

KARNATAKA SCHOOL EXAMINATION AND ASSESSMENT BOARD
FIRST SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT (SA-1) / HALF-YEARLY EXAMINATION — 2026-27

Class: X (SSLC) Subject: English (Second Language)

Time: 3 Hours 15 Minutes (including 15 minutes for reading the question paper)

Max. Marks: 80

ANSWER KEY / SCHEME OF VALUATION

Scheme of Valuation — Notes

- Award marks as per the value points listed. Equivalent correct points/expressions may be given full credit.
- Where a question carries an internal choice, evaluate only the part attempted by the candidate.
- For numerical problems, award part marks for correct method/steps even if the final answer is not reached, as indicated.

PART – A

Answer ALL the questions. Each question carries 1 mark.

1. Choose the correct synonym for 'brave': [1]

- (a) coward
- (b) courageous
- (c) weak
- (d) afraid

Ans: (b) courageous

2. Choose the correct antonym for 'increase': [1]

- (a) grow
- (b) decrease
- (c) expand
- (d) rise

Ans: (b) decrease

3. Fill in the blank with the correct article: 'He is ____ honest man.' [1]

- (a) a
- (b) an
- (c) the
- (d) no article

Ans: (b) an

4. Choose the correct form of the verb: 'She ____ to school every day.' [1]

- (a) go
- (b) goes
- (c) going
- (d) gone

Ans: (b) goes

5. Identify the degree of comparison: 'Ravi is the tallest boy in the class.' [1]

- (a) Positive
- (b) Comparative
- (c) Superlative
- (d) None of these

Ans: (c) Superlative

6. 'Dr. B.R. Ambedkar' (as studied this term) is a: [1]

- (a) poem

- (b) short story
 - (c) biographical prose piece
 - (d) play
- Ans: (c) biographical prose piece

7. 'Grandma Climbs a Tree' (as studied this term) is a: [1]

- (a) prose piece
 - (b) poem
 - (c) drama
 - (d) letter
- Ans: (b) poem

8. Choose the correct preposition: 'The book is ____ the table.' [1]

- (a) in
 - (b) on
 - (c) at
 - (d) into
- Ans: (b) on

PART – B

Answer ALL the questions. Each question carries 2 marks.

1. Change into the passive voice: 'The teacher taught the lesson.' [2]

Ans: The lesson was taught by the teacher.

2. Change into indirect speech: He said, 'I am going to school.' [2]

Ans: He said that he was going to school.

3. Fill in the blank with the correct tense form: 'By the time we reached the station, the train ____ (leave).' [2]

Ans: had left

4. Give one-word substitutes for: (i) a person who studies stars and planets (ii) a place where books are kept [2]

Ans: (i) astronomer

Ans: (ii) library

5. Use the following words in sentences of your own: (i) courage (ii) ambition [2]

Ans: Any grammatically correct and meaningful sentence using each word correctly may be given full marks.

6. Correct the following sentence: 'She don't like coffee.' [2]

Ans: She doesn't like coffee.

7. Mention any two qualities of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar that you admire, based on the lesson you have studied. [2]

Ans: Any two reasonable qualities such as: determination, courage, commitment to social justice, scholarship, visionary leadership — award marks for any two valid qualities with brief justification.

8. Frame a suitable question for the following answer: 'Ambedkar was born in 1891.' [2]

Ans: When was Ambedkar born?

PART – C

Answer ALL the questions. Each question carries 3 marks.

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below it: "Riya loved animals. Every morning before school, she fed the stray dogs near her house. One day she found an injured puppy near the gate. She gently carried it home, cleaned its wound and took care of it until it was healthy again. She

then found it a loving home with her neighbour." (i) What did Riya do every morning? (ii) What did she find near the gate? (iii) What did she finally do for the puppy? [3]

Ans: (i) She fed the stray dogs near her house.

Ans: (ii) She found an injured puppy.

Ans: (iii) She nursed it back to health and found it a loving home with her neighbour.

2. Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) on any two contributions of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar to Indian society. [3]

Ans: Award marks for correctly mentioning any two of: chairing the Drafting Committee of the Indian Constitution; fighting against untouchability and caste discrimination; serving as independent India's first Law Minister; working for the rights of the depressed classes and women — written in 3-4 grammatically correct sentences.

3. Change the following sentences into reported speech: (i) She said, 'I am reading a book.' (ii) He said, 'I will come tomorrow.' (iii) The teacher said, 'The earth revolves around the sun.' [3]

Ans: (i) She said that she was reading a book.

Ans: (ii) He said that he would come the next day.

Ans: (iii) The teacher said that the earth revolves around the sun.

