Total No. of Printed Pages: 10

CLASS – VI
ANNUAL EXAMINATION: 2024 - 2025
SUBJECT- ENGLISH
MARKING SCHEME: SET B1 & B2

Time Allowed- 2.5 Hours **Max. Marks – 60**

General Instructions:
1. The 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. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION A
READING 18

1. Read the given passage and answer the questions that follow. 10

THE SECRET LIFE OF SQUIRRELS

1. Have you ever stopped to watch a squirrel **scampering** around in a park or your backyard? These tiny, furry creatures may seem like they're just searching nuts and climbing trees, but there's a lot more to their lives than meets the eye! Squirrels are clever and hardworking animals. One of their favorite activities is collecting and storing food, especially nuts and seeds. But did you know they don't always remember where they hide their food? This forgetfulness can actually help nature because the buried nuts they forget often grow into new trees. So, squirrels are like little forest gardeners!

2. There are more than 200 species of squirrels, and they live all over the world, except in Antarctica. Some squirrels live in trees, while others, like ground squirrels, make their homes in burrows. Flying squirrels, on the other hand, don't actually fly—they glide through the air using a special flap of skin between their arms and legs. Watching them soar from tree to tree is like seeing nature's version of a superhero in action!

3. Squirrels are also great at problem-solving. They can figure out how to open tricky bird feeders, leap between high branches, and even outsmart humans trying to keep them away from gardens. Their sharp claws and strong legs make them excellent climbers, and their bushy tails help them balance and stay warm.

4. Another fun fact about squirrels is how they communicate. They use a mix of chirping sounds, tail movements, and even body language to warn each other about danger or let others know where food is. Sometimes, they'll even "fake bury" food to trick other animals watching them. Sneaky, right? Next time you see a squirrel, take a moment to watch its antics. You might spot it performing acrobatics, burying food, or simply playfully chasing its friends.

Q1.1 On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions by choosing the correct option. **1x5=5**

i. Which type of squirrel can glide through the air?
a) Tree squirrel
b) Ground squirrel
c) Flying squirrel
d) Giant squirrel

ii. Which of this best describes how do squirrels balance while climbing trees?
a) Their large eyes
b) Their tail
c) Their speed
d) Their sharp claws

iii. Complete the sentence appropriately by choosing the correct option:
The author states how squirrels communicate _____.
a) by acting
b) by using chirping sounds and tail movements
c) by dancing and performing gestures
d) by writing messages

iv. What does the passage imply about the behavior of squirrels when they "fake bury" their food?
a) They bury food without eating it
b) They hide food in places animals can't find
c) They pretend to bury food to trick other animals
d) They bury food in the water

v. How can the author of this passage claim that squirrels are considered helpful for nature?
a) They pollinate flowers
b) They help in spreading seeds by forgetting where they hid their food
c) They clean up parks
d) They control the insect population

Q1.2 Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions briefly. 1x5=5

vi. What does the passage suggest about the problem-solving skills of squirrels?
Ans: The passage suggests that squirrels are skilled problem solvers. They can figure out how to open tricky bird feeders and outsmart humans trying to keep them away from food.

vii. What types of squirrels are mentioned in the passage, and how do they differ from each other?
Ans: The passage mentions tree squirrels, ground squirrels, and flying squirrels. Tree squirrels live in trees, ground squirrels dig burrows, and flying squirrels glide through the air using flaps of skin between their arms and legs.

viii. Mention how squirrels are able to climb so effectively.
Ans: Squirrels are excellent climbers due to their sharp claws, strong legs, and ability to balance with their bushy tails, allowing them to easily navigate trees and other high places.

ix. Find out a synonym of 'running' as used in the first paragraph when referring to squirrels.
Ans: Scampering

x. Using the underlined word in the given sentence taken from paragraph 3, make a sentence of your own.
Squirrels can even **outsmart** humans trying to keep them away from gardens.
Ans: Accept all grammatically correct and meaningful sentences.

2. Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow. 8

How is My Coal?
1. How's my coal getting on?
I set as much aside for you as I could.
Don't use it all up at once.
It might come in handy one day.

2. How's my oil faring?
It keeps best underground, in the dark.
Doesn't do so well in the light.
*Don't let it **spoil**.*

3. How's the wind blowing?
I try to keep it moving,
keep it on the muscle,
keep the pressure on, make it hustle.

4. Any breaking news on wave power?
I've hired an intern to handle the oceans.

If we could make some ripples,
get more converts, that would be swell.

5. I assume you're using solar, right?
This other stuffs for backup.
In case there's a rainy day
for me, in space.

- Simon Barraclough

-

Q2.1 On the basis of your reading of the poem, answer the questions by choosing the correct option: 1x4=4

i. How are fossil fuels like coal and oil portrayed in the 1st and 2nd stanza of the poem?
a) As inexhaustible
b) As finite and limited
c) As innovative
d) As clean and renewable

ii. According to the poet, which energy source is described as "keeping best underground, in the dark"?
a) Coal
b) Oil
c) Wind
d) Solar

iii. From the given lines, what does the phrase "this other stuff's for backup" imply about solar energy in the poem?
I assume you're using solar, right?
This other stuffs for backup.

a) Solar energy is unreliable.
b) Solar energy should be used as the primary energy source.
c) Solar energy is not in use at all.
d) None of the above

iv. What is the main message that a reader can take away from the poem?
a) Renewable energy like wind, wave, and solar power are essential for a future.
b) The use of fossil fuels like coal and oil should be extensively used.
c) The poem encourages complete end to the use of all types of energy sources.
d) All types of energy resources should remain preserved for future generations.

Q2.2 Based on your understanding of the poem, answer the questions briefly. 1x4=4

v. Which energy source has been referred in relation with the phrase "keep it moving, keep it on the muscle"?
Ans: Wind

vi. Mention a line from the poem that suggests the possibility of running out of fossil fuels like coal?
Ans: "Don't use it all up at once."

vii. Find out a word from stanza two, which means the same as 'ruin'.
Ans: Spoil

viii. What is the antonym of "light" as suggested in the line "Doesn't do so well in the light"?
Ans: Dark

SECTION - B
GRAMMAR & WRITING SKILLS 24

Q. Attempt all the questions as directed.

Q3.1. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate form of the verb as directed. 1x2=2
a. My cat **sleeps** on the couch in the afternoon. **(sleep)** (simple present)
b. They **had been waiting** for hours when the concert finally started. **(wait)** (past perfect continuous)

Q3.2. Choose the correct form of the verb so that the verb agrees with the subject. 1x2=2
a. The dog **runs** in the yard every morning. **(run/runs/running)**
b. Neither the team leader nor her friends **are** coming to the party today. **(is/was/ are)**

Q3.3. Change the following sentences into indirect form of speech. 1x2=2
a. Ramya said, "I have planned a trip to the mountains with my friends."
Ans: Ramya said that she had planned a trip to the mountains with her friends.

b. The guide informed the students, "Dolphins are highly intelligent and can recognize themselves in a mirror."
Ans: The guide told the students that dolphins are highly intelligent and can recognize themselves in a mirror.

Q3.4. Identify the given type of sentence by its function. 1
a. Finish your homework before dinner. **(Imperative Sentence)**

Q3.5. Identify and write the subject and predicate separately in your answer script. **1**

a. The teacher and the students discussed the project and prepared a presentation together.

Subject: ***The teacher and the students***

Predicate: ***discussed the project and prepared a presentation together***

Q3.6. Mention the type of adjective as underlined in the given sentence. **1**

a. Shagun ate **two** apples for breakfast. (**Numeral Adjective)**

Q3.7. Fill in the blank using the type of adverb as mentioned in the bracket. **1**

a. Varun **always/often/never/any other acceptable answer** arrives early to class. **(Adverb of Frequency)**

Q3.8 Fill in the blank with an appropriate conjunction. **1**

a. Medha practiced every day **so/so that/ for** he could master the art of playing the piano.

