



Estd. 1861

BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

THIRD TERM EXAMINATION (2023-24)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

CLASS – IX

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) You went on a picnic with your school group to another town. After admiring the views before lunch, you went to a shop to eat ice cream. However, when you returned, your group was nowhere to be seen. Describe what you did to find the group, how you spent the rest of the time, how you got home, and what the others had done while you were gone.
- (ii) You were an eyewitness to a heated argument between two people in a shop that escalated into a big fight. Narrate what you felt and did during that time.
- (iii) Express your views either for or against the statement- 'The government should impose a higher tax on junk food'
- (iv) Write a story about a beggar who finds a fortune under a heap of rubbish.
- (v) Study the picture given below. Write a 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.)

[10]

Select **any one** of the following:

- (i) One of your neighbours has recently moved into the house next to yours. He likes hosting noisy parties that disturb your studies. Write a letter expressing the difficulties you are facing without offending him.
- (ii) Write a letter to the Manager of the dry-cleaning firm, complaining about the damage caused to the original colour of your expensive suit during the dry-cleaning process, and request a compensation for the same.

Question 3.

(i) You, the President of the school Science Club, plan a mask-making event with your Science Club to foster the use of renewable materials. Create a notice for the school board. [5]

(ii) Draft an email to the hospital Superintendent, requesting him to send a senior doctor who can offer his expertise and knowledge about the importance of high-quality masks suitable for sensitive skin. [5]



Question 4.

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

Two families in the Carpathian Mountains were at loggerheads, over a disputed forest land. Ulrich von Gradwitz, the local nobleman was the head of the Gradwitz family whereas Georg Znaeum represented the Znaeum clan.

The bone of **contention** between the two families was the woodland. Each family held the view that the other claimed the woodland illegally. Though it began as a legal battle, it continued for generations as a hate-filled conflict between the two representatives of the families in the dispute.

One night, both Ulrich and Georg, accompanied by their attendant and huntsmen, came out onto the land. Though each came to defend his claim over the land, the **ulterior** motive was to destroy his enemy by shooting him down. Each had a rifle in his hand, hate in his heart and murder in his mind.

Leaving his retainers, Ulrich unexpectedly came all of a sudden face-to-face with Georg. Each one of them had a rifle in his hand and intended to use it because no interlopers would interfere.

Before either of them could speak, a sharp blast of wind tore from the ground the giant beech tree under which they stood, pinning them underneath. The impact of the shock left them speechless. However, both of them were glad that they were still alive. But instead of continuing their conflict with gunshots, they had to continue their conflict in words. Each contender threatened his opponent with the possibility that his attendant would arrive first, and it would be easy to show it as an 'accident' in which the tree crushed the unfortunate victim and left the survivor free of the charge of murder.

A little later, Ulrich freed an arm and reached into his pocket for the wine flask that he had carried, greatly relishing the drink. As he looked across at his enemy, some change came over him. He offered Georg a drink from the flask, which the other was barely able to reach. Under the combined effects of the situation, the shock, and the wine, Ulrich saw the similarity between him and his fellow sufferer, and this brought a change of heart in him. He told Georg that, if Ulrich's men arrived first, they would be told to free George; Georg then noticed the change of attitude in him and made a similar promise to Ulrich.

When the storm subsided, Ulrich suggested that they shout together for help. After no response, they called again, and Ulrich thought that he heard an answering cry. A few minutes passed before Ulrich cried out that he could see figures coming down the hill, and the two shouted again to attract the attention of the hunters.

Georg, anxious to know whose hunters would arrive first, asked Ulrich if they were his men. However, the figures moving were not men, but wolves.

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

(1) **Contention** (Line 4)

- (a) edgy
- (b) mulls
- (c) argument
- (d) slaying

(2) **ulterior** (Line 8)

- (a) rousing
- (b) underlying
- (c) cogent
- (d) compelling

(ii) Which word in the passage means the opposite of the word 'defender'? [1]

- (a) clan
- (b) interlopers
- (c) generations
- (d) noblemen

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

- (i) Name the two clans who conflicted with each other. What was the cause of the feud between the two families? [2]
- (ii) What was Ulrich and Georg's ulterior motive in going to the woods at night? [2]
- (iii) What happened to Ulrich and Georg when a strong wind blew? How did they react to it? [2]
- (iv) How did they threaten each other after they were trapped underneath the tree? [1]
- (v) What caused the change of heart in Ulrich when he was trapped together with Georg underneath a tree? [2]
- (vi) In not more than 50 words state the surprise ending of the story. [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 the correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]

Example: (0) given.

