



INDIAN SCHOOL DARSAIT
SAMPLE PAPER-HALF YEARLY EXAM
ENGLISH

Class: VI

Max. Marks: 80

Date:

Time: 3 hrs

General Instructions:

i. All questions are compulsory.

ii. You may attempt any section at a time.

iii. All questions of a particular section must be attempted in the correct order.

Section A : Reading - 20 marks

Section B : Writing and Grammar - 30 marks

Section C : Literature - 30 marks

SECTION-A

READING

20 MARKS

1. **Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.**

Having Pets At Home

It has often been proved that animals are our friends. We establish intimacy with them by adopting them. Sometimes pets are housed in cages, while some pet animals are allowed to stay in our homes freely. Both, animals and birds make excellent domestic pets.

The dog is probably the most faithful of all animals. It plays the role of a watchman and guards our home constantly. When it finds that its master is in any danger, it goes to his aid. There are many stories written about the courageous acts of dogs.

The cat is another animal that makes a good pet. Some people may have pet cats for the

sake of fashion. Despite that, the merits of a cat as a pet animal cannot be denied. When our homes are ravaged by rats, cats help us by killing them and thus save our food stock from ruin.

Some people adapt monkeys as pets for the sheer pleasure of it, although monkeys are not as helpful as dogs or cats. Children love to play with monkeys. Some people teach these animals different tricks to utilize them as a means of income. Some people keep rabbits, mongooses, white mice, etc. as pets, because these animals are beautiful to look at.

Besides animals, birds too are kept as pets. Parrots and peacocks are favoured for their attractive features. Parrots and mynas are talking birds. These birds can learn to call the members of the family by their names. Pigeons stand for peace. In the past, they were used to carry messages from place to place.

Although the pigeon's role as a post-man has become remote today, we still have them as pets, if only for display and pleasure. Man's life is full of boredom. He is tired of his monotonous profession. After a long day at work he returns to his home and finds peace in the company of his pets.

Yet, it is said that pets are innocent friends of cruel masters and sometimes man perpetrates crimes upon his innocent pets. A pet deer, Julie, was killed by her cruel master to gratify the greed of his European friend. Thus, the purpose of keeping pet-animals is sometimes abused.

On the basis of your comprehension of the passage, answer the questions :- 1x7=7

1. Dogs play the role of a _____.
a. friend b. watchman c. master
2. Why are cats kept as pets?
a. For fashion sake b. They're helpful c. They are helpful and for fashion sake.
3. Do you agree with the statement, 'Animals are our friends.'?
a. Yes, very strongly. b. No. c. Partially.
4. Some people teach their pet animals tricks for _____.
a. pleasure b. income c. neither pleasure nor income
5. White mice and rabbits are kept as pets because _____.
a. they look beautiful. b. they are very loyal animals. c. they help in hunting.
6. Which bird carried messages from place to place in olden days?
a. Pigeon b. Parrot c. Myna
7. Why is the purpose of keeping pet-animals often abused?

- a. Pet-animals are dangerous. b. They're treated badly by their masters.
- c. They're not good servants.

2. **Read the passage given below carefully.**

In the beautiful little village, the farming folks woke up as early as anyone. In the small cottages women began to stoke up their hearths and heat water, while the men prepared themselves for the work and children dragged themselves sleepy-eyed from their warm beds.

Outside they could all see the snow piled high in waves, glistening in the sunlight. It may look pretty, more than one man has heard to mutter under his breath, but it would mean some hard digging with the spade to clear the way before work could begin. After all, there were still animals to be fed and cleaned, even if it were not possible to work the land. Doors were slowly opened and piles of snow on the doorsteps swept back. There was still a chill in the air despite the sun. But there was a crispness about it that made some of the folk stop and glance appreciatively about them. Quite a number of them were to see the mysterious footprints in the snow at just the same time that Friday morning.

It was not an unusual sight to see the tiny footmarks of birds or small animals on the snow as they hopped here and there looking for something that might 'not have been' or 'have been' buried in the snow. There was certainly no mistaking them. But as several of the residents looked out, they saw the most extra-ordinary row of footprints that human eyes ever caught sight of. For, these prints were crescent shaped and ran in a single straight line across the gardens, up and down the walls, and even over the roofs of houses and cottages.

As those who had first noticed the prints brought them to the attention of their families, more people stepped out into the snow to see how far they stretched. From one building to the next, across the street, and directly over whatever obstacles was in the way, the footmarks went unerringly onwards. Those who were already dressed for outdoors were soon huddled in small groups considering the extraordinary sight. As they tracked the marks they could see that the line not only went across the ground but over the most inaccessible places, over tall hayricks, through gardens and courtyards enclosed by high walls and paling, and even directly up the walls and over the roofs of houses. More extraordinary still was the shape of the prints, which seemed to resemble a donkey's shoe and were spaced about eight inches apart, one directly in front of the next. But who, the puzzled residents began to ask each other, had ever heard of a donkey that could place all its feet in a straight line and walk up perpendicular surfaces?