Q3.9 Fill in the blank using a suitable preposition to complete the given sentence. **1**

a. Rishi walked **across** the bridge to reach the other side of the park.

SET B1

Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions.

Q4 A. You are Shrey/ Shruti Khanna, a student of Heritage School, Pune. Recently your school had organised a three- day trip to Jaipur/ Jim Corbett in which you had participated enthusiastically and enjoyed with your friends. In a diary entry, describe the excitement of the trip, the activities you enjoyed, while reflecting upon your favourite moments from the picnic. (80-100 words) **5**

OR

Q4 B. You were recently gifted a colouring kit by your grandparents which you brought to school to show your friends. But sadly, you lost the same during the day at school. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words asking students to help you find the colouring kit. Sign yourself as Fiza/ Farhan Khan of Bal Bharti School, New Delhi. **5**

Format-1 ***Contenet-2*** ***Expression -2***

Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions.

Q5 A. You are Arhaan/ Arisha Zikri, a resident of 134 B Vishal Nagar, Nagpur 302001. Write a letter to your cousin Daisy/ David Varoon sharing how you noticed a weak personality habit of yours during the last academic year, and how you plan on working to get rid of it in the upcoming year. (100-120 words) **7**

OR

Q5 B. Write a letter of apology to your class teacher for disrupting the quality time of the class. While the teacher was busy discussing a group project in the class, you were constantly talking and joking with your friends, that also distracted others. Sign yourself as Arjun/ Arunima Khanna, a student of Lotus Valley school, Chennai. (100-120 words) **7**

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

SET B2

Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions.

Q4 A. You are Aishwarya/ Aadyam Sharma, a student who lives in Dehradun. Write a diary entry sharing one good skill/lesson that you've learnt during your recent school trip to Agra/ ISRO. Describe the recollection of the incident and reflect upon your experience on the same. (80-100 words) **5**

OR

Q4 B. You brought a new cricket kit to school that you had received as a birthday gift from your parents. Incidentally, you lost the same during the day at school. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words asking students to help you find the cricket kit. Sign yourself as Karishma/ Kawaljit Bhalla of Modern School, New Delhi. **5**

Format-1 ***Contenet-2*** ***Expression -2***

Attempt ANY ONE of the following questions.

Q5 A. You are Avni/ Arun Verma, a resident of 512, Air Force Colony, Ghaziabad. Write a letter to your cousin Peter/ Patricia Shaw sharing a new hobby or a secret talent that you have discovered recently about yourself. Also enquire about your cousin's life and if they have tried something out of the ordinary. (100-120 words) **7**

OR

Q5 B. Write a letter of apology to your subject teacher for not completing your assignments given as homework on time. Mention the reason for failing to submit the important work as per the given deadline. Sign yourself as Kiaan/ Kavita Singh, a student of Lotus Valley school, Bangalore. (100-120 words) **7**

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

SECTION - C

LITERATURE **18**

Attempt ANY TWO of the following questions.

Q6. Read the extracts and answer the following questions with reference to context: 08

(6.A) **"*She's somebody's mother, boys, you know,*** **1+1+2=4**
For all she's aged and poor and slow,

And I hope some fellow will lend a hand
To help my mother, you understand,
If ever she's poor and old and gray,
When her own dear boy is far away."

- Somebody's Mother

i. Identify the poetic device used in the line "***For all she's aged and poor and slow,".***
a. Simile
b. Metaphor
c. Repetition
d. Onomatopoeia

ii. What does the speaker hope for in the future?
a. That the boys will be successful and will always care for their mothers.
b. That someone will help their own mother if she is ever old and gray.
c. That the old woman becomes rich and gets herself help.
d. That the boys will never grow old and be in a similar state.

iii. What reasons were given by the young boy to help the old lady?
Ans: The fact that she was old, alone and nobody was paying any attention to her prompts him to help the old lady and speak about her to the boys.

