CLASS-VIII
ANNUAL EXAMINATION (2023-24)
SUBJECT: ENGLISH
SET B1& B2
MARKING SCHEME & SOLUTIONS

Time allowed: 2.5 Hrs. **Maximum Marks: 60**

General Instructions:

1. This paper is divided into three sections: **A, B and C**. All questions are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION A- READING (16 marks)

1. Read the following passage carefully: **8**

1. Louisa May Alcott was born in Germantown, Pennsylvania on November 29, 1832. She and her three sisters, Anna, Elizabeth and May, were educated by their father, philosopher and teacher Bronson Alcott, and raised on the practical Christianity of their mother, Abigail May. When Louisa was 35 years old, her publisher Thomas Niles in Boston asked her to write 'a book for girls.' *Little Women* was written at Orchard House from May to July 1868. The novel is based on Louisa and her sisters' coming of age and is set in Civil War New England.

2. Louisa spent her childhood in Boston and in Concord, Massachusetts, where her days were enlightened by visits to Ralph Waldo Emerson's library, excursions into nature with Henry David Thoreau, and theatricals in the barn at Hillside (now Hawthome's Wayside).

3. Like her character Jo March in *Little Women*, young Louisa was a tomboy. 'No boy could be my friend till I had beaten him in a race,' she claimed, 'and no girl if she refused to climb trees, leap fences…'

4. For Louisa, writing was an early passion. She had rich imaginations and often her stories became melodramas that she and her sisters would act out for friends. Louisa preferred to play the 'lurid' parts in these plays –'the villains, ghosts bandits, and disdainful queens.'

5. At age 15, troubled by the poverty that plagued her family, she vowed: 'I will do something little by and by. Don't care what, teach, sew, write anything to help my family; and I'll be rich and famous and happy before I die, see if I won't!' Confronting a society that offered little opportunity to women seeking employment, Louisa determined, '... I will make a battering-ram of my head and make my way through this rough and tumbled world.' Whether as a teacher, seamstress, governess, or household servant, Louisa did any work she could find for many years.

6. Louisa's career as an author began with poetry and short stories that appeared in popular magazines. In 1854, when she was 22, her first book *Flower Fables* was published. A milestone along her literary path was *Hospital Sketches* (1863), based on the letters she had written home from her post as a nurse in Washington, DC during the Civil War.

1.1 On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the correct option: 1x4=4

i. The word 'raised' in the first paragraph means:

A. placed her children on a higher level
B. voiced her opinion
C. brought up her children.
D. took them to the mountains

ii. Louisa took up any job that she could get because

A. she was poor and needed to earn money.
B. she had decided to use her head as a battering ram.
C. she liked doing all kinds of jobs.
D. she wanted to achieve success

iii. The first book of Louisa May Alcott that was published was_____

A. Hospital Sketches.
B. Flower Fables.
C. Little Women.
D. Not such a 'Little Woman'!

iv. Which word is the synonym of the word 'promised' in paragraph 5?

A. enlightened
B. plagued
C. ***vowed***
D. tumbled

1.2. Answer the following questions briefly: 1x4=4

v. Describe Louisa's childhood.

Ans : Louisa spent her childhood in Boston and in Concord, Massachusetts, where her days were enlightened by visits to Ralph Waldo Emerson's library, excursions into nature with Henry David Thoreau, and theatricals in the barn at Hillside.

vi. What did Louisa have in common with one of the characters in her story, *Little Women?*

Ans : Like her character Jo March in Little Women, young Louisa was a tomboy. 'No boy could be my friend till I had beaten him in a race, 'she claimed, 'and no girl if she refused to climb trees, leap fences."

vii. How did Louisa use for her imagination in writing stories?

Ans : For Louisa, writing was an early passion. She had rich imaginations and often her stories became melodramas that she and her sisters would act out for friends.

viii. What was she determined to do?

Ans : Louisa was determined to make her way through this rough and tumbled world. Whether as a teacher, seamstress, governess, or household servant, for many years Louisa did any work she could find.

2. Read the poem given below and answer the questions that follow. 8

1. ***Oh! Defenders of borders***
You are great sons of my land
When we are all asleep
You still hold on to your deed.

5. ***Windy season or snowy days***
Or scorching sun's sweltering rays
You are there guarding all the time awake
Treading the lonely expanses as Yogis.
Climbing the heights or striding the valleys

10. ***Defending the deserts and guarding the marshes***
Surveillance in seas and by securing the air
Prime of your youth given to the nation!!
Wind chimes of my land vibrate your feat
We pray for you brave men!
May the Lord bless you all!

-Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam

2. On the basis of your understanding of the poem, answer the following questions: 1x8=8

i. The above poem is dedicated to _____
   A. teachers
   B. soldiers
   C. doctors
   D. singers
   Ans: B. soldiers

ii. What do they sacrifice for the nation?
   A. Their youth
   B. Their lives
   C. Their wealth
   D. Both option A. and B
   Ans : Both option A and B

iii. What does Dr. Kalam express through the last two lines of the poem :
   We pray for you brave men!
   May the Lord bless you all!