A. Fill in the blanks using suitable words chosen from the passage.

- a) The snow was _____ in the sunlight that morning.

- b) Some people were pleased to see the snow and glanced _____ about them.
- c) The people saw the most _____ row of footmarks in the snow.
- d) The footmarks did not come to an end; they went _____ onwards.
- e) The residents were certainly _____ by the footprints.
- f) Doors were slowly opened and piles of snow on the _____ swept back.

B. Give another word from the passage for each of the following

- a. Fence
 - b. freshness
- $\frac{1}{2} \times 2 = 1$

C. Are the following statements true or false?

- a) The children in the village eagerly rose from their beds that morning _____
 - b) Although it was sunny, it was still cold. _____
 - c) The snowfall had been quite heavy. _____
 - d) Birds and small animals had hopped around looking for something that had been buried in the snow _____
- $\frac{1}{2} \times 4 = 2$

D. Answer the following questions:-

- a) What unusual thing did the villagers see on a Friday morning?
 - b) What was the strangest thing about the footprint?
 - c) Why were the residents of the village puzzled?
 - d) Apart from the footprints on the ground, where else did the villagers find the footprints?
- $1 \times 4 = 4$

SECTION B

WRITING SKILLS AND GRAMMAR

30 MARKS

- 3. Your grandfather has just celebrated his 75th birthday. Write a letter to him on this occasion expressing your joy and love for him. (70-90 words) 6
- 4. Write a dialogue between two friends who have just come out of the Examination hall. (70-90 words) 6
- 5. Imagine today was Teachers' Day and your class gave a beautiful surprise to your teacher. Write a diary entry on how your class planned the surprise and how excited you were about it. (70-90 words) 6
- 6. **Fill in the blanks with appropriate form of verbs given in brackets.** $\frac{1}{2} \times 8 = 4$
 - a) She _____ delicious pizzas. (make, makes)
 - b) Raj and Roshan _____ good friends. (is, are)

- c) The scissors _____ on the table.(is, are)
- d) Bread and butter _____ ideal for breakfast. (is, are)
- e) Ten kilometers _____ a long walk. (is, are)
- f) They _____ presented a play. (has, have)
- g) We will _____ saplings. (plant, plants)
- h) I _____ chocolates. (like, likes)

7. **Read the following sentences and identify the subject and predicate and write them in your answer sheets against the correct blank numbers.** $\frac{1}{2} \times 8 = 4$

- a) My elder brother serves in the army.
- b) The dogs were barking loudly.
- c) The hunter caught the hare.
- d) My mother and aunt are trained classical dancers.
- e) The pretty girl was wearing a white frock.
- f) The early bird catches the worm.
- g) We enjoyed the party.
- i) Mr. Hari will attend the meeting tomorrow.

8. **Identify the given group of words as Phrase or Clause. Write P for Phrase and C for Clause in your answer sheet against the correct blank numbers.** $\frac{1}{2} \times 8 = 4$

- a) Before he was caught.
- b) In the evening
- c) Under the dark blue sky
- d) He was such a good man
- e) During breakfast
- f) The wind blew
- g) They went
- h) in the shelf

SECTION C: LITERATURE

30 MARKS

9. A. **Read the following lines and answer the questions that follow.** $1 \times 3 = 3$

“A dreary ant, a weary ant, resolved no more to roam,

He staggered up the garden path and popped back home”

- 1) Name the poem and the poet.
- 2) What did the ant resolve before reaching home?
- 3) How does the poet express that the ant had fears?

B. **Read the following lines and answer the questions that follow.**

1x3=3

“I was so melancholic that I was ready to die with grief”

- 1) Name the story.
- 2) Who is the speaker of the words?
- 3) Why did the speaker feel so?

10. Read the following questions and answer any six of them in about 25 words. **2x6=12**

- a) Why did the whitewashing seem painful to Tom? What did he really want to do?
- b) What did Rakesh and his grandfather do in the cold winter evenings?
- c) Why did Pandora not open the box in the beginning even though she had wanted to look inside it from the first moment?
- d) Why did Sinbad decide to sail the second time?
- e) “Things were running very smoothly but for one irritant” in the story ‘How the Cat Became’. What was that?
- f) Tom had discovered the ‘great law of human action’. What was it?
- g) How did Rakesh know that it was spring in the lesson ‘The Cherry Tree’?

11. Answer any one of the questions in about 60 to 80 words. **6**

- a) What difficulties did Cat face at his job in the story, ‘How the Cat Became’? How did he overcome them?
- b) What was the dome-like structure that caught Sinbad’s attention? How does he describe the enormity of this?

12. Answer any one of the questions in about 60 to 80 words. **6**

- a) Do you think the story ‘Pandora and the Mysterious Box’ tries to give us a message? What is it?
- b) What was unique about Miss Beam’s system of education in the lesson “The School for Sympathy”? What was the purpose of having such a system?