



ANANDALAYA
PERIODIC TEST-3
Class : VIII

Subject : English
Date : 08-01-2025

M.M : 40
Time : 1 Hr. 30 Min.

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper contains four sections.
2. Section A-Reading has a passage for comprehension.
3. Section B-Writing has 2 questions. Adhere to the word limit as given in the instructions with each question.
4. Section C- Grammar has two questions. Read the instructions carefully.
5. Section D-Literature has 3 questions. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION-A
Reading Section (8 Marks)

1. Read the passage given below.
 - a) The old man pressed his granddaughter's face against his chest. 'Quiet' he whispered urgently. "Don't move. If you do, we are lost."
 - b) The mob came rushing down the road, hooting and shouting provocative slogans. The old man drew his arm protectively around the little girl's shoulders. "Don't cry, he whispered. They will not find us here."
 - c) But when he heard the tramping in front of the woodshed where they were hiding, he wasn't so sure. Someone kicked the door open. Framed in the open doorway, silhouetted against a red sky, stood two men. Behind them houses burned and sky was thick with smoke.
 - d) "Can you see anyone?" asked the shorter of the two. "Not yet", was the reply.
 - e) A torch flashed. Its beam pierced the semi darkness of the shed. The old man shrank back against the stacks of firewood, hoping that the empty drums in front would shield them from the searching light. Eyes wide with terror, he watched the light sweep over the piles of wood, then zig-zag over the peeling walls. Probing the piles of charcoal, drawing closer and closer, the powerful beam hit him in the eyes. Before the old man could turn his face away from the blinding light, his eyes caught the face of the tall, dark intruder. For a moment, their eyes met and held. He knew the man, he knew him very well. His neighbour's son, his friend. But that didn't seem to matter. Not now, not anymore. What mattered now was religion. To share the belief in the same God. The old man closed his eyes, and turned his face away. Trapped! Caught! Too late to run! Too late to pray! Too late for anything. Time to die.
 - f) "Do you see anything?" The shorter man pushed past, "is anybody inside?" The old man held his breath. With his eyes shut, his heart thumping wildly under his sweat stained shirt, he waited. Then, after what seemed an eternity, the tall man's voice reached him. They came from far away. "No, let's go. There is nobody here". And the shed was plunged into darkness once again. As the mob faded into the distance and the darkness enveloped the shed once more, the old man felt a sense of relief wash over him, grateful for the brief kindness from the tall man who had spared their lives.

On the basis of your reading of the passage, answer the following questions.

- (i) Why did the tall man's torchlight linger on the old man's face? (1)
 - (A) He wanted to make sure no one was hiding.
 - (B) He accidentally pointed the torch at the old man.
 - (C) He was unsure whether to expose the old man.
 - (D) He was determined to search every corner.

- (ii) What does the burning sky in the background suggest about the broader situation? (1)
 (A) It indicates that the village was celebrating the festival of Holi.
 (B) It symbolizes the chaos and destruction caused by the mob.
 (C) It shows that the village was experiencing a natural disaster.
 (D) It reflects peace and calmness after the conflict ended.
- (iii) What is the relationship between the old man and the tall man? (1)
 (A) Their families were lifelong enemies from neighbouring villages.
 (B) They were neighbours who previously had a good relationship.
 (C) They were strangers who met during the mob attack.
 (D) They were family members caught in a religious feud.
- (iv) What does the tall man's final decision reveal about him? (1)
 (A) He prioritized religious duty over personal feelings.
 (B) He hesitated, but ultimately followed the orders.
 (C) He remained completely loyal to the mob's cause.
 (D) He chose to act compassionately despite the conflict.
- (v) Why did the old man believe "it was too late for anything"? (1)
- (vi) What was the significance of the torchlight in this situation? (1)
- (vii) Write a meaningful sentence using the word 'pierced' as used in the sentence, 'Its beam pierced the semi-darkness of the shed'. (1)
- (viii) Find a synonym of the word 'triggering' as used in paragraph (b). (1)

SECTION-B

Writing Section (11 Marks)

2. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in 50 words. (4)
- A. Your school is organising a cultural programme to collect funds for slum children. The Governor has consented to be the Chief Guest. Draft a poster to be displayed in different parts of the city.
- B. You are the Secretary of Reading Club in your school. Draft a poster to spread awareness on the benefits of reading.
3. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in 100-120 words. (7)
- A. You are Raghu Sen staying at Press Apartments, Nagpur. The main road leading to this colony has three open manholes causing frequent accidents at night. Also, it gets so dark after seven in winter that residents cannot venture out alone at night. They fear for their safety. Write a letter to the Editor of 'The India Times' drawing the attention of the municipal corporation authorities to this problem of the residents.
- B. You are Akhil/Akshata, studying in Vidya Niketan School, Lucknow. You, along with a few friends, visited some areas of Punjab. The rich culture and heritage of this state fascinated you. Write a letter to the Editor of 'The Times of India', highlighting the importance and value of Indian culture. Also, suggest ways to preserve and promote our culture at different state levels.

SECTION-C

Grammar Section (7 Marks)

4. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the error (4x1=4) and its correction in your answer sheet. The first one has been done as an example.

	Incorrect	Correct
Dance is an art form is	e.g. <u>is</u>	<u>as</u>
well known, for dance as a therapy is not	(a)	
known in many. Dance therapy involves	(b)	
a synthesis of the grace and vigour of Indian Classical and	(c)	
folk dance movements to an innovative holistic therapy.	(d)	

5. Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences. (3x1=3)
- (i) important/ skills/ are/ communication
 - (ii) understand each other,/ and/ they help people/ achieve goals/ express their feelings,
 - (iii) reduces the/ communication/ potential for/ clear/ conflict

SECTION-D

Literature Section (14 Marks)

6. Read the excerpts given below and answer the questions that follow. (2x1=2)

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.

- (i) Why did the king go away?
 - (A) The wages demanded were irrationally more.
 - (B) The king didn't have enough money.
 - (C) King's power counted for nothing and hence the bargain was rejected.
 - (D) The king wanted the labourer to work free and hence the bargain couldn't materialise.
 - (ii) Explain 'counted for naught'.
7. Answer ANY THREE of the following in about 30-40 words. (3x2=6)
- (i) What is the meaning of the line 'The poetry of earth is never dead'? (On the Grasshopper and the Cricket)
 - (ii) What is the importance of a diary entry? How does it reflect the mood and phases of the writer? (A Short Monsoon Diary)
 - (iii) How did Ranji and Suraj become friends?
 - (iv) How did the coins persuade the boy to buy jalebis? What did 'coins' symbolically represent?
8. Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 120 words.
- A. 'War is no solution to disputes.' Discuss. (The Best Christmas Present in the World)
- OR**
- (1x6=6)
- B. Comment on the significance of jalebis in the story. (Jalebis)