

Std.VIII Section : _____

Subject : English

Marks : 80

Date : _____

Term - I

Name : _____ Roll No. _____

Time : 3 Hrs.

General Instructions:

1. This paper is divided into three sections – A, B and C.
2. Section A : Reading (20 Marks)
3. Section B : Writing and Grammar (20 Marks)
4. Section C : Literature (40 Marks)
5. All questions are compulsory.
6. Separate instructions are given with each section, wherever necessary.
Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.
7. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

Section A : Reading - 20Marks

Q.1 : Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. (Any 10) 10M

People in the National Capital Region may not be able to use firecrackers to celebrate festivals and marriage ceremonies as the Supreme Court on Friday said, "It would ask Centre not to issue fresh licences to sellers and suspend the existing licences to tackle the pollution crisis." Ruling out the proposition to ban the use of firecrackers as a measure to curb rising pollution levels, a bench of Chief Justice TS Thakur, Justices A K Sikri and SA Bobde said that ban on use was not feasible as it would be difficult to implement the order.

The court said cutting off the supply of firecrackers in the NCR would be an effective way to curb the practice of using firecrackers in the city. It said firecrackers were not being manufactured in the NCR so no order was required to stop them from carrying their business and its order should be confined to the selling of crackers.

"Union of India can be asked to suspend the existing licence granting to wholesale sellers. We would ask the government not to issue a fresh licence and the existing licence should not be renewed. Licence to store firecrackers be also suspended and the sellers would be given time to dispose of their existing stock by taking them out of the NCR," the bench said.

The court was hearing a bunch of petitions, including one filed by three infants, seeking the court's direction to ban the use of firecrackers in Diwali and other festivals. The infants two six-month-olds Arjun Gopal and Aarav Bhandari and a 14-month-old Zoya Rao Bhasin - had last year moved the SC through their advocate fathers to seek several measures to mitigate pollution and exercise their right to clean air as guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution.

The court, which had refused to ban crackers last year, is examining the issue as the pollution level has gone up alarmingly this year. Expressing concern over pollution, the bench said that 30% of children in the city were suffering from asthma.

1. What did the Supreme Court decide regarding the use of firecrackers?
a) not issue fresh licences b) suspend existing licences
c) rise pollution d) both (a) and (b)
2. What would be one of the effective ways to reduce firecrackers in NCR?
a) enforce it on children b) cut off the supply
c) ban marriages and festivals d) close the manufacturing
3. Where do sellers of firecrackers have to dispose them?
a) burning them b) selling them outside India
c) taking them out of NCR d) hiding them in stores
4. Who filed one of the petitions against the use of firecrackers?
a) school principals b) mothers c) advocates d) infants
5. Why did the judges say a complete ban on firecrackers was not possible?
a) implementation was difficult b) already there was plenty
c) their verdicts didn't match d) children don't listen to them
6. Why can there be no order to stop manufacturers from continuing their business?
a) they don't follow the law b) they sell it in huge quantities
c) manufactures were outside Delhi d) all of these
7. Where is clean air mentioned as a basic human right?
a) by the judge b) In the constitution
c) by civil authorities d) By SC
8. What did the bench suggest the court should do regarding licences?
a) cut off the supply b) suspend the existing licences
c) not issue fresh licences d) none of these
9. What percentage of children in the city were reported to be suffering from asthma due to pollution?
a) 10% b) 20% c) 30% d) 40%
10. Under which Article is the right to clean air guaranteed?
a) Article 14 b) Article 19 c) Article 21 d) Article 370
11. 'The court was hearing a bunch of petitions.' (Identify the tense)
a) Simple Present Tense b) Past Continuous Tense
c) Future Perfect Tense d) Present Continuous Tense
12. What is the synonym of the word 'discontinue'?
a) confine b) suspend c) renew d) dispose

Q.2 : Read the passage carefully and answers the questions that follow.

(Any 10)

10M

Title: Global Food Production and Its Challenges

Food production is the process of growing crops, raising animals, and preparing food for consumption. It includes agriculture, livestock farming, fisheries, and food

processing. With the global population expected to reach 9.7 billion by 2050, food production must increase by about 60% to meet future demand.

