

ENGLISH – 817 (GV) 2021

Time: 2 Hours 15 Mins

Max Marks: 70

SECTION – A (Reading)

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below it:

4×2=8

The major portion of my ashes should, however, be disposed of otherwise. I want these to be carried high up into the air in an aeroplane and scattered from that height over the fields where the peasants of India toil, so that they might mingle with the dust and soil of India and become an indistinguishable part of India.

(a) Write the name of the lesson from which the above-noted passage has been taken. Who is the author of the lesson?

(b) Why did the author want, the major portion of his ashes be scattered over the fields of India?

Solution:

(a) The passage is taken from "The Gift of India" by Sarojini Naidu. The poem was written by Sarojini Naidu to express the sacrifices made by the people of India, particularly the soldiers who fought in World War I. Through the poem, she conveys a sense of pride and gratitude towards those who gave their lives for the country. Sarojini Naidu, known as the 'Nightingale of India', used her poetry to inspire patriotism and honor the sacrifices of Indians during the British colonial period.

(b) The author wanted the major portion of his ashes to be scattered over the fields of India to symbolize a deep connection with the land. By having his ashes mingle with the soil where Indian peasants work, he expressed his desire to become an inseparable part of the country's earth. This act would allow him to continue contributing to the growth and prosperity of India, even after his death, blending with the land where he had lived and cherished his roots. It signifies his love and reverence for India.

2. Answer one of the following questions in about 60 words:

4×2=8

(a) Why did Yudhishtira want Nakula to come back to life?

(b) Who was Lencho? What circumstances forced him to write a letter to God?

Solution:

(a) Yudhishtira wanted Nakula to come back to life because of his sense of fairness and duty. Nakula was one of his brothers, and Yudhishtira felt that as the eldest, he should ensure that all his brothers are treated equally. Nakula was an important part of the family, and Yudhishtira wanted to uphold justice, even in such a dire situation.

(b) Lencho was a hardworking farmer who lived in a small village. A hailstorm destroyed his crops, which were crucial for his family's survival. In his desperation, he wrote a letter to God asking for money to help him through the crisis. His faith in God was strong, and he believed that divine help would arrive to restore his hopes and livelihood.

3. Answer two of the following questions in about 25 words each:

4×2=8

(a) What did Socrates say to the judges in the court?

(b) What does Pandit Nehru want India to get rid herself of?

(c) Why did Lencho not want, the rest of the money to be sent through mail?

Solution:

(a) In court, Socrates told the judges that he had dedicated his life to seeking the truth and teaching others to do the same. He defended his actions, claiming that his intention was never to harm society but to improve it. Socrates believed he was serving the greater good by questioning people's assumptions and encouraging them to think critically. Despite the charges, he stood firm in his principles.

(b) Pandit Nehru wanted India to rid itself of the shackles of poverty, illiteracy, and superstition. He envisioned a modern, prosperous India where every citizen would have equal opportunities to succeed. Nehru believed that eliminating these barriers would enable the country to thrive and take its rightful place on the global stage, with progress in every field, from education to economic development.

(c) Lencho did not want the rest of the money to be sent through the mail because he believed the post office workers had stolen part of the money. Distrustful of the postal system, he requested that the remaining money be sent through another means, as he thought it would be safer and more reliable. Despite his faith in God, he doubted human integrity.

4. Match the words of List A with their meanings in List B:

4×2=8

List A	List B
(a) vast	(i) fame
(b) admire	(ii) unwilling
(c) reputation	(iii) appreciate
(d) reluctant	(iv) huge

Solution:

(a) - (iv)

(b) - (iii)

(c) - (i)

(d) - (ii)

5. Read the following lines of poetry and answer the questions given below it:

3.5×2=7

Let us, then, be up and doing.
 With a heart for any fate.
 Still achieving, still pursuing
 Learn to labour and to wart

(a) Write the name of the poet and the poem from which the above stanza has been taken.

(b) Point out the rhyming words in the stanza.

Solution:

(a) The poet of the above stanza is Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and the poem is "A Psalm of Life".

(b) The rhyming words in the stanza are:

doing and pursuing

fate and wage

6. Give the central idea of one of the following poems:

7×1=7

(a) The Fountain

(b) The Village Song

Solution:

(a) **The Fountain**

The central idea of the poem "The Fountain" by James Russell Lowell revolves around the symbolic representation of a fountain as a metaphor for life. The poet compares the fountain's continuous flow of water to the eternal movement of life, suggesting that, like the fountain, human life should be lived with a sense of purpose and without stagnation. The poem conveys the message of living actively, with passion, and constantly moving forward, much like the ever-flowing water of a fountain.