4. Combine each pair of sentences using a suitable conjunction: (i) It was raining. We went out. (ii) She is poor. She is honest. (iii) Work hard. You will succeed. [3]

Ans: (i) Although it was raining, we went out.

Ans: (ii) She is poor but honest.

Ans: (iii) If you work hard, you will succeed.

5. Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions: (i) He is good ____ Mathematics. (ii) The cat jumped ____ the wall. (iii) She has been ill ____ Monday. [3]

Ans: (i) at

Ans: (ii) over

Ans: (iii) since

6. Rewrite the following sentences as directed: (i) He is too weak to walk. (Remove 'too...to') (ii) Ram is taller than Shyam. (Change into positive degree) (iii) 'What a beautiful flower!' (Change into assertive sentence) [3]

Ans: (i) He is so weak that he cannot walk.

Ans: (ii) Shyam is not as tall as Ram.

Ans: (iii) It is a very beautiful flower.

7. Write the synonym and antonym of each of the following words: (i) honest (ii) difficult (iii) happy [3]

Ans: (i) honest — synonym: truthful; antonym: dishonest

Ans: (ii) difficult — synonym: hard; antonym: easy

Ans: (iii) happy — synonym: glad; antonym: sad

8. Punctuate the following sentence correctly: ravi said meena where are you going [3]

Ans: Ravi said, "Meena, where are you going?"

PART – D

Answer ALL the questions. Each question carries 4 marks.

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below it: "Water is one of the most precious natural resources. Without water, no living being can survive. Yet, many people waste water carelessly by leaving taps running or overusing it for non-essential purposes. Rivers and lakes are also getting polluted due to human activities. If we do not act now to conserve and protect water, future generations may face a severe water crisis." (i) Why is water called a precious resource? (ii) How do people waste water? (iii) What is happening to rivers and lakes? (iv) What may happen if we do not conserve water? [4]

Ans: (i) Because no living being can survive without it.

Ans: (ii) By leaving taps running or overusing it for non-essential purposes.

Ans: (iii) They are getting polluted due to human activities.

Ans: (iv) Future generations may face a severe water crisis.

2. Write an informal letter to your friend describing how you spent your last summer vacation. [4]

Ans: Evaluate for correct informal letter format (sender's address, date, salutation, body in 2-3 paragraphs, complimentary close, name), relevant and coherent content about the vacation, and appropriate, error-free language.

3. What values do you learn from the life of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar? Write your answer in about 60-80 words. [4]

Ans: Award marks for a coherent response covering values such as perseverance in the face of discrimination, dedication to education, commitment to equality and social justice, and service to the nation — expressed in the student's own words.

4. Do as directed: (i) The boy is playing football. (Change into passive voice) (ii) She said to me, 'Where do you live?' (Change into indirect speech) (iii) Ramesh is as tall as Suresh. (Change into comparative degree) (iv) He could not attend the meeting because he was ill. (Combine into a simple sentence) [4]

Ans: (i) Football is being played by the boy.

Ans: (ii) She asked me where I lived.

Ans: (iii) Suresh is not taller than Ramesh. / Ramesh is not shorter than Suresh.

Ans: (iv) Being ill, he could not attend the meeting.

5. Develop a short story (about 80-100 words) using the following outline: a poor farmer — hardworking — severe drought — no rain for months — remains hopeful — neighbours help him with water and seeds — good harvest the following year. [4]

Ans: Evaluate for a logically sequenced story that uses all the given points, has a clear beginning-middle-end, and is written in grammatically correct sentences; award marks proportionately for content, sequencing and language.

6. Write a short paragraph on the importance of poetry in our lives, referring to any one poem you have studied this term. [4]

Ans: Award marks for a relevant, coherent paragraph that names a poem studied this term (e.g., 'Grandma Climbs a Tree', 'I am the Land', 'The Song of India' or 'Quality of Mercy') and explains, in the student's own words, what they liked or learnt from it.

PART – E

Answer the following question. It carries 8 marks.

1. Write a short essay of about 100-120 words on 'My Favourite Freedom Fighter / Social Reformer', taking Dr. B.R. Ambedkar as an example. Mention at least four points about his life and his contribution to the nation. [8]

Ans: Award marks under: (a) introduction naming Ambedkar and why he is admired [2], (b) at least four correct and relevant points about his life/contribution — e.g., early struggles against caste discrimination, his education, his role as chairman of the Constitution Drafting Committee, his work against untouchability, his role as independent India's first Law Minister [4], (c) organisation and language [2].

Ans: Full marks for a well-organised, grammatically correct essay covering the required points within the word limit.