



**ST. MARGARET SR. SEC. SCHOOL**  
**MID TERM EXAMINATION 2023-24**  
**ENGLISH**  
**CLASS VIII**  
**SAMPLE PAPER**

**Time: 2Hr 30Mins**

**M.M: 60**

**This paper is divided into 3 sections :**

Section A: Reading – 15 marks

Section B: Writing & Grammar – 25 marks

Section C: Literature – 20 marks

**General Instructions:**

- Answer all questions.
- All questions must be correctly numbered as in the question paper.
- Attempt all questions in each section before going on to the next section.
- Internal choice has been given in a few questions, answer accordingly.

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**SECTION A: READING**

**Read the passage carefully.**

Enid Blyton was a British writer for children's books born on 11th August 1897. Enid's love for writing had surfaced from the beginning of her childhood. Although her mother never approved of her writing and thought it was a mere waste of time, her father encouraged his daughter to take part in all such activities. Enid gained confidence and started sending her work to different magazines. Finally her efforts paid off and her poem named 'Have you?' was published for the first time in Nash's magazine. Enid was a very bright child who excelled in studies, was a talented pianist and had remarkable writing skills. She attended St. Christopher's School in Beckenham where she was the head girl. Later she became a trained teacher and taught at Bickley Surbiton and Chessington. During this time she never gave up writing. She hoped to become a published author one day. Her dream was fulfilled when her first book 'Child Whispers' was published in 1922. It was a compilation of children's poems. Two years later she got married to Hugh Alexander Pollock who was a book editor at the firm that had published two of her works. In her mid thirties Enid went through some crisis in her life which included the death of her father. This troubled her emotionally and she began to show signs of instability. She started post marital affairs and in 1941 divorced her husband to marry Kenneth Fraser, a man she had met while she was still with her first husband. However she remained in her second marriage for the rest of her life. Enid Blyton is most famous for her book 'The Famous Five' which is a mystery series with 5 characters Julian, Dick, Anne, George, and a dog named Timmy. Her other well known novel from the 'Mystery series' was 'The Adventurous Four' where four children get wound up in different mystery expeditions. Another follow up is 'The Secret Seven' similar to the previous two novels; with a society of seven children who work on various mysteries. One of the most popular characters from her 'Noddy books' is sometimes criticised for being too soft and wrongly crying when situations were difficult.

**Q 1. Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions. (1x7=7)**

- (i) Who did not approve of her writing and why? Who encouraged her?
- (ii) Whom did she marry first? Whom did she marry later?
- (iii) Enid became a trained teacher and taught at \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- (iv) Which book Enid Blyton is famous for? How many characters does it have?
- (v) Write the names of any two novels mentioned in the passage.
- (vi) One of the most popular characters from her 'Noddy books' is criticised for \_\_\_\_\_.
- (vii) Enid was a very bright child who excelled in studies, was a talented pianist and had remarkable writing skills. She attended St. Christopher's School in Beckenham where she was the head girl. - Is the statement True or False?

**Read the passage carefully.**

1. Do children really need such long summer breaks, was a question posed by some experts recently. Apparently, such a long summer disrupts their development and comes in a way of their learning process. "Let's get them back to their books," is perhaps the expert view. One would have thought children are doing too much during their vacations and not too little, given the plethora of classes, camps and workshops involving swimming, art, personality development, music, computers and the like. Even the trips taken in the name of holidays seem laden with exotic destinations and customised experience packed into a short period of time. We can do Europe in 10



- (i) You are expected \_\_\_\_\_ (bring) your own sports kit.  
 (ii) They were made \_\_\_\_\_ (do) ten push ups.  
 (iii) They don't allow people \_\_\_\_\_ (smoke) on buses.  
 (iv) We'd better \_\_\_\_\_ (tidy) the kitchen, or Mother will be furious!

