



**BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE**  
**FIRST TERM EXAMINATION (2024-25)**  
**CLASS - IX**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**  
**(ENGLISH PAPER-1)**

*Maximum Marks: 80*

*Time allowed: Two hours*

*Answers to this Paper must be written on the paper provided separately.*

*You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.*

*This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.*

*The time given at the head of this Paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.*

*Attempt all five questions.*

*The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets [ ].*

*You are advised to spend not more than 30 minutes in answering Question 1 and 20 minutes in answering Question 2.*

**Question 1**

(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question.)

Write a composition (300-350 words) on any one of the following: (20)

- (i) What type of friend would you like to have- someone who is rich, or someone who is ever helpful, or someone who is reliable? Describe which one of these characteristics is most important to you and why?
- (ii) Recently you have undertaken an exciting expedition. Narrate who all accompanied you, how was your experience and what you learnt from it.
- (iii) Express your views either for or against the statement:  
"Government should give unemployment allowance to all those who do not have any job."
- (iv) Write a short story entitled: 'A Mysterious Sound.'
- (v) Study the picture given below. Write a short story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



**Question 2**

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)

Select any one of the following: (10)

- (i) You have been invited by a friend to visit his hometown in Shillong during the vacation. Write a letter to your parents asking for permission to do so and also requesting them to send you some extra pocket money for your expenditure.
- (ii) Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner of your city expressing your concern for the welfare of the stray animals and birds, number of which have died due to the lack of drinking water during the intense heatwaves in summer.

**Question 3**

- (a) Your school has started a Relief Fund for the flood-affected people in Bihar. Write a notice to be put up in your school requesting the students of Classes VI to X to contribute towards the Relief Fund. (5)



- (b) Write an email to the Principal of a neighbouring school, requesting him/her to ask the students of his/her school to contribute towards the Relief Fund for the flood-affected people in Bihar. (5)

#### Question 4

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Gleyb Smirnov, a land surveyor, arrived at the station of a small village. He had another twenty miles to drive before he would reach the estate which he had been **summoned** to survey. The surveyor made his way out of the station and there he found a sturdy, sullen-looking peasant, called Klim, who agreed to take him. It was dusk by the time the cart drove out of the station. "What a wilderness it is here," thought the surveyor. "If, by ill-luck, one were attacked and robbed no one would hear you, whatever uproar you made". "Klim, are there any robbers on the road?" he asked.

"It's all right, the Lord has spared us."

"It's a good thing there are no robbers. But to be ready for anything, I have got three revolvers with me," said the surveyor untruthfully. It had become quite dark. The cart suddenly began creaking, as though unwillingly, turned sharply to the left. "Where is he taking me to?" the surveyor wondered. "He has been driving straight and now all at once to the left. I shouldn't wonder if he'll take me to some den of thieves." "I say," he said, addressing the driver, "I am thin and sickly-looking, but I have the strength of a bull. Once three robbers attacked me and what do you think? I gave one such a dressing that he gave up his soul to God, and the other two were sent to penal servitude in Siberia."

Klim looked round at the surveyor, wrinkled up his whole face, and lashed his horse. The surveyor went on. "I know all the judges and the police captains, I am a man in the Government, a man of importance. Here I am travelling and the authorities know. They keep a regular watch over me to see no one does me a mischief. There are policemen and village constables stuck behind bushes all along the road. Where are you taking me to? I say, Klim, why are you making the horse go like that?"

"I am not making her go. She is racing along of herself."

The surveyor made a pretence of feeling in his pockets and at that moment Klim suddenly rolled off the cart and ran as fast as he could to go into the forest. "Help!" he roared. "Take the horse and the cart, you devil, only don't take my life!" The surveyor had not expected such a denouement. For two hours the surveyor shouted, and it was only after he was quite husky than he heard a moan.

"Klim, is it you? Let us go on."

"You'll murder me!" replied Klim.

"But I was joking. As though I had revolvers! I told a lie because I was frightened. For goodness sake let us go on."

Klim, probably reflecting that a real robber would have vanished long ago with the horse and cart, came out of the forest and went hesitatingly up to his passenger and said, "If I had known I wouldn't have taken you for a hundred roubles. I almost died of fright."

The road and Klim no longer seemed dangerous to him.

- (i) For each word given below choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided: (2)

1. summoned (line 2)

- (a) convicted
- (b) imprisoned
- (c) ordered
- (d) punished

2. servitude (line 19)

- (a) imprisonment
- (b) service
- (c) award
- (d) solitude

- (ii) Which word in the passage means the opposite of the word 'beginning'? (1)

- (a) sturdy
- (b) denouement
- (c) pretence
- (d) clambered

(iii) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:

- (a) When the cart was driven out of the station, how did the surveyor show that he was frightened? (2)
- (b) What incident did the surveyor narrate to the driver about his daring act against the three robbers? (2)
- (c) How was the surveyor said to have been protected by the state authorities during his journeys? (1)
- (d) Why did the driver run off into the forest? What did he request the surveyor to do then? (2)
- (e) How were the surveyor and the driver finally reconciled? (2)
- (f) In not more than 50 words, describe how the journey by horse cart was frightful to the surveyor. (8)

Question 5

- (i) Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage, but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. (4)

Example: (0) walked

A psychology professor .....(0)..... (walk) around on a stage with a glass of water in her hand and asked, 'How heavy is this glass of water that I am .....(1)..... (hold)?' Students .....(2)..... (shout) out answers .....(3)..... (range) from twenty-five grams to two hundred grams.

