



# ST. MARGARET SR. SEC. SCHOOL

D-Block, Prashant Vihar, Rohini, Delhi - 110085

## ANNUAL TERM EXAMINATION 2023-24

**SUBJECT: ENGLISH**

**CLASS: VIII**

**Time: 2.5 Hrs**  
**M.M: 60**

**SAMPLE PAPER**

**This paper is divided into 4 sections:**

Section A: Reading – 10 marks

Section B: Writing & Grammar – 30 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.

**Q 1. Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions. (1x10=10)**

1. The rainforest ecosystem is often referred to as the "lungs of the Earth" due to its role in producing oxygen and absorbing carbon dioxide through photosynthesis. These ecosystems are characterized by their dense vegetation, tall trees, and a multilayered structure that includes the forest floor, understory, canopy, and emergent layers.
2. The forest floor, though shaded from direct sunlight, is teeming with life. Decomposing plant matter creates a nutrient-rich layer that supports various fungi, insects, and small animals. The understory, located just above the forest floor, is home to plants adapted to low light conditions. Many species of birds, insects, and reptiles thrive in this layer.
3. The canopy layer, formed by the interconnected branches and leaves of tall trees, receives the most sunlight. It is a bustling hub of activity with a diverse range of animal species, including monkeys, birds, and tree-dwelling mammals. The leaves in this layer are designed to capture sunlight efficiently, and some even have adaptations to repel water and prevent overcrowding by other plants.
4. The emergent layer consists of the tallest trees that rise above the canopy. These trees have access to the most sunlight and provide perches for birds of prey and nesting sites for various animals. Some animals, like the harpy eagle, are uniquely adapted to life in this top layer.
5. The rainforest is home to countless plant species, many of which have unique adaptations. Some plants grow on other plants for support and reach towards the sunlight, a strategy known as epiphytism. Others have large leaves that help them capture sunlight or repel water, while some produce toxic chemicals to deter herbivores.
6. Despite their importance, rainforests are under threat due to deforestation for agriculture, logging, and other human activities. This has led to the loss of biodiversity and disruption of ecosystems. Efforts are being made to protect and conserve these valuable ecosystems for future generations.

**A. Why are rainforests often called the "lungs of the Earth"?**

- a) They produce oxygen and absorb carbon dioxide. b) They provide homes for lung-related diseases. c) They have lungs-like structures in the trees. d) They are rich in respiratory plants.

**B. What adaptation do some leaves in the canopy layer have to prevent overcrowding by other plants?**

- a) Poisonous chemicals    b) Rapid growth    c) Reflecting sunlight    d) Repelling water

**C. Which layer of the rainforest is known as a hub of activity with a diverse range of animal species?**

- a) Forest floor    b) Understory    c) Canopy    d) Emergent layer

**D. Which layer of the rainforest has the tallest trees?**

- a) Forest floor    b) Canopy    c) Emergent layer    d) Understory

**E. What is epiphytism in rainforests?**

- a) The ability to breathe underwater    b) A type of rainfall pattern  
c) Plants growing on other plants for support    d) A strategy to hide from predators

**F. What is the main threat to rainforests in terms of human activities?**

- a) Renewable energy projects    b) Marine pollution  
c) Overfishing    d) Deforestation for agriculture and logging

**G. Which statement is correct about rainforest ecosystems?**

- a) They do not produce oxygen.    b) They consist of a single layer of vegetation.  
c) The forest floor receives the least sunlight.    d) Rainforests are found only in polar regions.

**H. Which word could replace "bustling" (paragraph -3) without changing the meaning of the sentence?**

- a) Silent    b) Crowded    c) Lethargic    d) Serene

**I. The emergent layer consists of the \_\_\_\_\_ trees that rise above the canopy.**

- a) tall    b) taller    c) tallest    d) none

**J. Reasoning: The rainforest ecosystem is often referred to as the "lungs of the Earth".**

**Assertion: It has a role in producing oxygen and absorbing carbon dioxide through photosynthesis.**

- a) Both the assertion and reasoning are true, and the reasoning is a correct explanation of the assertion.  
b) Both the assertion and reasoning are true, but the reasoning is not a correct explanation of the assertion.  
c) The assertion is true, but the reasoning is false.  
d) The assertion is false, but the reasoning is true.

### **SECTION B: WRITING AND GRAMMAR**

**Q 3. A.** You are Tarun/ Taruna. You want to bring to light the problem of stray dogs faced by the people in residential colonies. Write a letter to the editor of a National newspaper drawing attention to this problem and what measures can be taken to solve the issue. Your address is A-41, Krishi Apartment, Mayur Vihar, Delhi.

**OR**

**B.** You are Rohan/ Ronika of 95D, Sector 4, Chandigarh. You would like to do a short-term course in Fine Arts. Write a letter to the Director, Creative institute, Chandigarh inquiring about the details about the course. **(6x1=6)**

**Q 4. A.** You are the woman who thought that the man at the airport had stolen your cookies. Write a diary entry in 80 words expressing your thoughts and emotions after you discover the truth.

**OR**

**B.** Write a story using the beginning in about 80 words. Give a suitable title.

*When little Bob discovered the secret box in his backyard, he couldn't believe what he saw after opening it...* **(5x1=5)**

**Q 5. Change the following assertive sentences into interrogative sentences: (1x4=4)**

- (i) Ray acts well.  
(ii) The fox had eaten the grapes.  
(iii) The lion couldn't trap the mouse.



**thinking, "If I wasn't so nice, I would blacken his eye."**

- (i) Name the poem and the poet.
- (ii) Who is the 'gutsy cookie thief'? 'Stock' here is a reference to \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (iii) Why was she getting irritated?
- (iv) Why did she watch the clock?

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

- (i) How do the townspeople react to the disappearance of the boy? According to you, What is most ironic about the boy's captivity? Answer with reference to the chapter, The Ransom of Red Chief.
- (ii) What kind of person was Squeaky? Give examples from the text to support your answer.
- (iii) Which way does the poet implore his Lord to lead him to? Name the blessings that the poet prays for.
- (iv) What idea did he come up with to solve the problem of acute water scarcity in the region? Explain.
- (v) Who is the true owner of her treasures and pleasures? How can we show our love for Mother Nature?
- (vi) Comment on the ending of the story, The Ransom of Red Chief.
- (vii) What happened after the woman boarded her plane? What did she realize on seeing her bag of cookies?

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

- (i) Write a brief character sketch of Gretchen.
- (ii) How has the Rolex Award been described in the lesson? Why did Sonam Wangchuk get it?
- (iii) The woman, who thought she was a very nice person, was not actually friendly with the man. On the contrary, the man behaved in a very friendly way with her. Compare and contrast the two people's character based on how they behaved with each other.

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