

NORTH-EX PUBLIC SCHOOL
(Senior Secondary, Affiliated To CBSE)
School Block, Jain Nagar, Sector-38, Rohini, Delhi – 81
HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION, 2023-2024
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
CLASS: IX

Time: 3 Hours
marks

M.M: 80

General Instructions:

1. 15-minute prior reading time allotted for Q-paper reading.
 2. The Question Paper contains THREE sections READING, GRAMMAR & WRITING and LITERATURE.
 3. Attempt question based on specific instructions for each part.
-

Section A (Reading)

Read the following passage carefully:

(10 marks)

1. Sedentary lifestyle leading to obesity is the result of advanced technology. Easy availability of modern conveniences, corporate jobs, longer hours of sitting in offices etc. have added to the problem. All this leads to a greater occurrence of cardiovascular problems, obesity, arthritis, diabetes, etc. Cycling is a low impact aerobic exercise, which works on the muscles of the thighs, buttocks and lower legs. It also stretches and strengthens the lower back and stomach muscles. With cycling, ones lives longer and faces fewer problems in old age.
2. Cycling is an appropriate start for the beginners with joint problems and excess weight. Cycle takes the weight of the body, putting less pressure on joints and, therefore, it is considered a good form of exercise for people with joint problems, for individuals who have led inactive lives, cycling is an ideal start-up sport because of easy control.
3. Cycling should be included in the daily routine like going to work and performing household chores. In order to derive the maximum benefit, cycling should be done at a good speed and with proper technique to avoid strain on the muscles and other parts of the body.
4. Steady cycling burns approximately 300 calories per hour. You can ride with any speed or cover any distance, your fitness will definitely improve. A lower amount of cycling improves one's health and a higher amount improves fitness. Therefore, 45 minutes of cycling six days a week improves health, and two hours of cycling helps in weight reduction.
5. Time constraints, seasonal variations and easy accessibility to fitness centres have led to a revolution in indoor cycles equipped with the heart rate monitor along with the control of resistance and frequency. Thus, a person's performance in accordance with the age can be monitored and rescheduled. In many countries cycling has become popular in the gymnasiums with the introduction of spinning, a group of exercise in which an instructor leads a class on bicycle, and workout is done on music.
6. Encouraging people to cycle to work is quite an uphill task, although it can reduce not only congestion and pollution on roads but also to a healthy society.

Based on your reading of the passage, answer the following questions:

(a) What is responsible for a sedentary lifestyle in modern age?

(b) How is cycling a low impact aerobic exercise?

(c) How does cycling help people suffering from joint pains?

(d) What has made most people start indoor cycling?

(e) What is meant by the word, 'appropriate'? (Para 2)

(i) Model

(ii) Ideal

(iii) Hygienic

(iv) Suitable

(f) What is the antonym of the word 'sedentary'? (Para 1)

(i) racing

(ii) standing

(iii) fruitful

(iv) active

II. Read the given passage carefully.

(10 marks)

1. Nepal lies between India and Tibet, among the Himalayan Mountains. The tallest mountain in the world, Mount Everest, is in Nepal, and there are several mountains nearly as high. When mountaineers try to climb Mount Everest, they take the help of the Sherpas, the strong and hardy people who live in these mountains, to carry heavy loads and act as guides.

2. A long time ago, the Sherpas crossed over the mountains from Tibet and made their homes along the southern slopes of the Himalayas in Nepal.

3. Some Sherpa families have three houses, one house in the lower hills, one a little higher, and one further up. The houses are in small village groups of about forty or fifty. Round each group of houses, there are cultivated fields, usually built in the shape of terraces right up the hillsides. In the highest fields, the Sherpas grow potatoes; In the lower fields, they grow barley; and turnips, garlic and other vegetables in the lower ones. They also graze their yaks on the higher mountain slopes in the summer and on the lower slopes in the winter.

4. Yaks are very hardy, large cattle with thick, hairy blackish-brown coats and long horns. The Sherpas use them for almost everything they need. They ride them, plough with them, and use them to carry their goods. The hairy wool of these animals is made into cloth, and their skins into leather boots and tents. The yaks also provide milk, fat and meat. Their dung is dried and used as fuel instead of wood or coal.

Answer the questions by choosing the best alternatives:

(i) Where is Nepal situated?

(a) between Mount Everest and Tibet

(b) between Tibet and India

(c) between Tibet and Himalayas

(d) between Tibet and Mount Everest

(ii) When mountaineers try to climb Mount Everest, they do not take the help of the Sherpas.

(a) True

(b) False

(ii) Sherpas are not known for

(a) their strength and hardness

(b) for cunningness

(c) their carrying heavy loads

(d) acting as guides

(iii) Where do the Sherpas have their houses?

