

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

General Instructions:

- This question paper has five parts: A, B, C, D and E. All parts are compulsory.
- Figures in square brackets [] indicate the marks allotted to that question.
- Answer all questions in English.
- SA-1 syllabus covered — Prose: 'A Hero', 'There's a Girl by the Tracks!', 'Gentleman of Rio en Medio', 'Dr. B.R. Ambedkar'. Poetry: 'Grandma Climbs a Tree', 'Quality of Mercy', 'I am the Land', 'The Song of India'. Supplementary Reader: 'Narayanpur Incident', 'On Top of the World'. Along with Grammar, Vocabulary and Composition (letter/paragraph/essay writing).

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
2. Choose the correct antonym for 'increase': [1]
 - (a) grow
 - (b) decrease
 - (c) expand
 - (d) rise
3. Fill in the blank with the correct article: 'He is ____ honest man.' [1]
 - (a) a
 - (b) an
 - (c) the
 - (d) no article
4. Choose the correct form of the verb: 'She ____ to school every day.' [1]
 - (a) go
 - (b) goes
 - (c) going
 - (d) gone
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
6. 'Dr. B.R. Ambedkar' (as studied this term) is a: [1]
 - (a) poem
 - (b) short story
 - (c) biographical prose piece
 - (d) play
7. 'Grandma Climbs a Tree' (as studied this term) is a: [1]

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

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

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

PART – B

Answer ALL the questions. Each question carries 2 marks.

1. Change into the passive voice: 'The teacher taught the lesson.' [2]
2. Change into indirect speech: He said, 'I am going to school.' [2]
3. Fill in the blank with the correct tense form: 'By the time we reached the station, the train ____ (leave).' [2]
4. Give one-word substitutes for: (i) a person who studies stars and planets (ii) a place where books are kept [2]
5. Use the following words in sentences of your own: (i) courage (ii) ambition [2]
6. Correct the following sentence: 'She don't like coffee.' [2]
7. Mention any two qualities of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar that you admire, based on the lesson you have studied. [2]
8. Frame a suitable question for the following answer: 'Ambedkar was born in 1891.' [2]

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]
2. Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) on any two contributions of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar to Indian society. [3]
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]
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]
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]
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]
7. Write the synonym and antonym of each of the following words: (i) honest (ii) difficult (iii) happy [3]
8. Punctuate the following sentence correctly: ravi said meena where are you going [3]

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]
2. Write an informal letter to your friend describing how you spent your last summer vacation. [4]
3. What values do you learn from the life of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar? Write your answer in about 60-80 words. [4]
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]
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]
6. Write a short paragraph on the importance of poetry in our lives, referring to any one poem you have studied this term. [4]

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]

***** END OF QUESTION PAPER *****