

General Education  
**ANNUAL EVALUATION, MARCH-2012**  
**ENGLISH**

**H-908**

**IX STD**

**TOTAL SCORE : 80**

**TIME : 2.30 Hours**

**Instructions:**

- 15 minutes is given as cool-off time.
  - This time is to be spent for reading the question paper.
  - You are not supposed to write anything during the cool-off time.
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**Questions 1-4: Read the following passage from the story 'An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge' and answer the questions that follow:**

His neck was in pain. His tongue was swollen with thirst. He could no longer feel the road way beneath his feet. He stands at the gate of his own home. All is as he left it, all bright and beautiful in the morning sunshine. He must have travelled the entire night. As he pushes open the gate, he sees a flutter of female garments. His wife, looking fresh and cool and sweet, steps down from the veranda to meet him. At the bottom of the steps she stands waiting with a smile of matchless joy. Ah, how beautiful she is! He springs forward with extended arms [As he is about to clasp her he feels a stunning blow upon the back of the neck – then all is darkness and silence!]

1. What does the expression 'darkness and silence' suggest? (1)
  2. Read the following sentence and fill in the blanks with the most suitable word from the passage above:  
The flag \_\_\_\_\_ in the breeze. (1)
  3. 'He must have travelled the entire night.' Do you think he really travelled a lot? Justify your answer. (1)
  4. Read the following sentence and split it into two meaningful sentences:  
'As he is about to clasp her, he feels a stunning blow upon the back of the neck.' (1)
  5. Imagine Peyton Farquhar reached home and met his wife. What could be the possible conversation between them. (four exchanges). (4)
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**Questions 6-9:** Read the following lines from the poem 'Television' and answer the questions that follow:

How used they to keep themselves contented  
Before this monster was invented?  
Have you forgotten? Don't you know?  
We'll say it very loud and slow:  
THEY ... USED ... TO ... READ! They'd READ and READ,  
One half their lives was reading books!  
The nursery shelves held books galore!  
Books cluttered up the nursery floor!  
And in the bedroom, by the bed  
One half their lives was reading books!  
The nursery shelves held books galore!  
Books cluttered up the nursery floor!  
And in the bedroom, by the bed

6. Why is the television referred to as 'monster'? (1)
7. What were the hobbies of the children in the past? (1)
8. What defect of the television is highlighted in these lines? (1)
9. What does the expression 'THEY ... USED ... TO ... READ!' mean? (1)

**Questions 10-13:** Read the following lines from 'On the Grasshopper and the Cricket' and answer the questions that follow:

'The poetry of earth is never dead:  
When all the birds are faint with the hot sun,  
And hide in cooling trees, a voice will run  
From hedge to hedge about the new-mown mead;  
That is the grasshopper's – he takes the lead  
In summer luxury, - he has never done  
With his delights; for when tired out with fun  
He rests at ease beneath some pleasant weed'.

10. What is the season referred to here? How is it described? (1)
11. Pick out any two pairs of rhyming words. (1)
12. What, in your view, is the poetry of earth? (1)
13. Write any two images connected with season. (1)

**Questions 14-18: Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**

## **One Hundred Dollars.**

Leonard James is a homeless man. For him, life is always hard. He is always hungry. His shoes have holes in them. He needs a haircut. His clothes are old and dirty. ‘What I would do with one hundred dollars!’ Leonard says. This is a game he likes to play with himself to take his mind off things. He is walking down the street on a Thursday night. It is winter. The air is cold.

‘If I had one hundred dollars, I could buy new shoes’, he says. He continues to walk down the street.

‘If I had one hundred dollars’, I could get a haircut’, he says. He continues to walk down the street.

‘If I had one hundred dollars’, I could get new pants’, he says. He continues to walk down the street.

‘If I had .....’ Leonardo looks down at the sidewalk. He cannot believe what he sees!

Someone has lost his wallet. Leonardo picks it up. Inside are five twenty dollar bills.

‘One hundred dollars!’, Leonardo says. He is very excited. ‘Now I can buy everything I want!’