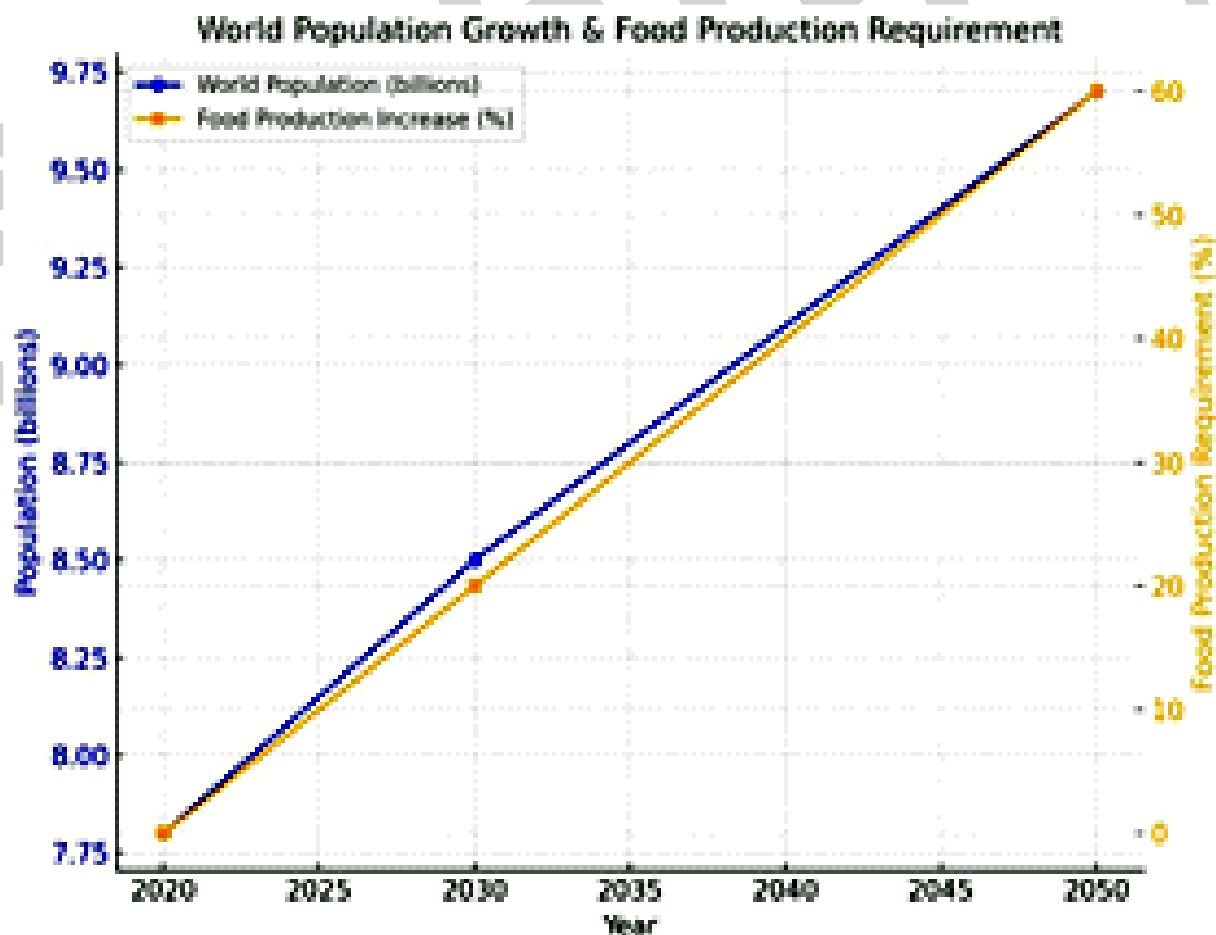
Modern methods like using tractors, irrigation systems, chemical fertilizers, and genetically modified (GM) seeds have improved production. However, these practices also cause environmental issues such as soil degradation, water pollution, and loss of biodiversity.

Key Challenges in Food Production:

1. Climate Change – Droughts, floods, and changing weather patterns reduce crop yields.
2. Soil Depletion – Overfarming and use of chemicals weaken the soil.
3. Water Shortages – Agriculture uses up to 70% of global freshwater.
4. Food Waste – Around 1.3 billion tons of food is wasted every year, enough to feed 2 billion people.

