



ANANDALAYA
PERIODIC TEST-2
Class : VIII

Subject : English
Date : 15-09-2025

M.M : 50
Time : 2 hours

General Instructions:

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

SECTION A - Reading Section (10 Marks)

1. Read the passage carefully. (10)
- a. Chettur Sankaran Nair, born in Palghat district, was an eminent lawyer and reformist who later became a judge of the Madras High Court in 1908. He co-founded the *Madras Law Journal* and advocated for gender equality, free primary education, and against caste discrimination and child marriage. Knighted in 1912, he joined the Viceroy's Council in 1915, where he often challenged British views. A nationalist, he was part of the Indian National Congress and presided over its 1897 session.
 - b. Following the 1919 Jallianwala Bagh massacre, Nair, deeply disturbed by the British response, resigned from the Viceroy's Council. Though his resignation seemed like a career risk, it led to the formation of the Hunter Commission to investigate the massacre. The commission later exposed the truth that there had been no rebellion to justify the killings. Even Winston Churchill criticized the British officials responsible.
 - c. Nair returned to Madras, receiving a hero's welcome, and wrote *Gandhi and Anarchy*. While he critiqued Gandhi's non-cooperation movement as unconstitutional, he also strongly condemned O'Dwyer's actions in Punjab. Offended, O'Dwyer sued him in 1923 in London. Despite the biased jury ruling mostly against Nair, the trial made global headlines and exposed colonial atrocities. Nair refused to apologize and chose to pay a heavy fine rather than compromise his principles.
 - d. Although he lost the case, the British repealed martial law and press restrictions in Punjab. Nair remained a respected figure among both nationalists and administrators until his death in 1934. His legacy lives on through the Chettur Sankaran Nair Foundation and a 30-foot lamp he donated to the Guruvayoor temple.
 - e. As for the perpetrators, Dyer and O'Dwyer were removed from power. Dyer, briefly celebrated by some, died in obscurity in 1927. O'Dwyer continued to defend British policies until he was assassinated by Udham Singh in 1940—an Indian revolutionary who had survived the massacre and spent 20 years planning revenge. Singh proudly accepted his punishment, viewing it as an honour for his motherland.

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

- (i) Chettur Sankaran Nair became a judge of the Madras High Court in: (1)
- (A) 1908 (B) 1890
- (C) 1915 (D) 1912

- (ii) Nair resigned from the Viceroy's Council after: (1)
 (A) Gandhi's arrest (B) The Non-Cooperation Movement
 (C) The Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (D) The Simon Commission
- (iii) The book *Gandhi and Anarchy* was: (1)
 (A) A biography (B) A fictional account
 (C) A defence of British rule (D) A critique of Gandhi's methods (1)
- (iv) The Hunter Commission concluded that:
 (A) A rebellion had occurred (B) There was no rebellion to crush
 (C) The British acted rightly (D) Dyer saved Punjab
- (v) Udham Singh assassinated O'Dwyer in: (1)
 (A) 1925 (B) 1934
 (C) 1940 (D) 1947
- (vi) Chettur Sankaran Nair was knighted in: (1)
 (A) 1908 (B) 1915
 (C) 1912 (D) 1923
- (vii) Why did Nair resign from the Viceroy's Council in 1919? (1)
- (viii) How did the trial in London help Nair's cause despite him losing? (1)
- (ix) Discuss Chettur Sankaran Nair's contributions to Indian society and his role in the aftermath of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. How did his personal decisions influence national and international awareness? (2)

SECTION B - Writing Section (12 Marks)

2. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in 50 words
- A. Your school is organizing an Inter-School Debate Competition on the topic "*Social Media: A Boon or a Bane?*" You are the Secretary of the Literary Club, Sunshine Public School, New Delhi. Draft a notice in about 50 words inviting students of Class VIII to participate in the competition. Include all necessary details. (4)
- OR**
- B. You are the Cultural Secretary of your school, Green Valley School, Pune. Your school is going to celebrate its Annual Cultural Fest – 'Utsav 2025' next month. Draft a notice in about 50 words inviting students to give their names for various events like dance, music, drama, and art competitions.
3. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B), in 150 words (8)
- A. You are Kapila/Kapil, Head Girl/Head Boy of your school. You have to deliver a speech in the morning assembly on the topic "Examination Stress: Causes and Remedies."
- Hints for Students:
- Define examination stress in simple words.
 - Causes: high expectations, lack of preparation, comparison with peers, fear of failure.
 - Effects: anxiety, poor performance, sleeplessness.
 - Remedies: time management, regular study, yoga/meditation, healthy lifestyle, positive attitude.
 - End on an encouraging note-*Exams are not the end, but a step towards growth.*

