*No. of Printed Pages - 10*

# CLASS -VII
# ANNUAL EXAMINATION (2024-25)
# SUBJECT - ENGLISH
# SET A1 & A2
# MARKING KEY AND SOLUTION

**Time allowed: 2 ½ Hrs.** **Maximum Marks: 60**

**General Instructions:**

*Read the instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:*

*1. This question paper comprises 08 questions. All questions are compulsory.*

*2. The question paper contains THREE sections –*

*Section – A: Reading Skills*

*Section – B: Grammar and Creative Writing Skills*

*Section – C: Literature Textbook*

*3. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each Part.*

## SECTION A
## READING SKILLS (18 marks)

**1. Read the following passage carefully.** **10**

(1) Heaps of luscious strawberries in leafy cups tempted me to buy some more at Arthur's Seat, the queen of all points in Mahabaleshwar at a height of 1,470 mts. Being highly perishable in nature, the farmers wanted to sell them as fast as possible. And strawberries selling as less as Rs. 60 a kg was an offer I simply could not resist.

(2) Going by the brand name "Mahabaleshwar strawberries," all the strawberries grown in the Mahabaleshwar – Panchgani region of western Maharashtra are sought after. The British had brought these strawberry plantations from Australia. The cool climate and red soil are conducive to its growth. Berries like raspberry, mulberry, and gooseberry too grow in abundance.

(3) I was there for four days and saw a simple economic theory of demand and supply regulating the prices. The prices rose to Rs. 80 per kg on weekends as tourists flocked from Pune and Mumbai. Shankar, a strawberry seller said the berries fetch Rs. 150 per kg as summer holidays commence and by fag end of May are sold at a premium of Rs. 250 per kg.

(4) I was keen to visit a village farm, and Suresh Jadav, the owner of two acres of strawberry farm, obliged. Riding pillion on his rickety motorcycle became an added adventure, for narrow roads led to muddy tracks ensuring a jolty ride. But the sight of the fields with rows of strawberry shrubs cheered me up. Admiring the shrubs, Suresh said caring for the plants was like raising one's child. They need a lot of protection from pests and diseases.

(5) The cultivation starts just after Ganesh Chaturthi (around September) when the fields are ploughed. Bunts are made and fumigation done, after which the fields are covered with plastics to prevent weed growth and erosion. Cow dung manure is added and fields sprayed;

then seedlings are planted through holes punched in plastic sheets. Strawberries are ready after Diwali and the season lasts from December to May, the production peaks during February and March, when they are the cheapest.

(6) Suresh and I picked the berries early in the morning. I was delighted to see around 30 kg of strawberries. He put '*Atki*' (a local leaf) in cardboard boxes to keep them cool and pack them. I left with loads of sweet memories and boxes of even sweeter strawberries.

*The Hindu (Modified)*

**1. Answer the following questions, based on the passage above. 1x10=10**

i. Farmers have to sometimes sell strawberries at a very low price because:
   a. The production is at its lowest
   b. The crop is affected by pests and diseases
   c. The demand for strawberries is always low
   **d. The fruit gets spoilt very soon**

ii. The credit for introducing 'Mahabaleshwar strawberries' goes to:
   **a. The British**
   b. The Australians
   c. Suresh Jadav
   d. The Maharashtrians

iii. Given below in a mixed order are a series of steps that explain how strawberry seedlings are planted. Choose the option that shows the correct sequence.
   A. Fields are covered with plastic shields.
   B. Holes are made in the plastic sheets and the seedlings are planted.
   C. After ploughing, bunts are made and fumigation is done.
   D. Cow dung manure is added and the fields are sprayed.

   a. ACDB
   b. ADCB
   **c. CADB**
   d. CDAB

iv. According to the passage, strawberries are the most expensive in the month of:
   a. February
   b. March
   **c. May**
   d. December

v. Strawberry production is at its peak during:
   **a. February and March**
   b. April and May
   c. September and October
   d. December and May

vi. Why are "Mahabaleshwar strawberries" sought after, according to the passage?

**Answer: "Mahabaleshwar strawberries" are sought after because of their brand name and the cool climate and red soil in the Mahabaleshwar-Panchgani region, which are conducive to their growth.**

vii. What economic theory does the author observe during the visit?

**Answer: The author observes the simple economic theory of demand and supply regulating the prices of strawberries.**

viii. How do the prices of strawberries change on weekends, and why?