(b) **The Village Song**

In "The Village Song" by Rabindranath Tagore, the central idea explores the longing and yearning for freedom and happiness. The poem expresses the thoughts of a village girl who sings of the beauty and simplicity of village life. However, her song also reflects a desire for something beyond the mundane, symbolising an aspiration for a better, more fulfilling life. The poet uses the village setting to evoke themes of hope, yearning, and the beauty found in life's simplicity.

7. Answer two of the following questions in about 25 words each:

4×2=8

(a) Why was Edison taken out of the school?

(b) Why was Vikramaditya praised by one and all?

(c) Why did Edison get a beating from his mother?

Solution:

(a) Edison was taken out of school because his teacher found him dull and incapable of learning. He was labeled as a slow learner, which deeply upset his mother.

Believing in his intelligence and potential, she decided to educate him at home, nurturing his curiosity and creativity, which later led him to become a great inventor.

(b) Vikramaditya was praised by everyone for his wisdom, bravery, and sense of justice. He was known for his ability to solve difficult problems and make fair judgments. His rule was marked by prosperity, kindness, and intelligence, earning him immense respect from his subjects and making him a legendary ruler in history.

(c) Edison received a beating from his mother after he accidentally set fire to their barn while experimenting. His curiosity often led him to conduct scientific experiments, sometimes causing trouble. Although he was punished, his mother continued to support and encourage his inquisitive nature, shaping him into a future inventor.

8. Point out true and false in the following statements.

4×2=8

- (a) Edison was fond of making experiments?
- (b) Vikramaditya did not love justice.
- (c) As a child, Edison was not fond of asking questions.
- (d) The angel flew up into the sky, bearing the slab upon his head.

Solution:

- (a) True – Edison was fond of making experiments from a young age, driven by his curiosity and love for science.
- (b) False – Vikramaditya was known for his deep love for justice and fair judgment, which made him a respected ruler.
- (c) False – As a child, Edison was extremely curious and fond of asking questions, which often annoyed his teachers.
- (d) True – The angel flew up into the sky, bearing the slab upon his head, as described in the story.

9. Select the most suitable alternative to complete the following statements:

4×1=4

- (a) King Vikramaditya was famous for his
 - (i) cruelty and tyranny
 - (ii) love and affection
 - (iii) sincerity and honesty
 - (iv) justice and learning
- (b) The judgment seat of Vikramaditya was found in
 - (i) Nalanda
 - (ii) Kushinagar
 - (iii) Ujjain
 - (iv) Patna.
- (c) During the first world war Edison made
 - (i) twenty war time inventions
 - (ii) ten war time inventions
 - (iii) forty war time inventions

- (iv) thirty war time inventions.
- (d) When Edison tried his experiment on his servant girl
 - (i) she fell ill
 - (ii) she became unconscious
 - (iii) she fell on the ground
 - (iv) she started crying.

Solution:

- (a) (iv) justice and learning
- (b) (iii) Ujjain
- (c) (i) twenty war time inventions
- (d) (ii) she became unconscious

SECTION - B

10. Do as indicated against each of the following statements:

4×2=8

- (i) mother colourful me bag bought my a for.
[Frame a correct sentence by re-ordering the words]
- (ii) He did not do his work.
(Change into passive voice)
- (iii) He said to me, "he will not go to school tomorrow".
(Change into indirect speech)
- (iv) He _____ his home-work two days ago.
(Use correct tense form of the verb 'complete' to fill in the blank.)

Solution:

- (i) My mother bought a colourful bag for me.
- (ii) His work was not done by him.
- (iii) He told me that he would not go to school the next day.
- (iv) He completed his homework two days ago.

11. (a) Choose the correct preposition from the ones given below the sentence to fill in the blank:

2+2+1+2 = 7

Seema has been living in Lucknow _____ 2010. (from, to, since, for)

(b) Complete the following sentence:

Work hard _____

(c) Complete the spellings of the following words:

(i) Cu__i __us

(ii) n __ g __ t

(d) Punctuate the following, using capital letters wherever necessary.
the great English poet Milton was blind

Solution:

(a) Seema has been living in Lucknow since 2010.