**Q 7. Make derived adjectives adding appropriate suffix to the parts of speech given below: (0.5x4=2)**

- (i) boast + \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
 (ii) history + \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
 (iii) fool + \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
 (iv) trouble + \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

**Q 8. Say whether the following adjectives can be used before (A) or after a noun (B) or in both positions (AB). Then write phrase using the adjectives in the positions in which they can occur: (1x2=2)**

- (i) afraid  
 (ii) clear

**Q 9. Choose the correct form of the verb that agrees with the subject: (0.5x6=3)**

- (i). Reading books at bedtime \_\_\_\_\_ a very good habit. (are, is)  
 (ii). Bread and butter \_\_\_\_\_ all we have had for breakfast for the past two weeks. (is, are)  
 (iii). Either my mother or my sisters \_\_\_\_\_ going to the music concert today. (is, are)  
 (iv). Five kilometres \_\_\_\_\_ a long distance to walk in such rough weather. (is, are)  
 (v). Although mathematics \_\_\_\_\_ her favourite subject, she has not scored well in it. (are, is)  
 (vi). Rs 300 \_\_\_\_\_ not enough to feed so many people. (be)

**Q 10. Complete the sentences as instructed in the brackets: (0.5x8=4)**

(i) Why were you so red?  
 Because I \_\_\_\_\_ before we met. (jog)  
**(Respond to the above situation in the past perfect continuous tense.)**

(ii) Sumit \_\_\_\_\_ (be) an avid trekker. He \_\_\_\_\_ (go) on treks since he was in college.  
**(Complete the above with the appropriate present tense form of the given verbs.)**

(iii) Sulekha, a gymnast, \_\_\_\_\_ (train) with Mrs Parikar for five years by 2028.  
**(Fill in the above blank using the future perfect continuous tense of the given verb.)**

(iv) Bob is exhausted. (he/ travel/ for fifteen hours)  
**(Rewrite the above sentence using the present perfect continuous tense.)**

(v) I have bought this CD last week. / I bought this CD last week.  
**(Tick the correct statement.)**

(vi) Grandmother: Here's my album of funny photos! Look at this photo of Madhura!  
 Mum: Yes, she \_\_\_\_\_ (smile) for the camera when the bee \_\_\_\_\_ (sting) her on the nose! Poor Madhura!  
**(Complete the sentences with simple past or past continuous tense.)**

## SECTION C: LITERATURE

**Q 11. Answer the questions with reference to context: (1x4=4)**

*In the first year of him that first  
 Was Emperor and King,  
 A rider came to the Rose-red House,  
 The House of Pertab Singh.  
 ...Beneath the morning stars they rode,  
 Beneath the evening sun,  
 And their blood sang to them as they rode  
 That all good wars are one.*

- (i) Name the poem and the poet.
- (ii) Who came to Pertab Singh's house?
- (iii) What was the house called?
- (iv) How did they feel while riding together?

**Q 12. Answer any five of the following: (2x5=10)**

- (i) What did Billy and the landlady discuss over a cup of tea? What do you think was probably in the tea?
- (ii) Who opened the door to Billy Weaver? Describe her appearance. Which floor did she take Billy to? Where was the Guestbook kept?
- (iii) What was the young man's name? Was the young man really working in the nearby restaurant? Who was actually working there?
- (iv) Was the girl moneyed? What lie did she tell about money and her social status to the young man?
- (v) Why did the two children step out of the railway station? Where did they go?
- (vi) Who were Naledi and Tiro? Who was Grace and where was she taking Naledi and Tiro? How were they travelling?

**Q 13. Answer any two of the following: (3x2=6)**

- (i) Why did the girl refuse to let the young man walk up to her car? Whom did the car belong to in reality? What was the true identity of the young man? How did it get revealed?
- (ii) Do you think if something looks nice, it would also be safe? Should we trust things and people on their face value? Comment with reference to the story, 'The Landlady'.
- (iii) Given below are some character traits of the three characters in the play, 'While the Auto Waits'. Pick up **one trait for each** and fill up the table.

Honest	Ambitious	Pretentious	Careful	Considerate	Boastful	Frank
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Character	Character Trait	Evidence from the text
Girl		
Young Man		
Waitress		

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