



विद्या सर्वार्थ साधिका

ANANDALAYA
PERIODIC TEST – 1
Class : VIII

Subject: English
Date : 19/07/2019

M.M: 50
Time: 2 Hours

General Instructions:

1. This paper is divided into four sections: A, B, C and D. All the sections are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

Section A (Reading) 15 Marks

- 1 Read the passage carefully.

Jhalkaribai

- 1 Rani Laxmibai realized that she had been betrayed during the Rebellion of 1857, General Hugh Rose attacked Jhansi with a large army on March 23, 1858. The fort of Jhansi had been opened up for the British by her own guard Dulha Ju. Nana Sahib's forces camping at Kalpi had not reached there yet to help, and the Rani did not know when they would. Having no other choice, she and a few of her soldiers had fled to Kalpi to join Nana Sahib at his camp to regroup and re-attack.
- 2 "The Rani has escaped!" the British soldiers screamed. Some of them followed her while the others rushed to inform General Hugh Rose. Jhalkaribai, a soldier in the women's wing of the queen's army and a close confidante of Rani Laxmibai, decided to protect her queen when she heard of her escape. Having an uncanny resemblance to the queen, she dressed up as her and led the army to the General's camp.
- 3 The General, confused by the two conflicting news, rushed out. Her dress and looks convinced him that the former news had been false. The chaos that ensued at the British camp gave the actual queen enough time to escape to safety. However, the confusion lasted only for a day. For the treacherous guard, Dulha Ju exposed Jhalkaribai.
- 4 Jhalkaribai was born in Bhojla village near Jhansi. She was the only child of her parents. Having lost her mother at a very young age, Jhalkaribai's father trained her in horse riding and use of weaponry. She was introduced to Rani Laxmibai when Jhalkaribai got married to Puran Singh, a soldier from the artillery unit of Rani Laxmibai's army. Jhalkaribai bore a close resemblance to Rani Laxmibai and because of this she was inducted into the women's wing of the army. Within no time she had grown in ranks and become a close confidante and key advisor to the queen.
- 5 There is a statue of in Jhalkaribai's honour in Gwalior. In 2001, the Government of India released a postage stamp to pay tribute to the warrior who lived and died defending her country.

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- 1.1 Answer the questions in short.
 - (a) Complete the sentence. (1)
The confusion which occurred in the British camp _____.
 - (b) State reasons why Jhalkaribai was selected as a soldier in the women's wing? (2)
 - (c) What has been done by the Indian Government to honour Jhalkaribai? (1)
 - (d) Write two adjectives to describe Jhalkaribai. (1)

- (e) Do you think that women empowerment was given much importance then? (2)
Why is it important according to you?

1.2 Find out words from the passage which mean the same as the following words.

- (i) strange and mysteriously (para 2) - _____ (1)
(ii) to bring in as member (para 4) - _____ (1)

2. Read the passage carefully.

1 Yuuki lived in a village below a small mountain. His grandfather, who passed away, had taught Yuuki much about raising rice crops, solving disputes and a great deal about the ways of the world. He was the headman of the village in his lifetime. Yuuki's family cultivated enormous fields of rice.

2 One day, Yuuki was playing on top of the small mountain when, all of a sudden, he felt an earthquake beneath his feet, but not strong enough to frighten anybody. However, Yuuki noticed something very strange. The sea darkened all of a sudden and it seemed to be rushing backward, towards the horizon, leaving behind wide stretches of beach that had never been exposed before.

3 With a gasp, Yuuki suddenly remembered that his grandfather told him that just before a terrible tsunami, the sea suddenly and quickly rolls backward. Yuuki ran down the mountain side to warn people of the impending danger. Already, many had run to the beach to witness the spectacular new stretch of ribbed sand.

'Get back, there is a terrible danger!' shouted the boy.

'What?' laughed one person. 'Look at all the beautiful shells on the beach!'

'No, no! You don't understand!' cried Yuuki.

But no one would listen to him. They all laughed in his face. Desperate, Yuuki lit a pine torch and set fire to hundreds of his own rice stacks. Soon the stacks burst into flame. The people, horrified, hurried from over the beach, like a swarm of ants, to the flaming fields.

4 'Yuuki is mad!' cried one of the boys when they had all reached the top. 'He set fire to the rice on purpose, I saw him do it!'

Just then, someone cried, 'Look!'

People noticed the sea returning to the coast towering like a cliff and raging swiftly towards them. 'A tsunami!' shrieked the people. This was followed by a roaring thunder as the gigantic, moving wall of water struck the shore. It was a burst of foam like a blaze of sheet lightning. Then, for an instant, nothing could be seen but a storm rushing up the slope like a cloud. The people scattered back in panic from terror. When they looked again, they saw a menacing white blanket of sea spreading over the place of their homes. It drew back, tearing out the land as it went. Twice, thrice, five times the sea struck before it returned to its normal place.