Leonardo begins to think. ‘But this is not my money’, he says. Leonardo goes to the police station. He gives a police officer the wallet and money. ‘Thank you’, says the police officer. ‘You are a very honest man’. Leonardo smiles. He turns around and begins to leave the police station. ‘Hold on’, the police officer says. He reaches in his own pocket and gives Leonardo ten dollars. ‘Get yourself something to eat’

14. Why is life very hard for Leonard James? (1)
15. Do you think that winter might add to Leonard’s hardships? How? (1)
16. How would one hundred dollar change Leonard’s life? (1)
17. What impression of Leonard’s character do you get from the story? (1)
18. What made the officer give Leonard ten dollars? (1)

**19. Attempt any one of the following in about 120 words.**

- a) Imagine that Corporal Turnbull narrates to one of his friends the incident which led Private Quelch to end up his duties in the cook house of the military camp. What would he narrate? Prepare the likely narration in the light of the story 'The Man Who Knew Too Much'.

(Hints: interesting character - hard working - over ambitious - nicknamed as Professor - works hard for a stripe - badgers superiors - becomes laughing stock - gets punished).

**or**

- b) The unit 'Make the Right Choice' and the article 'Memories of Dying River' highlight the need for protection of nature and natural resources. Do you agree to this statement. Prepare a write-up expressing your views.

(Hints: need for protecting the earth - climate change - temperature rise - scarcity of drinking water - sand mining - energy scarcity - emission of chlorofluorocarbon - depletion of ozone layer - global warming). (7)

- 20.** In what way is Samuel in the story 'The Son From America' different from his father, Berl. Compare and contrast the two characters. (5)

- 21.** In the play 'The Princess on the Road', the princess had a strange experience in the village. She made a diary entry about it. Prepare the likely diary entry. (4)

- 22.** The Unit 'Mirroring the Times' discusses the origin and effects of mass media. The English club of your school is preparing a magazine highlighting the issue. You are the editor of the magazine. Prepare an editorial expressing your views on the role played by media in bringing important issues for public discussion. (6)

- 23.** Your school Social Science Club has decided to conduct a seminar on 'The Problems of the Aged'. The MLA has consented to inaugurate the function. Prepare a notice specifying the details of the programme. (5)

24. The Environmental Club of your school has decided to conduct a rally to make the people aware of the dangers of Global Warming. Prepare three placards. (3)

25. *Here is an imaginary conversation between Fatehchand and Saheb.*

*Complete it suitably:*

- Saheb: How did you get in? Get out at once.  
Fatehchand: You asked me to come, \_\_\_\_\_ (a) \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
Saheb: Yes, but \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
Fatehchand: Yes, I am angry. Do you think you alone can be angry?  
Saheb: No, but you are my friend, dear.  
Fatehchand: No more insincere words. You insulted me.  
Saheb: \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ leave this office?  
Fatehchand: Just half an hour ago, \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_ , ?  
Saheb: I don't remember.  
Fatehchand: If you insult me again, \_\_\_\_\_ (e) \_\_\_\_\_ . (5)

26. Complete the following passage choosing the right word given in the brackets given below

I used / (a) visit villages round Delhi, incognito, to see / (b) response to our programmes. Once, I found / (c) elderly farmer sitting / (d) a charpoy, / (e) not watching a popular Hema Malini starrer / (f) was being shown on T.V (on, to, an, but, which, the, from) (3)

27. Read the conversation and complete the sentences that follow:

'Where were you all this time', Saheb asked angrily.

'Sir, I returned from office only just now', said Fatehchand.