**Answer: The prices of strawberries rise to Rs. 80 per kg on weekends because tourists flock to Mahabaleshwar from Pune and Mumbai, increasing demand.**

ix. State two reasons why the author was tempted to buy strawberries at Arthur's seat.

1. **The strawberries were being sold at a very tempting price of Rs. 60 per kg, which the author found hard to resist.**
2. **The heaps of luscious strawberries in leafy cups were visually appealing and made them look even more tempting to buy.**

x. How did the author feel about the ride to Suresh Jadav's farm, and what did they see upon arriving?

**Answer: The author found the ride on Suresh Jadav's rickety motorcycle to be an added adventure, with narrow roads leading to muddy tracks. Upon arriving, the author was cheered up by the sight of fields with rows of strawberry shrubs.**

**2. Read the following poem carefully. 8**

**The Echoing Forest**

In the heart of the forest, deep and green,
Where sunlight barely makes a sheen,
Whispers echo through the trees,
Carried on a gentle breeze.

Hidden creatures make their calls,
In the shadows, where mystery falls,
A world unseen by the day’s bright light,
Awakens fully with the night.

Streams of silver softly flow,
Reflecting on secrets they seem to know,
As fireflies dance with graceful ease,
Lighting paths between the trees.

The forest hums a lullaby,
Of ages past and futures nigh,
A symphony of nature's grace,

In this enchanted, ancient place.

Beneath the leaves, in shadows deep,
Where stories old and secrets sleep,
Lie the wonders of a timeless lore,
Of nature's heart and forest's core.

**2. Answer the following questions, based on the poem above. 1x8=8**

i. What carries the whispers through the trees in the forest?
a) Sunlight b) Rain **c) Gentle breeze** d) Shadow

ii. What happens to the forest when night falls?
a) The forest sleeps
**b) A world unseen by the day awakens**
c) The forest becomes silent
d) The forest loses its mystery

iii. What do fireflies do in the poem?
a) Make calls
b) Hum a lullaby
**c) Dance with graceful ease**
d) Sleep in shadows

iv. What is reflected in the streams of silver?

a) Light from the moon **b) Secrets** c) Leaves d) Stars

v. Describe the setting of the forest as mentioned in the poem.
**Answer: The forest is deep and green, with sunlight barely making a sheen. It is filled with whispers carried on a gentle breeze, hidden creatures, and streams of silver.**

vi. What is the significance of fireflies in the poem?

**Answer: Fireflies dance with graceful ease, lighting paths between the trees, and adding to the magical and enchanting atmosphere of the forest at night.**

vii. What does the forest symbolize in the poem?

**Answer: The forest symbolizes mystery, enchantment, and timeless lore, where stories and secrets lie hidden in the shadows.**

viii. How does the poem convey the idea of the forest's ancient and timeless nature?

**Answer: The poem describes the forest as humming a lullaby of ages past and future night, emphasizing its ancient and timeless nature. It is depicted as an enchanted place that holds the heart and core of nature.**

## SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (24 marks)

### GRAMMAR 12

**3. Complete the following tasks, as directed. 1x12=12**

i. Read the following sentence and convert it into indirect speech.
"I have been considering the implications of this decision for the last three weeks," she explained.
**Answer: She explained that she had been considering the implications of that decision for the last three weeks.**

ii. Read the following sentence and convert it into indirect speech.
"Please ensure that all the documents are thoroughly reviewed and signed before the end of the day," the manager instructed the team.
**Answer: The manager instructed the team to ensure that all the documents were thoroughly reviewed and signed before the end of the day.**

iii. Change the following sentence from active voice to passive voice.
The chef cooked a delicious meal.
**Answer: A delicious meal was cooked by the chef.**

iv. Change the following sentence from active voice to passive voice.
Did the manager approve the project proposal?
**Answer: Was the project proposal approved by the manager?**

v. Fill in the blank with an appropriate conjunction given in the brackets.
I wanted to go for a walk, _____ it started raining. (and, but, so)
**Answer:** b**ut**

vi. Fill in the blanks with the correct correlative conjunctions (both...and, either...or, neither...nor, not only...but also):
___ the students ___ the teachers were pleased with the results of the school's new initiative.