But just when I had almost (0) _____ (give) up hope.

I was (1) _____ (strike) with a brilliant idea: my birthday was due fairly soon, and if I (2) _____ (deal) with the family skilfully. I (3) _____ (feel) sure, I could not only get a boat but a lot of other equipment as well. I (4) _____ (suggest) to the family that, instead of (5) _____ (let) them choose my presents, I (6) _____ (may) tell them the things that I (7) _____ (want) most. In this way, they could be sure of not (8) _____ (disappoint) me.

(ii) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word.

- (i) I refrained _____ giving my opinion.
- (ii) The storm almost lifted me _____ my feet.
- (iii) The leader is popular _____ his followers.
- (iv) Courage will carry a man _____ difficulties.
- (v) Pupils must look _____ to their teachers as guides.
- (vi) Do not brood _____ your failure.
- (vii) His part-time job brings _____ a small amount of money.
- (viii) I came _____ some foreigners in the village.

[4]

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

[4]

1. She sells sea shells. She sells them on the seashore.

- (a) She sells sea shells on the seashore.
- (b) The sea shells which she sells are found on the seashore.
- (c) She sells sea shells which are on the seashore.
- (d) She is selling sea shells from the seashore.

2. Why are you upset? Did someone scold you?

- (a) You are upset having been scolded by someone.
- (b) She asked him why he was upset and if he had been scolded.
- (c) Are you upset because someone scolded you?
- (d) Why are you upset when someone scold you?

3. She has not seen the message perhaps. She may have chosen to ignore it.

- (a) Perhaps she chose to ignore the message which she had seen.
- (b) She may either have not seen the message or chosen to ignore it.
- (c) Neither did she see the message nor ignore it.
- (d) She cannot see the message perhaps might chosen to ignore it.

4. I often wake up late in the mornings. I am never late for school.

- (a) Although I often wake up late in the mornings, I am never late for school.
- (b) I am sometimes late for school because I often wake up late in the mornings.
- (c) I am never late for school because I usually wake up on time.
- (d) I am up late in the mornings as well never late for school.

(iv) Re-write 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 option.

[8]

1. The burglar ran away the moment he saw the guard. (Begin with: No sooner...)

- (a) No sooner has the burglar seen the guard, he ran away.
- (b) No sooner than the burglar saw the guard, he ran away.
- (c) No sooner did the burglar see the guard when he ran away.
- (d) No sooner had the burglar seen the guard than he ran away.

2. The parents have trained their children well. (Begin with: The children ...)

- (a) The children were trained well by their parents.
- (b) The children is being trained well by their parents.
- (c) The children had been trained well by their parents.
- (d) The children have been trained well by their parents.

3. My cousins returned home one month ago. (Begin with: 'It has' ...)

- (a) It has been one month for my cousins' return home.
- (b) It has been one month since my cousins return home.
- (c) It has been one month when my cousins return home.
- (d) It has been one month ago that my cousins return home.

4. Your form will be accepted if it is submitted on time. (Use: 'unless')

- (a) Your form will be accepted unless it is submitted on time.
- (b) Unless your form is submitted on time, it will not be accepted.

- (c) Unless the form is accepted, it should be submitted on time.
- (d) Your form will be accepted unless it is not submitted on time.

5. The house needs a thorough cleaning again. (Use: thoroughly)

- (a) The house needs a thoroughly cleaning again.
- (b) The house needed a cleaning thoroughly again.
- (c) The house needs to be cleaned thoroughly again.
- (d) The house needed to be thoroughly clean yet again.

6. My sister offered me a new job in her company.(Begin with: A new job...)

- (a) A new job was offered to me by my sister in her company.
- (b) A new job has been offered to me by my sister in her company.
- (c) A new job had been offered to me by my sister in her company.
- (d) A new job was being offered to me by my sister in her company.

7. "I am going to watch my friend's play tomorrow," she said. (Begin with: She said...)

- (a) She said that she is going to watch her friend's play tomorrow.
- (b) She said that she will be going to watch her friend's play tomorrow.
- (c) She said that she was going to watch my friend's play the following day.
- (d) She said that she was going to watch her friend's play the following day.

8. Alex is more talented than most of the professional musicians I know. (Use: few)

- (a) Professional musicians I know have few talents as Alex.
- (b) Few professional musicians I know are as talented as Alex.
- (c) Few professional musicians I know are not as talented as Alex.
- (d) Professional musicians I know do not have as few talents as Alex.