To make food production sustainable, countries are now promoting:
Organic farming (without chemicals)
Crop rotation
Using less water-intensive crops
Reducing food waste through better storage and distribution

2.1 : On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below : (1 × 10 = 10M)



1. What is the expected world population by 2050?
a) 8 billion b) 9.7 billion c) 10.5 billion d) 7.5 billion
2. By what percentage must food production increase to meet future demand?
a) 10% b) 30% c) 60% d) 100%
3. Which modern farming method is mentioned in the passage?
a) Crop rotation b) Using tractors
c) Organic farming d) Food storage
4. What is one negative effect of overfarming and use of chemicals?
a) Soil depletion b) Ozone depletion
c) Climate change d) Urbanization
5. What percentage of global freshwater is used by agriculture?
a) 30% b) 50% c) 70% d) 90%
6. How much food is wasted globally every year?
a) 1.3 million tons b) 13 million tons
c) 1.3 billion tons d) 3 billion tons
7. How many people could be fed with the food wasted each year?
a) 1 billion b) 2 billion c) 3 billion d) 5 billion
8. Which practice is suggested for sustainable farming?
a) Using more chemical fertilizers b) Expanding urban areas
c) Organic farming d) Building new factories
9. What was the approximate world population in 2020 according to the diagram?
a) 7.75 billion b) 8.5 billion c) 9.7 billion d) 10 billion
10. By which year is the world population projected to reach about 8.5 billion?
a) 2020 b) 2030 c) 2040 d) 2050
11. Identify the type of sentence "Agriculture uses up to 70% of global freshwater".
a) Interrogative b) Exclamatory c) Declarative d) Imperative
12. Choose the correct form of the verb:
"Modern farming methods _____ improved food production."
a) has b) have c) is d) was

Section B: Writing and Grammar [20M]

Q.3 : Attempt any one of the following.

5M

A] Write an application to the principal of your school for requesting about the concession in school fees. Provide a valid reason for the same. You are Mohit / Mohini Sharma from class 8th, Prabhat Kids School, Akola.

OR

B] Write a letter to your best friend apologizing for missing his/her birthday party. You are Nilesh / Nalini Gupta, 26 Park Avenue, Ashok Vihar, New Delhi.

Q.4 : Attempt any one of the following.**5M**

A] Complete the story given below in about 100 – 120 words.

You can begin your story with.....

"One day, while cleaning the attic (store room), I found a strange box that began to glow..."

OR

B] Write a bio sketch of Mother Teresa in about 100 – 120 words.

Name : Mother Teresa (born as Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu)
Born : 26th August 1910, Skopje (now in North Macedonia)
Joined : Sisters of Loreto at age 18
Moved to India : 1929
Work : Founded Missionaries of Charity in 1950
Achievements : Nobel Peace Prize (1979), Bharat Ratna (1980)
Qualities : Kind, Compassionate, Selfless
Contribution : Helped the poor, sick, and needy
Died : 5th September 1997

Q.5 : Choose the correct option. (Any 6)**6M**

1. I have read _____ of these books.
a) any b) many c) little d) most
2. The committee ____ making the final decision.
a) are b) is c) were d) have
3. You can see the doctor _____ 8 a.m. and 12 noon.
a) at b) in c) between d) on
4. He has been living in Mumbai _____ 2010.
a) since b) for c) from d) at
5. Though _____ youngest in team, he plays better than all others.
a) a b) an c) the d) no article
6. You _____ apply ice bag, if the temperature is up to 102° F.
a) should b) must c) can d) may
7. I know _____ he will become great one day.
a) and b) that c) whether d) so

Q.6 : Edit the following passage. (Any 4)**4M**

Yesterday, I find a wallet in the park.

It was laying under a bench.

I picked it up and look inside.

There was a ID card and some money.

I gone to the nearest police station.

They thanked me and keep the wallet safe.

Incorrect

find

Correct

found

- | | | |
|----|-------|-------|
| a) | _____ | _____ |
| b) | _____ | _____ |
| c) | _____ | _____ |
| d) | _____ | _____ |
| e) | _____ | _____ |

Section C - (Literature – 40 Marks)

Q. 7 : Read the following extracts carefully and answers the questions that follow. 5M

A] One afternoon, Bepin Choudhury stopped by a bookstore in Calcutta to look for some new books to read. While browsing the shelves, a stranger approached him and greeted him warmly. The man introduced himself as Parimal Ghose and claimed they had met in Ranchi in 1958. Bepin was confused—he was sure he had never been to Ranchi. But the man insisted, recalling many personal details: Bepin had injured his knee, stayed in a guest house, and had spoken about his wife's death. Bepin was disturbed. How could the man know such things if the meeting had never happened?