5 On the mountain, all stared speechlessly at the desolation below, at the ruins and debris that were scattered over what was left of their village.

'Yuuki,' said the people, 'you saved us all.'

And they cheered with relief and admiration for the brave Yuuki who, that day, had saved over 400 lives.

Source: Stories for Kids

2.1 Tick the most appropriate option for each of the following.

- i) Many people of the village had run to the beach _____. (1)
a. to help the people who were drowning.
b. to look at the waves rolling towards the shore.
c. to look at the sunset.
d. to look at the beautiful shells and stretch of ribbed sand.
- ii) How do you know that Yuki's grandfather was a wise man? (1)

- iii) Why did Yuki set fire to hundreds of his own rice stacks? (1)
- iv) Yuki proved himself to be a brave boy? Justify (2)
- v) Complete the sentence.
- a. Yuki realized the threat of the tsunami because _____ . (1)
- iii) Choose a suitable synonym of **impending** from the options (1)
- a. late b. former c. approaching d. recent

Section C (Writing) 10 Marks

3. The most beautiful things in life are not things. They are people, places, memories and pictures. Also, they are feelings, moments, smiles and laughter. Write a diary entry in 100 to 120 words about your most memorable time spent with your family members. (6)
4. You are the Cultural Secretary of your school. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words, inviting the students of classes VI to XII to participate in the cultural programme to celebrate School Foundation Day. Write all the necessary details. (4)

Section C (Grammar) 5 Marks

7. Fill in the blanks using the correct forms of verbs to complete the conversation (2)
- Megha : Ayushi, why _____ (look) so grumpy?
 Ayushi : Oh! It's all because of the pranks of that brother of mine.
 You will not believe what he did?
 Megha : Do tell me.
 Ayushi : When I woke up this morning, a huge fake cockroach _____
 (lie) next to my pillow. I started shrieking in fright. Suddenly, out of
 no where a water balloon landed near me. I _____ (soak)
 wet but _____ (save) by my mother just in the nick of time.
8. Rearrange the words and phrase to form meaningful sentences. (3)
- i. man / Great / known / to / young / Ashoka, / be / was / cruel / a / the
 ii. wooden / once / was a / a lion / killing / fearless hunter, / just / stick / a / he / with
 iii. benevolent / a kind / also / he is / and / ruler / but / remembered / and

Section D (Literature) 10 Marks

9. Read the extract from the poem and answer the following questions.

*“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.”
 Thus ending, he hastily lifted the wicket,
 And out of the door turned the poor little cricket.
 Folks call this a fable, I'll warrant it true:
 Some crickets have four legs, and some have two.*

- (i) Why does the speaker say that he sang day and night? (1)
- (ii) Which principle the ants believe in? (1)
- (iii) How can you say that this poem is a fable? (1)
- (iv) What is the meaning of **wicket** in the above lines? (1)

Or

*When the jet sprang into the sky,
It was clear why the city
had developed the way it had,
Seeing it scaled six inches to the mile.
There seemed an inevitability
About what on ground had looked haphazard
unplanned and without style
When the jet sprang into the sky.
When the jet reached ten thousand feet,
it was clear why the country
had cities where the rivers ran
and why the valleys were populated.
The logic of geography-
That land and water attracted man-
Was clearly delineated
When the jet reached ten thousand feet.*

- (i) Which poetic device is used in the fourth line? (1)
- (ii) What do these words **haphazard and unplanned** refer to in the poem? (1)
- (iii) What does the poet understand when he reaches ten thousand feet? (1)
- (iv) What is the logic of geography the poet wants to explain in the poem? (1)

10. Answer the following questions in 30 to 40 words. (**Any five**)

- (i) How could Tilly Smith save lives of people when the tsunami struck Phuket Island? (2)
Why was she able to do it?
- (ii) What are the natural warning signs of tsunami and what precautions are to be taken to minimize the destruction of life and property? (2)
- (iii) What oppression did the Indians suffer at the hands of the British? (2)
- (iv) Mention the sparks of 1885 that led to the revolt of 1857? (2)
- (v) The Djinn assured the camel that his hump would always be a help, not a hindrance. (2)
Explain.
- (vi) Why was Velu confused when Jaya gave him a pair of shoes, stick and sack? (2)

11. Answer the questions in 80 to 100 words

- (i) How fortunate you are to live a different kind of life other than Velu and Jaya. (3)
Explain. Mention causes of child labour? What will your contribution be if you want to eradicate child labour?
- (ii) Why should you know about the past history of our nation? What are your feelings for your country as a student in the present times? How has our country progressed since the time of independence? (3)