

CLASS VIII – ENGLISH

FIRST TERM SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT 2026–27

DETAILED ANSWER KEY

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Maximum Score: 40

Questions 1–3

A Long Walk with Granny

1. How did Mani and his father try to solve the problems related to Granny's eyesight?

Mani and his father noticed that Granny was finding it difficult to see clearly through her old, scratched spectacles. They decided that her eyes should be examined by a specialist and that she should get a new pair of glasses suitable for her weakened eyesight.

2. Which of the following is not correct?

Answer: D. Mani and his father felt it was not the right time to have Granny's eyes tested.

3. Pick out a word or phrase from the passage which means 'to understand'.

Answer: *make out*

Questions 4–6

Hope is the Thing with Feathers

4. Where, according to the poet, does Hope perch?

Answer: According to the poet, Hope has its place in the **soul**. It is imagined as a little bird that lives within a person and continues to sing.

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

Answer: "Hope is the thing with feathers."

Here, Hope is directly compared to a bird without using words such as *like* or *as*. Therefore, it is an example of a **metaphor**.

6. What does the bird ask for in return?

Answer: D. The bird asks for a crumb of bread in return.

Question 7

The Seven Ages of Man

7. Write a short paragraph summarising the ideas in the given lines.

In the sixth stage of life, a man grows old and loses much of his youthful appearance and strength. He becomes thin, weak and dependent on spectacles. His once powerful voice becomes softer and childish. The final stage is described as a **second childhood**, when a person gradually loses his teeth, eyesight, taste and other abilities. Shakespeare presents old age as a period of physical decline and increasing dependence.

The poet also uses literary devices such as **imagery and alliteration** to create a vivid picture of the ageing man.

Questions 8–10

The Power of Nature

8. How does nature react when its balance is disturbed?

Answer: C. Both i and iii are correct.

Nature may respond to human interference through **droughts, heatwaves and floods**, showing the harmful consequences of disturbing its natural balance.

9. What are the main causes that lead to disastrous climate?

The major causes include **deforestation, pollution, excessive burning of fossil fuels and the careless wastage of water**. These human activities disturb the natural balance and contribute to rising temperatures and climate-related problems.

10. How can we live in harmony with nature again?

We can restore our relationship with nature by **planting more trees, conserving water, using renewable sources of energy and reducing waste**. We should also avoid unnecessary pollution and learn to use natural resources responsibly. Respecting and protecting nature will help create a safer future.

Questions 11–13

Answer Either A or B

11 (A) Diary Entry – Abdul Kalam

14 August 2026
Friday, 10:30 p.m.

Dear Diary,

Today has been one of the most memorable days of my life. I earned my first money by working as a newspaper boy. I felt extremely happy because I had earned something through my own effort. At the same time, I realised that earning money comes with responsibility and discipline. This experience has taught me the importance of hard work, determination and self-reliance. I hope to continue working hard and achieving my dreams.

Abdul Kalam

11 (B) Character Sketch – Mani

Mani is a **loving, responsible and considerate grandson**. He accompanies his Granny during her journey to Mussoorie and remains attentive to her needs throughout the trip. He understands her difficulties and is always ready to assist her. His concern for Granny shows his affection and maturity. Mani is also helpful and dependable, making him a caring young boy who values his relationship with his grandmother.

Question 12

12 (A) Conversation between Granny and the Doctor

Doctor: Good morning, Granny. What difficulty are you experiencing?

Granny: I am unable to see things clearly. My eyesight has become quite weak.

Doctor: I see. How long have you been using your present spectacles?

Granny: I have been wearing these glasses for more than ten years.

Doctor: Your eyesight has weakened considerably, and your old glasses are no longer sufficient. You should use a stronger pair.

Granny: Thank you, Doctor. I shall get a new pair of glasses as you have advised.

12 (B) Picture Description

The picture presents a **lively and attractive street market**. A colourful shop is filled with beautiful toys, dolls and decorative objects. A number of children are standing near the stall and looking at the interesting articles with curiosity. The friendly shopkeeper appears busy attending to the customers. The crowded street, old buildings and the tall church in the background add to the charm of the scene. Overall, the picture depicts a cheerful and bustling marketplace.

Question 13

13 (A) Letter to the Transport Manager

To

The Transport Manager
State Transport Department

Subject: Request for improvement of bus services

Sir,

I would like to bring to your attention the poor condition of the bus service on our route. The buses currently operating on this route are old, noisy and uncomfortable. They are often overcrowded, causing considerable inconvenience to passengers.

I kindly request you to arrange newer and more comfortable buses and increase the frequency of services. Better transportation facilities would make travelling safer and more convenient for the public.

Yours faithfully,
Mani

13 (B) Paragraph – *Little Things Matter*

The picture shows a young boy engaged in the humble task of selling or delivering newspapers. He is carrying newspapers while people around him continue with their daily activities. Though his work may appear small, it requires effort, punctuality and responsibility. The scene reminds us that **small actions can have great value**. Honest work, however simple it may seem, contributes to personal growth and the well-being of society. The picture therefore conveys the message that every sincere effort matters.

Question 14

Profile of Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam

Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam

Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam was born on **15 October 1931 at Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu**. He was an eminent **aerospace scientist, author, professor and former President of India**. He was popularly remembered as the **Missile Man of India** for his important contributions to India's space and defence programmes. His famous autobiography is ***Wings of Fire***. He received several prestigious honours, including the **Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan and Bharat Ratna**. He passed away on **27 July 2015**.

Questions 15–17

The Best FIFA Football Awards 2025

15. Which country/club received the maximum number of awards in the table?

Answer: Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) received the highest number of awards in the given table.

16. Who won the FIFA Puskás Award in 2025?

Answer: B. Santiago Montiel

17. Name the player who received Ballon d’Or Féminin in 2025.

Answer: Aitana Bonmatí

Question 18

Phrasal Verbs

Fill in the blanks with suitable forms of the given phrasal verbs.

(a) wake up

(b) look forward to

(c) pore over

Completed answers:

(a) wake up

(b) look forward to

(c) pore over

Question 19

Editing

Correct forms of the words/expressions marked in the passage:

(a) an

(b) was

(c) Then

(d) accounts

Corrected passage:

"In **an** evening, after school **was** over, I would do the rounds of Samsuddin's customers again, collecting dues. **Then** I would meet him, so that he could work out the **accounts** of the day."

Question 20

Complete the Conversation between Mani and his Granny

Mani: What have you brought, Granny?

Granny: I have brought pakoras and buns and peaches from Uncle's garden.

Mani: Thank you, Granny. We'll eat as we go along.

Granny: OK. You had better **eat**. There is a possibility of rain.

Mani: I will walk fast. I know your umbrella is leaky.

Granny: If it rains, **what will you do?**

Mani: We will take shelter somewhere.

Answers:

(a) What have you brought, Granny?

(b) eat

(c) what will you do