She replied, 'From my perspective, the absolute weight of this glass doesn't matter. It all .....(4)..... (depend) on how long I hold it. If I hold it for a minute or two, it's fairly light. If I hold it for an hour straight, its weight .....(5)..... (may) make my arm ache a little. If I hold it for a day straight, my arm will become completely numb .....(6)..... (force) me to drop the glass to the floor. In each case, the weight of the glass doesn't change, but the .....(7)..... (long) I hold it, the heavier it feels to me.

Our stresses and worries in life are like this glass of water. Think about them for a while and nothing .....(8)..... (happen). But the longer you think, the larger they become.

- (ii) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word: (4)

1. He broke ..... in the middle of his speech.
2. He did not comply ..... the wishes of his father.
3. You should not interfere ..... my work.
4. She was carried ..... by emotion.
5. The chief guest gave ..... the prizes.
6. I am looking ..... to the arrival of my friend from London.
7. The police were called ..... to control the situation.
8. He refrained ..... giving me advice.

- (iii) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using 'and', 'but' or 'so'. Choose the correct option. (4)

1. He is going to some place. No one knows the place.
  - (a) No one knows where he is going to.
  - (b) He is going to some place which nobody knows.
  - (c) He is going to some place which nobody knew.
  - (d) He is going to some place as nobody knows him.
2. You wish to enjoy your weekend. Then you go to Nainital.
  - (a) Go to Nainital to wish and enjoy your weekend.
  - (b) Go to Nainital because you wish to enjoy your weekend.
  - (c) If you wish to enjoy your weekend then go to Nainital.
  - (d) You wish to enjoy your weekend when you go to Nainital.
3. He can't be employed. He has no work experience.
  - (a) Since he has no work experience, he can't be employed.
  - (b) Since he had work experience, he can't be employed.
  - (c) He can't be employed for work experience.
  - (d) He can't be employed due to work experience.

4. You are looking sad. Can you tell me why?
  - (a) Can you tell me that why you are looking sad?
  - (b) Can you tell me why are you looking sad?
  - (c) Can you tell me why you are looking sad?
  - (d) Can you tell me why that you are looking sad?

(iv) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. Choose the correct options.

(8)

1. The police questioned the culprit for over two hours. (Begin: The culprit ....)

- (a) The culprit was questioned by the police for over two hours.
- (b) The culprit was in question by the police for over two hours.
- (c) The culprit was in questioning by the police for over two hours.
- (d) The culprit was questioned from the police for over two hours.

2. If you complete your homework by evening, you will not be punished. (Use: unless)

- (a) Unless you don't complete your homework by evening, you will be punished.
- (b) Unless you don't complete your homework by evening, you will not be punished.
- (c) Unless you complete your homework by evening, you will be at punish.
- (d) Unless you complete your homework by evening, you will be punished.

3. Mohan is so crafty that he doesn't listen to anybody. (Use: too)

- (a) Mohan is too crafty that he doesn't listen to anybody.
- (b) Mohan doesn't listen to anybody as he is too crafty.
- (c) Mohan is too crafty to listen to anybody.
- (d) Mohan is too crafty as he doesn't listen to anybody.

4. She said to me, "What a pity, you missed my birthday party!" (Begin: She exclaimed .....)

- (a) She exclaimed what a pity you missed my birthday party!
- (b) She exclaimed with pity for I missed her birthday party.
- (c) She exclaimed with pity that I missed her birthday party.
- (d) She exclaimed what a pity it was that I missed her birthday party.

5. No sooner did the bell ring than the students rushed out of the classroom. (Use: as)

- (a) As soon as the bell rings, the students rushed out of the classroom.
- (b) As soon as the bell will ring, the students rushed out of the classroom.
- (c) As soon as the bell rang, the students rushed out of the classroom.
- (d) The students rushed out of the classroom as soon as the bell rung.

6. Nobody knows much about his plans. (Use: little)

- (a) Everybody knows little about his plans.
- (b) Nobody knows little about his plans.
- (c) Little did anybody know about his plans.
- (d) Little do everybody knows about his plans.

7. Delhi is one of the most crowded cities in India. (Use: more crowded)

- (a) Other cities in India are more crowded than Delhi.
- (b) Other cities in India are not more crowded than Delhi.
- (c) Delhi is more crowded than most other cities in India.
- (d) Delhi is not more crowded than most other cities in India.

8. Not only did he give him money, but also helped him complete his work. (Use: Besides)

- (a) Besides money he was helped to complete the work.
- (b) Besides help with money, he completed the work.
- (c) Besides giving him money, he helped him complete his work.
- (d) Besides giving money, he can be helped in his work.

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