**Answer: Both the students and the teachers were pleased with the results of the school's new initiative.**

vii. Provide a suitable non-finite verb for the given blank.
_____ (Read) books is one of my favourite hobbies.
**Answer: Reading**

viii. Choose an appropriate phrasal verb to fill in the blank from the options given in the brackets.
He decided to _____ the offer. (turn up, turn down, turn off)
**Answer: turn down**

ix. Fill in the blank with an appropriate modal.
All crew members _____ wear their protective suits at all times when outside the spaceship.
**Answer: must**

x. Provide a suitable headline based on the newspaper clipping given below.

Chaos engulfed Los Angeles on Wednesday as fierce Santa Ana winds fuelled wildfires that tore through the region. Pacific Palisades, known for its luxurious homes, suffered severe devastation, with flames consuming residences and landmarks, including Temescal Canyon and sections of Palisades Charter High School. Towering plumes of smoke, visible from miles away, shrouded the city in darkness.

**Sample Answer: Devastating Wildfires Ravage Pacific Palisades/Accept any relevant answer.**

xi. Choose an appropriate idiomatic phrase from the given options in the bracket to fill the blank.
He decided to quit his job and follow his passion, proving that he wasn't afraid _____. (a cock and bull story, to take the bull by the horns, take to something like a duck to water)
**Answer: to take the bull by the horns**

xii. Rewrite the sentences changing the phrases into clauses, or vice versa.
White water rafting, which is a dangerous sport, is catching up with the tourists.
**Answer: White water rafting, a dangerous sport, is catching up with the tourists**.

## WRITING 12

4-A. Create a poster in 50 words to promote a cleanliness drive in your school. Include a catchy slogan and relevant visuals to encourage students to participate. 5

**OR**

4-B. Write a diary entry in 80-100 words describing your experience of participating in a school sports day event. Include your feelings, the events you took part in, and any memorable moments.

5-A. Write an article in 100-120 words on the impact of social media on teenagers. Discuss both the positive and negative aspects, and provide suggestions on how to use social media responsibly. 7

**OR**

5-B. Write a letter in 100-120 words to your friend sharing your excitement about a new hobby you have recently taken up. Describe the hobby, why you enjoy it, and how it has positively impacted your life.

## SET A2

4-A. Design a poster in 50 words to raise awareness about the importance of saving water. Use graphics and concise text to convey your message effectively. 5

**OR**

4-B. Imagine you have just returned from a family vacation to a hill station. Write a diary entry in 80-100 words about the trip, describing the places you visited, the activities you enjoyed, and your overall experience.

5-A. Write an article in 100-120 words on the impact of academic pressure on students' mental health. Discuss the causes of academic pressure, and its effects on mental well-being, and suggest strategies that schools and parents can implement to help students cope with stress. 7

**OR**

5-B. Write a letter in 100-120 words to your best friend telling them about a recent school trip you went on. Describe the destination, the activities you did, what you learned from the experience, and your favourite moment from the trip.

**For Poster Making:**

Format: 1 Content: 2 Expression & Accuracy: 1 Visual Appeal: 1

**For Article Writing:**

Format: 1 Content: 3 Expression & Coherence: 3

**For Diary Entry:**

Format: 1 Content: 2 Expression & Coherence: 2

**For Informal Letter Writing:**

Format: 2 Content: 2 Expression & Coherence: 3

## SECTION – C: LITERATURE (18 MARKS)

**6. Read the given extracts and answer any TWO of the three questions given. 2x4=8**

*A. A woman lived with him, says the bedroom wall*
*papered with lilacs and the kitchen shelves*
*covered with oilcloth, and they had a child,*
*says the sandbox made from a tractor tire.*
*Money was scarce, say the jars of plum preserves*
*and canned tomatoes sealed in the cellar hole.* *- Abandoned Farmhouse*

i. What does the lilac wallpaper in the bedroom suggest about the woman who lived in the farmhouse? 1
a) She was fond of gardening
b) She liked to decorate and make the house feel homely
c) She was a professional interior designer
d) She disliked bright colours
**Answer: b) She liked to decorate and make the house feel homely**

ii. What evidence in the poem indicates that the family had a child? 1
a) Jars of plum preserves in the cellar
b) The kitchen shelves are covered with oilcloth
c) The sandbox made from a tractor tire
d) The bedroom wallpapered with lilacs
**Answer: c) The sandbox made from a tractor tire**

iii. How does the poem convey the family's financial struggles, and what specific details support this observation? 2
**Answer: The poem conveys the family's financial struggles through the mention of "money was scarce" and the specific details of "jars of plum preserves and canned tomatoes sealed in the cellar hole." These details suggest that the family preserved their food, which indicates their need to be self-sufficient and careful with their resources.**