(a) on the lower hills

(b) on a little higher

(c) another a little higher up

(d) all the three above

(iv) These things Sherpas do not grow on the lower fields:

(a) potatoes

(b) turnip and garlic

(c) other vegetables

(d) barley

(v) What are the things for which yaks are not used?

(a) for sports

(b) wool of these animals is made into cloth

- (c) their skins into leather boots and tents (d) to carry their goods
- (vi) Sherpa families have _____ houses.
- (a) one (b) two
- (c) three (d) six
- (vii) The thing Sherpas grow on the highest fields:
- (a) potatoes (b) turnip and garlic
- (c) other vegetables (d) barley
- (viii) Yaks dung is used for _____.
- (a) fuel (b) fire
- (c) coal (d) wood
- (ix) Find the word from the passage which means the same as 'slant'. (Para 3)
- (x) Give the title to the passage.

Section B (Writing and Grammar)

III. 1. Attempt ANY TEN of the following questions:

(10 marks)

1. Rohan _____ the movie before he read the review.
 - a. watches b. have watched
 - c. had watched d. was watching
 2. I _____ this book since morning.
 - a. had been reading b. has been reading
 - c. have had read d. shall be reading
 3. Identify the tense used in the following sentence. "When I reached the bookstore, all the copies had already been sold."
 - a. Past perfect tense b. Past indefinite tense
 - c. Present perfect tense d. Present indefinite tense
 4. It is dangerous to drive in the rain. You be very careful.
(could / would / should / might)
 5. I come in, teacher? (May / Shall / Will / Would)
 6. She never apologized to anyone. (has / have)
 7. Fill in the blanks with a verb form that agrees with the subject. (1)
 1. you done your homework?
 2. He not know the answer.
 8. _____ of you should attend the conference.
 - A. Both B. Each
 - C. Every D. Many
 9. Can I borrow _____ sugar?
 - A. much B. some
 - C. a little D. a few
 10. Today, the sun _____ (shine) bright. (write the correct form of the verb)
 11. Climatic change (a) one of the hotly contested debates. (is / are)
 12. She has lived in this street for ten years. (identify the tense)
4. Write a descriptive paragraph in about 100-120 words, on 'My Grandmother'. (5)
- Use the input given below: most amazing person — she always puts a smile on our faces — had the funniest laugh — would help anyone no matter what the situation was — always welcomes guests — could talk to her about anything — makes the best idlis and payasam — raised me to be a better person — everyone who meets her will cherish forever.

OR

Taking help from the information given below write a diary entry describing how you caught a thief red-handed one night.(100-120 words) (5)

Hints: • A beautiful evening • the family had a nice dinner • watched TV • went to sleep • sleep was disturbed • heard some commotion • got suspicious • switched on the light • parents also got up • found things in a mess • someone had come there • the search began • no one was found at last • my eyes fell on the shoes

5. Write a short story in 200 – 250 words, with the help of the cues given below. Give a suitable title to the story. (5)

Satish was standing on the balcony watching the last rays of the Sun. Loud and angry voices in the street below distracted his attention. He ran down the stairs to see what had happened ...

Section C (Literature)

6. Read the following extracts and answer any one of the following questions: (5 marks)

A. “Oh,” said the little girl, “my head’s on your heart. I can hear it going. What a big heart you’ve got, Father dear.”

- (a) Who is the little girl in these lines?
- (b) Where has she put her head? Why?
- (c) What can the little girl hear?
- (d) How does the little girl feel at this time?

OR

B. There was no time to do any such thing. The snake slithered along my shoulder and coiled around my left arm above the elbow.

- (a) Who is describing this experience?
- (b) What did the speaker have no time for?
- (c) Where had the snake come from?
- (d) From which chapter these lines have been taken?

7. Read the following extracts and answer any one of the questions that follows:(5marks)

A. There, look what you did – you threw them all down.

You tore the pages of the books.

You brought rain again.

You’re very clever at poking fun at weaklings.

1. Name the poet of this poem.

- (a) Robert Frost
- (b) Subramania Bharati
- (c) W.B. Yeats
- (d) Phoebe Cary

2. What does the wind poke fun at?

- (a) Weak houses and weak doors.
- (b) Weak rafters and weak wood.
- (c) Weak hearts and weak bodies.
- (d) Any living or non-living thing that is weak and crumbling.

3. What does the poet want the wind to do?

- (a) don’t break the shutters of windows
- (b) don’t scatter the papers
- (c) don’t throw down the books
- (d) all the above

4. How does the wind bring rain?

- (a) Wind accumulates and shakes up vapour-laden clouds to cause rain.
- (b) with its fierce power

1. How did the guru succeed in befooling the king?
2. Why has Iswaran been called an asset? Who was he an asset to?