OR

- B. You are invited to speak at your school's Literary Club meeting on the topic "How Hobbies Shape a Student's Personality."
- Define hobbies and give examples: reading, music, sports, painting, gardening.
 - Benefits: refreshment, creativity, stress relief.
 - Personality development: patience, confidence, teamwork, discipline, imagination.
 - Give examples:
 - Sports:- teamwork & leadership
 - Reading:- vocabulary & knowledge
 - Music/Art:- creativity & emotional balance
 - Conclude:- *Hobbies are not time-wasters but life-shapers.*

SECTION C - Grammar Section (10 Marks)

4. Do as directed.

- A. In the following paragraph, one word has been omitted in each line. In your answer sheets, remember to write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it, as shown below. The first one has been done as an example. (4)

Eg. In ancient times, a king had large stone

- (i) placed on a roadway. Then hid himself
 (ii) and watched to see if would
 (iii) remove huge stone. Some of the king's
 (iv) wealthiest merchants courtiers came and simply walked around it.

Before	Missing	After
had	a	large

- B. Rearrange the jumbled words to make meaningful sentences. (2)

- i. be the only place / life ? / can / in the universe / that harbours / the Earth
 ii. this is / true / do not believe / most astronomers

- C. Read the following conversation carefully. Then fill in the blanks in reported speech. (4)

Ananya: Did you attend the film festival last weekend?

Rahul: Yes, I did. It was an amazing experience.

Ananya: What did you like the most about it?

Rahul: The international films. They gave me a new perspective.

Ananya asked Rahul (i) _____ the film festival the previous weekend. Rahul replied (ii) _____ and added that it was an amazing experience. Ananya then asked him (iii) _____.

Rahul said that he liked the international film (iv) _____.

- (i) (A) if he had attended (B) did he attend
 (C) whether he has attended (D) if he attending
 (ii) (A) that yes, he did (B) that he had
 (C) that he did (D) he was attending
 (iii) (A) what he liked the most about it (B) that what he liked most about it
 (C) what he had liked the most about it (D) what he is liking the most about it
 (iv) (A) as they given him a fresh perspective
 (B) as they had given him a fresh perspective
 (C) as they were give him a fresh perspective
 (D) as they had give him a fresh perspective

SECTION D – Literature Section (18 Marks)

5. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

*“Away the cricket set off to a miserly ant,
To see if, to keep him alive, he would grant
Him shelter from rain
And a mouthful of grain.”*

- (i) Why does the cricket go to the ant? (1)
(A) To ask for food and shelter. (B) To get advice for future.
(C) To borrow farming tools. (D) To punish the ant.
- (ii) What does the phrase ‘miserly ant’ mean? (1)
(A) The ant is stingy. (B) The ant works hard.
(C) The ant is generous. (D) The ant is lazy.

6. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

“Every Monday, on his way back from work, Bepin Choudhury would drop in at Kalicharan’s in New Market to buy books. Crime stories, ghost stories and thrillers. He had to buy at least five at a time to last him through the week. He lived alone, was not a good mixer, had few friends, and didn’t like spending time in idle chat.”

- (i) What does the phrase “was not a good mixer” most likely mean in this passage? (1)
(A) He had many acquaintances but disliked buying books with them.
(B) He often mixed drinks poorly and spoiled the taste.
(C) He preferred to keep to himself and avoided social gatherings.
(D) He sometimes interacted with people but found it tiring.
- (ii) What can be inferred about Bepin Choudhury’s lifestyle from the passage? (1)
(A) He read crime stories since they were cheap in the market.
(B) He disliked work and only spent time with novels.
(C) He bought books because he had no company at home.
(D) He valued solitude and enjoyed reading books.

7. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each.(ANY FOUR)

- (i) Briefly describe the contribution of Ram Mohan Roy. (2)
- (ii) What were the poet’s thoughts when he sees the city from the sky? (Geography Lesson) (2)
- (iii) ‘Someone’s trash is someone else’s treasure’. Explain this proverb in connection with ‘Children at Work’. (2)
- (iv) What is the meaning of the notice-board ‘TRESPASSERS WILL BE PROSECUTED’ put up by the Giant? Which two traits of his can be seen here? (2)
- (v) What kind of a person was Princess September? (2)

8. Answer the following question in 100-120 words. (ANY ONE)

- (A) How does the lesson about overcoming inner challenges in ‘The Summit Within’ help us understand how the narrator in ‘The Treasure Within’ found his strengths, even though he was in trouble with studies? Explain with examples from both stories. (6)

OR

- (B) You find ‘The Tsunami’ quite inspiring due to Tilly Smith’s act of courage which helped save several lives. She was awarded a prize for her bravery. You are of the opinion that Tilly should share her award with her geography teacher and not with her parents.
Write an email to your cousin who lives in another country, informing her/him about the important details of this chapter. Explain in detail why Tilly should share her award with her geography teacher.