- (b) Work hard to achieve success.
 (c) Complete the spellings:
 (i) Curious
 (ii) Night
 (d) The great English poet, Milton, was blind.

12. Translate the following into English.

8

प्रत्येक मनुष्य को सदैव सत्य बालना चाहिए। झूठ बोलना मानवता के विरुद्ध एक महान अपराध है। झूठ बालना पारिवारिक एवम् सामाजिक सौहार्द के लिये घातक है। सत्यता पारस्परिक सम्बन्धों को मजबूत करता है।

Solution:

Every person should always speak the truth. Lying is a great crime against humanity. Speaking lies is harmful to both family and social harmony. Truth strengthens mutual relationships.

13. Write an application to the Principal of school, for providing better games and sports facilities. (Do not write your Name and Roll No.)

8

OR

Write a letter to your friend, inviting him to attend your birth-day party [Do not write your Name and Address.]

Solution:

Application to the Principal for Better Games and Sports Facilities

To,
 The Principal,
 XYZ public school,
 Lucknow

Subject: Request for Improved Games and Sports Facilities

Respected Sir/Madam,

I, on behalf of the students, would like to request better games and sports facilities in our school. Sports play a crucial role in students' physical and mental well-being, but the lack of proper equipment and infrastructure is affecting our participation. We kindly request the provision of updated sports gear, a well-maintained playground, and trained coaches to guide us. Enhancing these facilities will encourage students to participate actively and improve their overall development. We hope for your kind consideration and necessary action.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,
 Class 8-B

14. Write a composition on one of the following topics in about 60 words Points are given below for each topic to develop the composition.

12×1=12

(a) My Mother.

(i) introduction

(ii) Her dress and behaviour

(iii) Her qualities

(iv) Conclusion.

(b) An ideal Principal

(i) Name and qualification

(ii) Nature and dress

(iii) His discipline

(iv) His qualities.

(c) An Indian Farmer

(i) Introduction

(ii) Home and living

(iii) Education

(iv) Daily life

(v) Conclusion

Solution:

(a) My Mother

My mother is the most important person in my life. She wears simple yet elegant clothes and always behaves kindly with everyone. She is caring, hardworking, and selfless, always putting her family first. She teaches me good values and always supports me in every situation. Her patience and wisdom make her admirable.

Despite her busy schedule, she takes care of everyone in the family with love and dedication. I respect and love her deeply, as she is my greatest source of strength and inspiration.

(b) An Ideal Principal

An ideal principal is highly qualified, experienced, and dedicated to education. He dresses formally and maintains a disciplined yet friendly nature. He enforces rules strictly but fairly, ensuring a positive learning environment in the school. His leadership encourages students to be punctual, responsible, and hardworking. He listens to students' problems and motivates them to excel in both academics and extracurricular activities. His commitment to education and student welfare earns him great respect from teachers and students alike.

(c) An Indian Farmer

An Indian farmer is the backbone of the country, providing food for millions. He lives in a simple house, often in a village, and leads a hardworking life. Most farmers have little formal education but possess deep knowledge of farming and seasonal changes. They wake up early, work tirelessly in fields, and depend on nature for their livelihood. Despite facing challenges like unpredictable weather and financial struggles, they continue their work with dedication. Their efforts are crucial for the nation's development, making them truly admirable and deserving of respect.

15. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions set thereon:

6×2=12

The Ganga is very useful for the country. It brings with it, rich soil from the mountains and spreads it on the land. It makes the land very fertile. The fields in this area produce at least two crops a year. Moreover, many saints and holy persons live on its banks and we can learn much from their religious preachings and wisdom.

(i) How is Ganga useful for the country?

(ii) What can we learn from saints and holy persons?

Solution:

(i) The Ganga is extremely useful for the country in several ways. It brings rich soil from the Himalayan mountains, which it deposits on the land, making the soil highly fertile. This fertility supports the growth of crops, enabling farmers in the region to grow at least two crops each year. The river also serves as a source of water for agriculture, industry, and daily life, contributing to the economic development of the areas through which it flows.

(ii) We can learn many valuable lessons from the saints and holy persons who live along the banks of the Ganga. They impart wisdom and religious teachings that guide us in our spiritual and personal lives. Through their preachings, we learn about moral values, discipline, and the importance of living a righteous life. Their experiences and teachings inspire us to lead a life of humility, compassion, and devotion.