

Write Your Name .....

Roll No: .....

# HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION ENGLISH

Class: VIII



Maximum Marks: 80

Time Allowed: 3Hrs

## General Instruction

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. Do all the rough works on the right side of the margin.
3. Maintain answer sheet neatly

## SECTION- A READING (20 MARKS)

1. Reading the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

### EUREKA

The ancient Greek scientist Archimedes was an active member of the royal court of king Hiero. He often listened to men at court talking about the problems faced by the farmers, laborers, builders etc and gave brilliant but simple solutions to the problems presented in the royal court.

One day king hiero decided that he would have a new crown. The goldsmith was given a quantity of gold to make the crown. The goldsmith melted the old and shaped a very pleasing crown which delighted the king. But a very unhappy thought occurred to Hiero. ‘ I suspect that the goldsmith has pilfered some gold and has used silver instead in his crown’. He called Archimedes and told him to prove the same without damaging the crown and thereby proving the goldsmith as rouge.

Thinking about the problem, Archimedes walked slowly home. He sat down and tried to find out a solution. Engaged in deep thought, he decided to have a bath. A servant prepared the bath, but lost in thought, Archimedes did not notice that it had been filled to the brim with water. He slowly undressed and stepped in to the bath. Of course, the water overflowed on to the floor.

Here was the answer! He leapt out of the bath and, still naked, ran down the busy street, past the market-place to the palace. People starred at his unclothed figure as he ran past them shouting, “Eureka, Eureka!” which means, “I have found it, I have found it.” This is how the Archimedes principal came into existence which states that any object, wholly or partially immersed in a fluid, is buoyed up by a force equal to the weight of the fluid displaced by the object. Applying the same rule Archimedes solved the problem of the crown and assessed the purity of the same.

**1.1 On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer the following questions: (6x1=6)**

- a) How was Archimedes helpful in the royal court of king Hiero?
- b) What was king Hiero's suspicion when he saw the newly made crown?
- c) What was the condition put forwarded by the king to Archimedes while ascertaining the purity of the crown?
- d) Why did the people stare at Archimedes?
- e) Why did Archimedes shout "Eureka, Eureka!"?
- f) How did Archimedes find the purity of the crown?

**1.2 Find the word which means the same as the following: (2x1=2)**

- a) A dishonest or unprincipled person.
- b) Top/edge

**2. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**

Swamiji often used to tell his disciples about the past glories of India, but at the same time he said that India in the future would be even greater. One day at Belur Math he said to them, 'Believe me, I have had a vision in which I saw clearly what would happen to India in the coming four or five centuries'.

On another occasion he made a series of remarkable predictions. He said: 'India will be free in another fifty years and freedom will come in an unusual way. A great war will flare up within twenty years, and if the western nations do not give up their stark materialism, another world war is inevitable. 'Swamiji also prophesied that, 'India, when independent, will embrace the materialism of the west and attain material prosperity to such an extent that it will surpass its past records in that field. 'He also foretold that 'Countries such as America would become increasingly spiritual because they will have realized from the height of material prosperity the simple truth that gross materialism cannot give eternal peace.'

**2.1 Complete the following sentences on the basis of your reading of the above passage: (4x1=4)**

- a) Swamiji told that India has a glorious past as well as a \_\_\_\_\_ future.
- b) Swamiji said, a great war would flare up if \_\_\_\_\_.
- c) As per the prophecy of swamiji, after independence India will \_\_\_\_\_.
- d) America would become increasingly spiritual because \_\_\_\_\_.



giving up and the speed of work becomes slow but we may succeed (d) \_\_\_\_\_. We are close to the destination; still we feel it is (e) \_\_\_\_\_ away. So, even in the (f) \_\_\_\_\_ Situation, we should never quit.

### SECTION- B: WRITING (15 Marks)

**4. Complete the following paragraph with the help of the given information. (5Marks)**

Benefits of drinking water---- 8 to 10 glasses a day recommendable ----- dehydration has a strong influence on brain ---- consuming less water ----- risk factor for constipation---- water removes toxins and wastes ---- regulates body temperature ---- relieves fatigue.

Drinking sufficient water gives lot of health benefits. It (a) \_\_\_\_\_ to drink 8 to 10 glasses of water a day. Your brain (b) \_\_\_\_\_ dehydration. (c) \_\_\_\_\_ appears to be a risk factor for constipation. Drinking sufficient water helps (d) \_\_\_\_\_ wastes and toxins from our body. It also helps (e) \_\_\_\_\_ fatigue from our body and keeps us alert and focused.

