in our day's work. In the early morning hours, the mind is fresh and there are few sounds and distractions so that work done at that time is generally well done. In many cases, the early riser also finds time to take some exercise in the fresh morning air and this exercise supplies him with a fund of energy that will last until the evening. By beginning so early, he knows that he has plenty of time to thoroughly do all the work he can be expected to do. He goes to sleep several hours before midnight, at the time when sleep is most refreshing. Therefore, the next morning he is in good health and spirits for the labours of a new day.

11. What is the greatest advantage for an early riser?
12. Why is it said that the work done in the early morning is well done?

13. Which statements are **TRUE** for an early riser?

- A. He has ample time.
- B. He is lazy.
- C. He is unhealthy.
- D. He gets enough sleep.

Choose the correct option from the following:

- i. B and D
- ii. A and C
- iii. A and D
- iv. C and D

14. What gives a person the stock of energy to last the whole day?

- A. Going to bed late
- B. Getting up late in the morning
- C. Exercising in the morning
- D. Sleeping in the morning

Questions 15-18: Answer either A or B.

15. [A] The story *Half a Day* by Naguib Mahfouz depicts the wonderful journey of life through the eyes of the protagonist who undergoes a transformation right from the beginning to the end. Prepare a **review** of the story focusing on the characterisation, theme and plot development.

(Hints: boy goes to school - torn away from family - new friends - contentment - new learning experiences - meets middle-aged man - witnesses changes - reflects on changes - at cross roads - old man helped by a young lad)

OR

15. [B] Gandhiji's vision of an independent India revolved around the themes of non-violence, universal brotherhood and education. He shared his views at one of the meetings in England as mentioned in the extract *Dreams Realised*. Prepare a script of the **speech**.

(Hints: message of non-violence-no weapon-equality-education through character building-not packing brains with facts and figures)

(1x7 = 7)

16. [A] Gandhiji's visit to England received huge media attention. While addressing the Women's India Council in Morley College Hall, Gandhiji spoke about the heroic part played by Indian women during the freedom struggle. You were one of the reporters in charge of covering that event. Draft the **news report**.

OR

16. [B] Selma Lagerlof's father played a significant role in her evolution as a writer and a Nobel Laureate. Prepare a **character sketch** of her father.

(1x6=6)

17. [A] Selma Lagerlof felt indebted to her father for teaching her to love fairy tales and sagas of heroes. In the light of the above instance mentioned in the excerpt *Debts of Gratitude*, write a **paragraph** on the importance of reading.

OR

17. [B] Selma Lagerlof in her speech *Debts of Gratitude* clearly states that she owes a lot to those who helped her evolve as a writer. She narrates her experiences to one of her friends. Write the likely **narrative**. (1x6 = 6)

18. [A] In the story *Half a Day*, the young boy meets another student and talks about the various activities and experiences in school. Write the likely **conversation** between them.

OR

18. [B] The middle aged man in the story *Half a Day* feels immensely frustrated by the changes he notices around him. He feels startled at the rapidity of the changes and jots down his feelings in his diary. Write his likely **diary entry**. (1x4 = 4)

Questions 19-21: Answer all the questions.

19. Prepare a short **profile** of *Charlie Chaplin* from the details given below. (1x6 = 6)

Name	: Sir Charles Spencer Chaplin
Birth	: April 16, 1889, Walworth, London, England
Occupation	: Actor, Comedian, Film maker
Famous as	: Director, producer, composer
Notable films	: The Kid (1921), The Gold Rush (1925), City Lights (1931), Modern Times (1936), The Great Dictator (1940)
Recognitions	: Life Achievement Award (1974), Honorary Award (1972), The Best Score Award (1973)
Death	: December 25, 1977

20. Read the passage given below and **frame four appropriate questions** based on it. (1x4 = 4)

Scores of letters came to Gandhiji daily from all parts of Britain and the Continent, welcoming him and expressing sympathy for his mission. Old friends who knew him years ago as a young student turned up to see him and all the English friends, including civil servants, made a point of renewing the friendship.