1. Why did Bepin Choudhury visit the bookstore?
a) To meet a friend b) To return a book
c) To browse for new books d) To buy a gift
2. Who approached Bepin in the bookstore?
a) Dr. Chanda b) Chunilal c) Parimal Ghose d) A bookseller
3. What did Parimal Ghose claim?
a) That he was Bepin's cousin b) That they met in Ranchi in 1958
c) That Bepin had stolen his book d) That he worked at the bookstore
4. What is the synonym of the word "disturbed" as used in the passage?
a) Calm b) Upset c) Relaxed d) Happy
5. What was Bepin's reaction to Parimal's claims?
a) He laughed b) He became angry
c) He ignored him d) He was disturbed and confused

OR

B] While repairing the damaged roll-top desk in his garage on Christmas Eve, the narrator opened a small drawer. Inside, hidden under a lining, was a small tin box. On it, a note was taped that read, "Jim's last letter, received January 25, 1915. To be buried with me when the time comes." Inside the box was an envelope containing a letter. The narrator was surprised and curious. The letter had been written by a soldier during the war.

1. What did the narrator find inside the desk?
a) A photo album b) A newspaper cutting
c) A small tin box with a letter inside d) A soldier's uniform
2. When did the narrator discover the box?
a) On New Year's Eve b) On Christmas Eve
c) On Boxing Day d) On Christmas morning
3. What is the antonym of the word "surprised" as used in the passage?
a) Shocked b) Astonished c) Expected d) Amazed
4. What emotion did the narrator feel upon finding the letter?
a) Anger b) Boredom
c) Surprise and curiosity d) Disappointment

5. Who had written the letter found in the desk?
- a) The narrator's grandfather
 - b) Jim Macpherson
 - c) A German soldier
 - d) The bookseller

Q. 8 : Read the following extract carefully and answers the questions that follow. **5M**

A. "Come and hire me," I cried, while in the morning
I was walking on the stone-paved road.
Sword in hand the King came in his chariot.
He held my hand and said,
"I will hire you with my power."
But his power counted for naught, and he went away in his chariot.

1. Who was the first person to approach the speaker?
a) A child b) A king c) An old man d) A farmer
2. What did the king offer to hire the speaker with?
a) Gold b) Wisdom c) Power d) Love
3. How did the speaker respond to the king's offer?
a) He accepted it happily b) He rejected it
c) He asked for more money d) He felt honoured
4. What does "his power counted for naught" suggest?
a) The king's power was helpful b) The speaker feared the king
c) The speaker didn't value power d) The king gave him nothing
5. Which figure of speech is used in the 3rd line?
a) Simile b) Metaphor c) Imagery d) Alliteration

OR

B. "My heart was so light
That I sang day and night,
For all nature looked gay."
"You sang, Sir, you say?
Go then," says the ant, "and dance the winter away."

1. Why did the cricket sing day and night?
a) He was hungry b) He was happy and carefree
c) He wanted to store food d) He was afraid of the ant
2. How did the cricket view nature?
a) Dark and gloomy b) Beautiful and joyful
c) Strange and scary d) Dull and lifeless
3. What advice does the ant give the cricket?
a) Store food for winter b) Keep singing
c) Dance the winter away d) Help other insects
4. What quality of the cricket is highlighted in this stanza?
a) Hardworking b) Carefree and lazy c) Wise d) Helpful

5. "All nature looked gay," Which figure of speech is used in this line ?
a) Metaphor b) Personification c) Alliteration d) Irony

Q.9 : Answer the following questions in 30 to 40 words. (Any 4) 12M

- 1) Why are cities developed near rivers and valleys?
- 2) What were the various views about the arrival of the British in India?
- 3) How did animals sense the tsunami before it hit?
- 4) The old man offered the speaker a lot of money. Why did he turn down the offer?
- 5) How does the ant respond to the cricket's request?

Q.10 : Answer the following questions in 30 to 40 words. (Any 2) 6M

- 1) What are the three qualities that played a major role in the author's climb?
- 2) Why did Bepin Babu worry about what Parimal Ghose had said?
- 3) How did the British exploit Indian industries?

Q.11 : Answer the following questions in 100 to 120 words. 6M

- A) Analyze the significance of the title "The Summit Within" in the context of the author's experiences.

OR

- B) Describe Bepin Choudhury's psychological journey throughout the story. How does his character evolve from beginning to end?

Q.12 : Answer the following questions in 100 to 120 words. 6M

- A) Explain the moral of the poem 'The Ant and the Cricket'. How can you apply this lesson in your daily life? Support your answer with examples.

OR

- B) Why does the speaker accept the child's offer? What does it signify?