**5. You are priyakohsimai, cultural secretary of your school. Draft a notice within 50 words for a House-wise Patriotic song competition to be conducted in your school. Invent all necessary details and put the notice in a box. (5Mark)**

**6. You are Sabitha, a student of class VIII. You are asked to deliver a speech on the topic “Healthy Lifestyle” in the morning school assembly. Write the speech taking help of the points given below. You can also add your own ideas. (5marks)**

- Good nutrition, eating right
- Enjoying rigorous physical activity
- Maintaining good relationship with others
- Exercise and yoga to manage stress
- Proper rest



**SECTION- C: GRAMMAR (20 Marks)**

**7. The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correct word against the correct blank numbers as shown in example: (5x<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>=2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>)**

	<u>Incorrect</u>	<u>Correct</u>
Once Isaac Newton was sitting under a apple tree	a	an
Suddenly he see an apple fall from the tree.	(a) _____	_____
The fell of the apple from the tree struck his inquisitive mind. He had	(b) _____	_____
a string of questions- Why was the apple fall to the ground? Why did,	(c) _____	_____
the apple not go up? What force make an object like the apple fall to	(d) _____	_____
the round? The incident led Newton on discover the law of gravitation.	(e) _____	_____

**8. In the following passage a word is omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after against the correct blank numbers. Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined. The first one has been done as an example. (2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>Marks)**

One morning a farmer was astonished to discover			
That his goose had laid egg of solid gold.	(e.g.)	laid	<u>an</u> egg
He seized the precious egg, ran into house	(a)	_____	_____
“Look, my wife” he said, “We are rich!” Then			
The farmer took the golden egg to market	(b)	_____	_____
And sold it for a good price. The morning the	(c)	_____	_____
Goose again laid a golden egg, and former sold	(d)	_____	_____
That too for much money. Everyday thereafter found	(e)	_____	_____



**9. DO AS DIRECTED.**

**(1x15=15)**

- a) He has visited almost all \_\_\_\_\_ cities in \_\_\_\_\_ USA. (Put correct article)
- b) He did not go to school. He was not well. (Combine the sentence using 'because')
- c) The boy is fed up \_\_\_\_\_ working but interested \_\_\_\_\_ studying. (Put appropriate preposition)
- d) Ramesh said to her, "I will go there tomorrow." (Change to reported speech)
- e) He will not spend his money. He will not invest his money. (Combine the sentences using "neither-nor")
- f) He discovered a pool in the forest, \_\_\_\_\_? (Add a question tag)
- g) You must work hard. Otherwise you will not pass. (Combine the sentence using "unless")
- h) Write the noun forms:     1) Believe     2) Approve
- i) He has gone to the village to meet his parents. (Frame question to get the underlined part as the answer).
- j) I asked my friend which movie he \_\_\_\_\_. (watch)  
(Fill in the blanks with the correct form of verb given in the bracket)
- k) Come on boys what are you waiting for said the instructor  
(Rewrite the sentence using the correct punctuation marks)
- l) The boy said to me, "Do you have any idea about Children's Adventure Club?"  
(Turn in to indirect speech)
- m) We should do good work. (Change into Passive Voice)
- n) It is a lovely book. (Change into exclamatory Sentences)
- o) Ravi is the tallest boy in our school. (Rewrite in comparative form)



**SECTION- D: LITERATURE (25 Marks)**

**10. Read the following Extracts and answer the questions:**

**(3x3=9)**

(A) "At last by starvation and famine made bold,

All dripping with wet, and all trembling with cold,

Away he set off to a miserly ant,  
To see if, to keep him alive, he would grant.”

1. Who is “he” referred to here?
2. What forced him to go to the ant?
3. What did he expect from the ant?

(B) “Ah? Then at times I drooping sit,  
And spend many an anxious hour.  
Nor in my book can I take delight,  
Nor sit in learning’s bower.”

1. Who is the speaker of these lines?
2. What is “anxious hour” referred to here?
3. What makes the speaker upset?



(C) “Whether the mountain you climb is physical, emotional and spiritual, the climb will certainly change you.”

1. How, according to the writer, can the climb bring change?
2. What are the qualities needed for physical climb?
3. Name the lesson and its author.

**11. Answer the following questions briefly in about one or two sentences: (5x1=5)**

- (a) Why did the three animals hold a panchayat?
- (b) Why did Velu hesitate to eat the banana and vada offered by the girl?
- (c) Why did the children like to play in the Giant’s garden?

(d) What did the principal say to Hafeez Contractor which influenced him greatly?

(e) What was the peculiar habit of the king of Siam?

**12. “Forgetfulness often puts one in trouble and sometimes a person feels humiliated.”**

**In the light of this statement, Write briefly how Bepin Babu had to face some embarrassing situations in his life. (5 Marks)**

**13. “There are moments when you feel like going back.” In the light of this remark, describe how the narrator in “The Summit Within” gives a wonderful account of his experience of the risky expedition to Mount Everest. (6 Marks)**