B. *Lightly, O lightly we bear her along,*
*She sways like a flower in the wind of our song;*
*She skims like a bird on the foam of a stream,*
*She floats like a laugh from the lips of a dream.* *- Palanquin Bearers*

i. How is the woman described in the lines "She sways like a flower in the wind of our song"? 1
a) Heavy and grounded
b) Graceful and delicate
c) Strong and steady
d) Swift and forceful
**Answer: b) Graceful and delicate**

ii. What simile is used to describe the way the woman skims in the poem? 1
a) Like a flower in the wind
b) Like a bird on the foam of a stream
c) Like a leaf in the breeze
d) Like a boat on the waves
**Answer: b) Like a bird on the foam of a stream**

iii. Analyse the imagery used in the lines "She floats like a laugh from the lips of a dream." What effect does this imagery have on the reader's perception of the woman? 2
**Answer: The imagery in the lines "She floats like a laugh from the lips of a dream" makes the woman seem light and delicate, almost like she is from another world. It shows her as graceful and enchanting. Comparing her to a laugh in a dream gives a feeling of brief beauty and gentle happiness, making her seem magical.**

C. *The waves beside them danced; but they*
*Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:*
*A poet could not but be gay,*
*In such a jocund company:*
*I gazed—and gazed—but little thought*
*What wealth the show to me had brought:* *- Daffodils*

i. What does the poet mean by "the waves beside them danced"? 1
a) The waves were rough and stormy
b) The waves were moving gently and joyfully
c) The waves were still and calm
d) The waves were crashing against the rocks
**Answer: b) The waves were moving gently and joyfully**

ii. Why could the poet not help but be gay in the presence of the waves and company? 1
a) The poet found the company boring
b) The sight of the dancing waves and cheerful company lifted the poet's spirits
c) The poet felt lonely despite the company
d) The poet was indifferent to the surroundings
**Answer: b) The sight of the dancing waves and cheerful company lifted the poet's spirits**

iii. What realisation does the poet come to at the end of the stanza, and how does it reflect the impact of nature on the poet? 2
**Answer: The poet realises that the sight of the dancing waves and the cheerful company had brought a great sense of joy and wealth to their life, even though they hadn't initially understood the full impact. This reflects how nature's beauty and joyful moments can enrich our lives in profound and unexpected ways.**

**7. Answer <u>any three</u> of the following four questions, in about 40-50 words. 2x3=6**

i. What lesson do we learn from "The Silver Lining"?
**Answer: "The Silver Lining" teaches us that even during challenging times, there's always a positive aspect or hope to be found. This lesson encourages us to stay optimistic and look for the good in every situation, no matter how difficult it may seem.**

ii. How does the kite maker feel about making kites in "The Kite Maker"?

**Answer: In "The Kite Maker," the kite maker feels a deep sense of love and passion for his craft. He views kite-making as an art that connects him to his past and brings joy to others. His dedication to this craft reflects his appreciation for tradition and beauty.**

iii. What happens when the three friends go for a picnic in "Three Men at a Picnic Point"?

**Answer: In "Three Men at a Picnic Point," the three friends embark on a picnic that turns into a humorous adventure. They encounter various mishaps, such as forgotten items and unexpected weather, which lead to laughter and bonding. The picnic becomes a memorable experience for them.**

iv. How does Jimmy Valentine change in "A Retrieved Reformation"?

**Answer: In "A Retrieved Reformation," Jimmy Valentine transforms from a skilled safecracker to an honest man. He finds love and decides to leave his criminal past behind. His willingness to sacrifice his freedom for others reflects his genuine change and desire for a better life.**

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

Describe the feelings Martha experiences when she learns about the new rule for the Scholarship Jacket and how she reacts.

**Answer: When Martha learns about the new rule requiring her to pay $15 for the Scholarship Jacket, she feels shocked, disappointed, and hurt. She knows that her family cannot afford the fee, and it seems unfair to her. Despite her sadness, Martha bravely explains her situation to the principal and stands up for what she believes is right. In the end, her integrity is rewarded when the principal decides to give her the jacket without payment.**

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