(6.B) ***The tragopan last week had heard*** **1+1+2=4**
The rumour from another bird
-Most probably a quail or sparrow:
Such birds have gossip in their marrow-
That man had hatched a crazy scheme

- from The Elephant and the Tragopan

i. Who is the tragopan likely to have heard the rumour from?
a. Another tragopan
b. A sparrow or quail
c. A human
d. A crow

ii. What is suggested about sparrows and quails in the stanza?
a. They are wise
b. They are noisy
c. They are known for spreading gossip
d. They are very quiet

iii. What kind of scheme did the man supposedly hatch?

Ans: The man had hatched a crazy scheme to mar the land, dam their stream and to cut their woods for the wood.

(6.C) ***The crocodile, with cunning smile, sat in the dentist's chair.*** ***1+1+2=4***
He said, "Right here and everywhere my teeth require repair."
The dentist's face was turning white. He quivered, quaked and shook.
He muttered, "I suppose I'm going to have to take a look."
- The Dentist and the Crocodile

i. What does the crocodile say about his teeth?
a. He has no teeth
b. His teeth require repair
c. His teeth are perfectly fine
d. His teeth are hurting

ii. What does the dentist do after hearing the crocodile's request?
a. He laughs in this funny situation
b. He refuses to treat the crocodile
c. He mutters and agrees to take a look
d. He calls for help

iii. What does the phrase 'turning white' in the third line imply?
Ans: The phrase 'turning white' is used by the poet to indicate that the dentist was frightened and was, therefore, looking pale.

Q7. <u>Answer ANY THREE of the following questions briefly in 30-40 words</u>. 2x3=6

a. In relation with the chapter 'The Flying Machine', express the inventor's true feelings about his machine and his experience of flying?
Ans: The inventor was very excited about his invention. He described his experience as a beautiful one. From above, he could see the gardens, the houses and even beyond the hills. He smelt the seas and felt the wind. He felt as free as a bird!

b. What was the author's opinion about the true nature of cats in the chapter 'On Cats and Dogs'?
Ans: The narrator claims that, they stick with you through thick or thin and become firm comrades. They are full of life, vitality and never fail to cheer you up. Cats comfort you in their own way that says as if they can understand what you are going through.

c. When and how does Sonu realise that he has misunderstood the situation? Support your answer with reference to the text 'Sorry, Best Friend!'.
Ans: It is when his mother takes him to Rahiman's house, past the slum locality that he realizes the living condition of his friend. Reality hits when his mother tells Bai that now Rahiman too can go to school. The money that she gave was to buy her books and uniform.

d. The old grandmother was worried at the beginning of the chapter ‘The Three Diamonds’. State the reasons for her worry about her grandson?

Ans: The grandmother was worried that her grandson had several bad habits, including drinking, gambling and lying. She thought that she would die an unhappy woman because her grandson did not appear to wish to change his ways.

e. *"It was all very well to say 'Drink me,' but the wise little Alice was not going to do that in a hurry."*

It is an excerpt from the chapter ‘Down the Rabbit Hole’. What happens in the story when Alice drinks from the bottle labelled ‘DRINK ME’ ?

Ans: When Alice drank from the bottle labelled ‘Drink Me’, she felt a very curious feeling—almost as if she was shutting up like a telescope. She liked the taste and finished off the entire bottle. Alice thought that she might slowly flicker and go out like a candle does, only to find herself 10 inches tall.

Q8. **Answer the following question in 80-100 words.** **4**

a. In ‘The Merchant of Venice’, Portia's father devised a unique test to determine the worthiness of Portia’s suitors. Explain the conditions that were set by Portia’s father for her suitors?

Ans: Portia’s father had set out certain conditions, and only the person who fulfilled these conditions was to marry his daughter. The suitor had to pledge to abide by the terms of her father’s will. The conditions went thus: the person who would win Portia’s hand and heart had to guess which of three caskets held her portrait. If the suitor guessed right, he would marry Portia; if he did not guess right, he was bound by oath never to reveal which casket he chose, never to marry and to go away at once.