- a) Saheb asked angrily \_\_\_\_\_.  
b) Fatehchand replied \_\_\_\_\_. (2)

28. Replace the words underlined with the correct phrases given in the brackets:

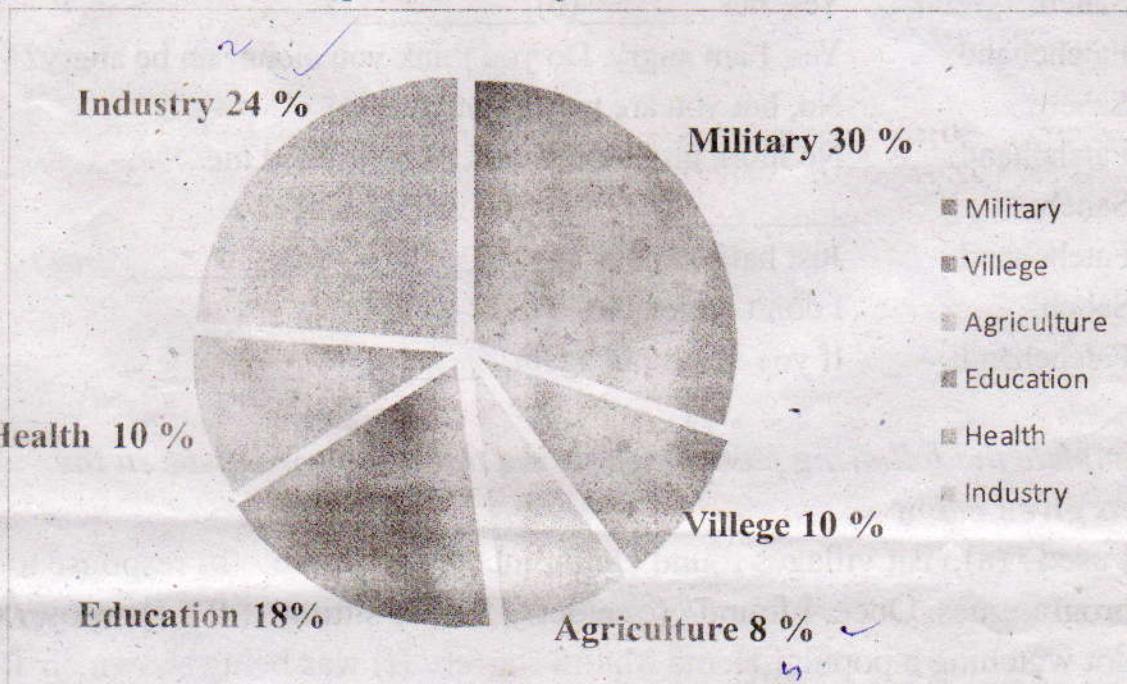
Those who visit the zoo are requested to bear with the inconvenience caused due to the renovation work that is in progress. We have arranged a cafeteria outside the zoo premises. Kindly avoid taking plastic bottles and cups to the zoo. Don't go near the cage of animals. They might attack you.

(call for, call at, put up with, go for, set up, go on). (4)

29. When a child was asked to prepare the diary entry of Gopi in the story 'The Tattered Blanket', she wrote the following diary entry. But there are some errors in it.  
***Correct the errors and rewrite the sentences.***

How sad am I today! I not expected she would be so weak. When I came here she is sitting in the verandah. If I had informed her earlier she would easily identify me.(4)

30. *The following chart shows the budget allocation by the Government Analyse it and answer the questions that follow.*



- a) Which are the areas that get the same priority? (1)
- b) Comment on the allocations given for industry and agriculture. (1)
- c) Do you think Defence gets sufficient priority? Why? (1)
- d) Which is the most neglected area? (1)
- e) What is the allocation for education? (1)

31. Write a short profile of Sri. M.T. Vasudevan Nair based on the following hints.

Birth :	August 9, 1933
Place :	Kudallur, Palakkad
Now residing :	Kozhikode
Famous as :	Novelist, short story writer, screen play writer
Major works:	Naalukettu, Randaamoozham, (novel) Olavum Theeravum, Iruttinde Aatmav (short story) Oru Vadakkan Veeragatha, Kadavu (screen play)
Notable awards:	Jnanapeet award, Kendra Sahitya Academi Award, Kerala Sahitya Academi Award, Padmabhooshan etc. (6)