

Bhavan's Tripura Vidyamandir1ST Periodic Assessment - (2024-2025)**Class:- 8**

Time:- 2 hours

Name of the student :

Subject: English

Total :- 50 Marks

Roll: Section:

Reading Section (5 Marks)

1. Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions: (5)

For the last many decades, people have been mystified about the presence of aliens. Efforts have been made to solve this puzzle because this will get us a step closer to discovering if Earth is the only planet to support life. It is difficult to know if extraterrestrials exist, unless they get in touch with us or we find some evidence of their existence. Scientists do not rule out the possibility of life in the form of bacteria or other microorganisms, rather than intelligent human beings. But the search continues.

NASA captured images of Mars and they revealed that the Red Planet is somewhat like Earth—it is likely to have had water at some point in its ancient history. Some stargazers claim to have seen aliens there. However, scientists do not support these claims. It is believed that Mars was frozen once upon a time—a few billion years ago. The surface of the planet melted, and this resulted in the creation of deep valleys and canyons on its surface.

Scientists believe that there could be bacteria on Mars that bear resemblance to the simple microbes that exist in the ice-bound lakes of Antarctica. Scientists believe like Earth, Mars too was struck by huge asteroids, sending fragments of both these planets into space. Scientists think that the discovery of life on Mars could help us understand how life first began on Earth.

Alfred McEwen, professor of Planetary Geology at the University of Arizona, said: the search for ancient life on Mars may really be the search for the origin of life on Earth'. The samples collected by NASA's Mars Rovers have detected complex organic compounds on Mars. Professor McEwen feels life probably still survives there in pockets below the surface where it would be warmer and that the microbes were sheltered from cosmic radiation. This raises an interesting question-Did life originate on Earth and get transported to Mars or was it the other way round?

Choose the correct option:

- A. People have been mystified about the presence of _____. (1)
(a) Planets (b) Birds (c) Aliens (d) Astronauts
- B. According to scientists, discovery of life on Mars could help us understand _____. (1)
(a) How life first began on earth
(b) How earth moves around the sun
(c) How life is possible on Mars
(d) None of the above
- C. What have been detected by NASA's Mars Rovers? (1)
(a) Huge asteroids (b) Complex organic compounds on Mars
(c) Ice-bound lakes (d) Simple microbes

- D. How were deep valleys and canyons created? (1)
E. Find out the word from the passage which means same to 'Similarity' (para 3) (1)

Writing Section (5 Marks)

2. Write an article on "Environmental Conservation" in about 100-120 words. (5)

OR

Write an article on the topic "Pros and Cons of Social Networking Sites". Do not exceed 120 words.

Grammar Section (15 Marks)

3. Choose the correct option to fill in the blanks. (1X3=3)

- a. Your sister ____ cookies since morning, hasn't she?
i. will be baking ii. has been baking iii. is baking iv. was baking
b. How long ____ it ____ in your part of town?
i. has, been raining ii. was, raining
iii. have, been raining iv. is, raining
c. Since when ____ Rehana ____ piano classes?
i. was, taking ii. is, taking
iii. has, been taking iv. will, be taking

4. Change the following sentences into the passive voice. (1X3=3)

- a. The children welcomed the chief guest
b. Somebody has stolen my purse
c. The little boy drew a picture

5. Complete the sentences with the past continuous tense of the verbs in the brackets. (1X3=3)

- a. Oli ____ at the fair. (roam about)
b. You ____ to Chennai that day (go)
c. Sucheta ____ last night (sleep)

6. Transform the following sentences by changing them from positive to negative or vice versa (1X3=3)

- a. Never underestimate your opponent. (Begin with **Always**....)
b. Stay still! It's a snake. (Begin with **Do not**....)
c. The child's temperature is not coming down. (Use **remains high**)

7. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs given in brackets. (1X3=3)

- a. Neither Shyam nor his friends ____ me. (support)
b. People ____ at the mercy of the weather. (be)
c. Many a caged bird ____ the longer. (live)

Literature Section (25 Marks)

8. Answer the following questions briefly: (1X5=5)

- What was the age of Sindhutai Sapkal when she got married?
- Name the poet of the poem 'Don't Quit'.
- How long the aunt was there inside the rain-water tank?
- Who sings with the schoolboy?
- How did Sindhutai Sapkal introduce her husband?

9. Answer the following questions: (2X7=14)

- 'The children were not given up for adoption. She treated them as her own....' What is the significance of this fact and what does this tell us about Sindhutai's character?
- What is it that takes the joy out of a summer morning?
- What was the punishment given to Nicholas by his aunt?
- What plea does the schoolboy make to his parents?
- Why does the poet say 'you have to sigh' in the poem 'Don't Quit'?
- 'She started begging more earnestly in order to feed the many children that she had now adopted.' Do you think Sindhutai's decision was a very difficult one? Why?
- One of the dominant themes of the story is defiance. What role does defiance play in the story?

10. Answer the questions with reference to the context: (3X2=6)

A. *Life is strange with its twists and turns*

As every one of us sometimes learns

And many a failure comes about

When he might have won had he stuck it out

- (1) What does every one of us sometimes learn?
- (2) How does many a failure come about?
- (3) Explain 'stuck it out'.

B. *How can the bird that is born for joy*

Sit in a cage and sing

How can a child when fears annoy

But droop his tender wing

And forget his youthful spring

- (1) Who is being compared to a bird here?
- (2) What does the 'cage' refer to in these lines?
- (3) What, according to the speaker, happens when the 'bird' is made to sit in the 'cage'?