21. Read the picture given below. Using the visual hints and your imagination, write a **story**, not exceeding 100 words, that reflects human emotions, relationships and social situations. (1x4 = 4)



Questions 22-25: Study the table given below about Astronauts and answer the questions that follow. (4x1=4)

Astronauts	Space Agency	Year of Launch	Days Spent in International Space Station (ISS)
Valeri Polyakov	Roscosmos	1994	438
Wakata Koichi	JAXA	2013	188
Mark T. Vande Hei	NASA	2021	355
Chris Hadfield	CSA	2012	144
Sunita Williams	NASA	2024	286
Scott Kelly	NASA	2015	340

22. Which agency is Chris Hadfield associated with?
23. Which statement is true as far as NASA is concerned?
- A. It has sent only one astronaut to ISS.
 - B. It has sent no astronaut to ISS.
 - C. It has sent more than two astronauts to ISS.
 - D. It has sent two astronauts.
24. Which astronaut ranks second to last in terms of total time spent in space?
25. Which of the statements is **TRUE** about Valeri Polyakov?
- A. He spent the longest time in space.
 - B. The name of his space agency is CSA.
 - C. He went to space in 1994.
 - D. He went to space 18 years earlier to his peer from ESA.

Choose the correct option from the following:

- i. Only A is correct
- ii. Both A and D are correct
- iii. Both B and C are correct
- iv. Only B is incorrect

26. Report the following dialogue. (2x1=2)

Son : I don't like to stay away from home.
Father : You have to go to school.

- a.
- b.

27. Edit the passage given below. Errors are given in bold. (6x1/2=3)

Real education **consist** (a) not in packing the brain by (b) facts and figures, not in passing examinations by reading **nuemorous** (c) books, but in developing character.. I can say that if you **explored** (d) the possibilities of non-violence, you will find that without character it would **proven** (e) a profitless study. In a movement such as we are conducting in India, we **needs** (f) the intellectual sympathy of the whole world.

28. Fill in the blanks using the appropriate forms of the phrasal verbs given in bracket. (5x1=5)

As the narrator(a)..... walking, he was quite(b)..... by the changes that had happened around him. High buildings had(c)..... the street which was once lined with gardens and there was madness all around. Feeling disturbed, he was about to(d)..... tears, but somehow reined in his emotions and managed to reach the crossroads. The stream of cars wouldn't(e)..... and he wasn't able to move forward.

(burst into, taken aback, take away, go on, let up, take over)

29. Complete the following passage choosing suitable words given in bracket. (4x½=2)

Thus Gandhiji, along(a)..... all the other freedom fighters, persuaded(b)..... British rulers to give India her legitimate independence, which,(c)..... his words, was her birthright. The dream(d)..... independence was accomplished by his inimitable method of unwavering non-violence and non-cooperation.

(a, with, in, the, of)

30. Read the conversation between Esselde and Selma and complete it suitably. (5x1=5)

- Esselde : You are truly excited,(a).....?
- Selma : Of course. Winning the Nobel prize is a coveted achievement.
The award ceremony is going to take place in Stockholm.
- Esselde :(b).....?
- Selma : I'm leaving for Stockholm tomorrow morning.
- Esselde : If I hadn't had a meeting with my boss,(c).....
- Selma : I would have been excited to have you with me.
- Esselde :(d).....?
- Selma : Yes, I'm travelling alone to Stockholm.
- Esselde : Would you mind me(e).....?
- Selma : Not at all. It's my pleasure that you come to see me off.

31. Rewrite the sentences given below without changing the meaning. (2x1=2)

- a. We have chanted our first song.
- b. The men sorted us into ranks.
- a. Our first song
- b. We

32. Fill in the blanks using the words/phrases given in bracket. (2x1=2)

The boy's bag was(a)..... with so many books that it was difficult for him to carry it. Hence, he dragged himself(b)..... to reach the school.

(cleaved, at a snail's pace, crammed)