   A. He expresses his tribute to the soldiers
   B. He expresses his anger
   C. He expresses his complaints
   D. He expresses his desire to be a soldier
   Ans : A. He expresses his tribute to the soldiers

iv. The word 'scorching' in the poem means__
   A. heating
   B. burning
   C. waiting
   D. developing

Ans : B. burning

v. Identify the rhyme scheme of the Second stanza:
Ans : aabcc

vi. Mention the two expressions from the poem which denote the weather conditions under which the soldiers work tirelessly.
Ans : Windy season or snowy days
Or scorching sun's sweltering rays

vii. Identity the figure of speech used in the given line :***When we are all asleep***
Ans : Alliteration

viii. In stanza two, the soldiers are compared to _____who walk up the mountains and valleys.
Ans: Yogis

SECTION B – GRAMMAR AND WRITING SKILLS (22 marks)

3. Attempt the following questions as per the specific instructions provided with each of them:

1x10=10

1. Complete the following sentence with the correct Question Tag.
Raghav learns French***, doesn't he*** ?

2. Change the voice of the following sentence:

Please come early tomorrow.

Ans : You are requested to come early tomorrow.

3. Choose appropriate phrasal verbs from the box to complete each sentence:
We asked the boss to ***put off*** the meeting until tomorrow.

put off	***make do with***	***dropped by***

4. Fill in the blank with Past Continuous or Past Perfect Continuous Tense:
Saima ***was playing*** (play) the violin when her father returned home.

5. Transform the following direct speech into reported speech:
Naveen asked the dealer, 'Can I hire a car for a fortnight'?
Ans : Naveen asked the dealer if he could hire a car for a fortnight.

6. Fill in the blanks to complete the given conditional clause.
If Rohit repairs his bike, he ***will go*** for his bike trip.

7. Identify the error in the given sentences and supply the correction.
i. Rohan has lived in Sikkim since six years.
ii. Cats are general attached to places.
Use the given format for your response:

Error	Correction
a.	
b.	

Ans:

Error	Correction
a. since	***for***
b. general	***Generally***

8. Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate relative pronoun to complete the given clause:

a. The town ***where*** I was born had a beautiful Gothic church.
b. The woman ***who*** lives next door grows tomatoes in her garden.

SECTION B –WRITING SKILLS

4.1. A. You are Yuvna, the President of the Music Society of your school. Write a notice in 50 words inviting students to the special round of auditions to participate in an Inter-School Music Competition to be held as a part of the Cultural Fest.

OR

B. You are Priya /Pritish, the secretary of the Environment Club of your school. Design a poster for your school bulletin board on the importance of hygiene and cleanliness in school .Word limit 50. **5**

SET: B2

4.1. B. You are Romir /Roohi, the secretary of the Environment club of your school. Design a poster for your school bulletin board on the conservation of soil. Word limit 50. **5**

Format: 1 ***Content: 2*** ***Expression and Creativity: 2***

4.2. A. India is a land of diversity which is reflected in the number of festivals we enjoy. Write an article in 100-120 words on 'Festivals of India'. You are Karuna/Karan. **7**

SET: B2

Your area is severely affected by the menace of stray dogs. Write an article in about 100-120 words on the problem of stray dogs and other stray animals in your locality.

Format: 1 ***Content: 3*** ***Expression and Accuracy: 3***

OR

B. You are Saurabh/ Suravi, the editor of your school magazine. Write a report in about 80-100 words on the Inter Section English Debate held in your school last week. You may use the following hints.

- The team of organizers.
- The venue , time and date of the debate competition
- The chief guest and judges
- The topic of the debate
- Cultural programme if any as part of the debate.

Format: 1 ***Content: 3*** ***Expression and Accuracy: 3***

SECTION C- LITERATURE (22 Marks)

5. A. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (1+1+2=4)

We use our text messages,
Our computers, to speak for us,
We use our telephones,
And rely on our trust

i. Identify the poem and the poet of the given extract.
A. The Communication, LE Thayer
B. Communication, G.B Shaw.
C. Communications, Kamala Das
D. Communication, Aisha Sherazi,
Ans : D. Communication, Aisha Sherazi,

ii. According the given extract, which of the following image aptly depicts the mode of communication people use these days?

<table>
<tr>
<td>
A.</td>
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B.</td>
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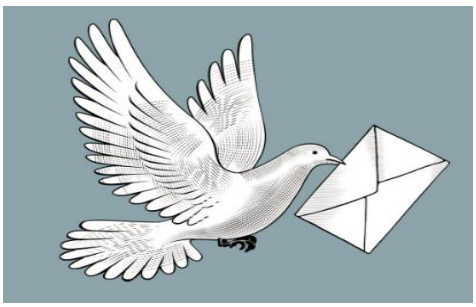
<td> 
C.</td>
<td>

D.</td>
</tr>
</table>

Ans: Image A

iii. What is lacking in these means of communication as mentioned in the given extract?
Ans :People are unable to make meaningful communication. Face to face interaction and warmth is lacking in their communication.

5. B. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (1+1+2=4)

He goes on Sunday to the church,
And sits among his boys;
He hears the parson pray and preach,
He hears his daughter's voice,
Singing in the village choir,
And it makes his heart rejoice.

i. Who is the worthy friend referred to here?
   A. The doctor
   B. The poet
   C. The Village Blacksmith
   D. The Blacksmith
   Ans: C. The Village Blacksmith

ii. Why does his daughter's voice make his heart rejoice?
   A. It reminds him of his school days
   B. It reminds him of his dead wife.
   C. It reminds him of his colleagues.
   D. It reminds him of his childhood days.
   Ans: B. It reminds him of his dead wife.

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iii. What do the first two lines of the above extract reflect about the Blacksmith's religious life?
   Ans: He regularly visits church on every Sunday as he was a god believing man.

5. C. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: (1+1+2=4)

Today the world is a little more my own.
No need to remember the pain
A blue-frocked woman caused, throwing
Words at me like pots and pans, to drain
That honey-colored day of peace.
'Why don't you join the others, what
A peculiar child you are!'

i. What does the line, *'*Today, the world is a little more my own' mean?
   A. The world belongs to the poet.
   B. The poet has gained more control over her feelings and emotions.
   C. The poet lives in her imaginary world.
   D. The poet is not satisfied with the world she lives in.
   Ans : B. The poet has gained more control over her feelings and emotions.

ii. The blue-frocked woman in the given extract is _____
   A. the poet herself.
   B. the poet's friend.
   C. the poet's kindergarten teacher.
   D. the poet's caretaker.
   Ans : the poet's kindergarten teacher.

iii. Why does the poet refer to the children as 'funny things'?
Ans : She possibly does so to bring out in a mild manner how unthinkingly cruel and lacking in empathy children can be because they simply aren't mature enough to understand.

6. Answer ANY THREE out of FOUR of the following questions in 30-40 words: 2x3= 6

i. What were the factors that prompted Deepak to return to Arun's house and replace the money he had stolen? Mention any two points.

Ans: The factors that prompted Deepak to return to Arun's house and replace the money that he had stolen were:

- ***His overbearing desire to learn to read and write whole sentences***
- ***His sense of sympathy and concern for Arun and his affection for the man.***
- ***Arun was so trusting of Deepak that he did even bother hiding the money in a safe place.***

(Any of the two reasons can be accepted in the answer)

ii. Why does Rowan Atkinson feel that he should not do any more Mr. Bean sketches or films?

Ans: Atkinson has always regarded the character of Mr. Bean as a sort of ageless, timeless sort of person and he didn't particularly want to see him looking or acting too old. Moreover, it is a very physical role.

iii. How does Luke's lack of confidence make life difficult for him at his work place?

Ans : He is paid very less by his boss and is given way more work than he can accomplish and ends up working very long hours due to excessive work. He is also less respected by his employer and his colleagues.

iv. Why does Mr.Varma change his opinion about his son in the later part of the story named *A Devoted Son*?

Ans: Mr. Varma goes from a position of power as the head of the household and becomes his own son's patient. He goes through the unpleasant treatments his son 'inflicts' upon him and considers them deliberate cruelty.

7. Answer the following question in about 80-100 words. 4

i. Do you think Mr. Higgins was completely satisfied with Eliza's performance when he presented her at his mother's 'at home' session?' Give reasons for your answer.

Ans :Mr. Higgins hoped to do a trial run on Eliza, to review the current success of his experiment and if there was anything else that had to be fine-tuned. This was a test before the actual performance. Although Eliza did do well at the trial session, Mr. Higgins does not appear fully satisfied with Eliza's performance.

He states that his mother does not know how hard he works on her vowels, consonants, her teeth, and more, indicating how perfectly he wants to groom her. He may never be completely satisfied although he may just reconcile to the fact that this was the best that could be done.

SET B2

i. Apart from the reaction of Nepommuck, is there any other evidence in the play to suggest that Eliza was a great success at the Ambassador's reception at the Embassy? Justify.

Ans :There are references to Eliza's entry into the Embassy party room. 'Many heads turn to gaze at her striking beauty and 'people stop talking and crane their necks for a better look' are some instances that suggest that Eliza was a great success at the Ambassador's reception at the Embassy.

Finally, when they are discussing the bet, Eliza herself admits that an old lady had mentioned that she spoke exactly like Queen Victoria. All these instances suggest that Eliza was a great success at the Ambassador's reception at the Embassy.