

केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन कोलकाता संभाग  
KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN, KOLKATA REGION

सत्रांत परीक्षा / SESSION ENDING EXAMINATION, 2025-26

कक्षा / CLASS-VIII

अधिकतम अंक/Max. Marks: 60

विषय/Sub.: अंग्रेजी / ENGLISH

समय/Time: 2 ½ घंटे / Hrs.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- (i) The question paper contains THREE sections:
- Section A: Reading
  - Section B: Grammar and Creative Writing Skills
  - Section C: Literature
- (ii) Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.

**SECTION A: READING (15 MARKS)**

**I. Read the passage and answer the following questions:**

HISTORY OF FAIRY TALES (A short excerpt from *THE WITCH MUST DIE* by Sheldon Cashdan)

In the early 1800s, Wilhelm and Jacob Grimm published their famous two-volume collection of fairy tales, *Children's and Household Tales*. Their intent was to create a definitive sourcebook of existing German stories and legends that would reflect the folk origins of the German *volk*. The result was an anthology that many consider the most comprehensive fairy-tale collection of all time.

But Wilhelm and Jacob never actually wrote any of the tales included in their volumes. They merely compiled them, relying on friends and relatives to supply them with stories that had been circulating throughout central Europe for centuries. A number of tales in their collection were contributed by Dorothea Wild, Wilhelm's mother-in-law, and others came from Jeannette and Amalie Hassenphlug, two sisters who later married into the Grimm family. Never mind that most of the stories had French and Italian origins; the Grimms considered them uniquely German and included them in their collection.

Thus, the Grimm brothers' *Aschenputtel* (Cinder Maid) turns out to be a close relative of Charles Perrault's *Cinderella*. Similarly, *Little Red Cap*, the Grimms' story of a little girl who dallies in the woods on the way to visit her grandmother, is a more elaborate version of Perrault's *Little Red Riding Hood*. The Grimm version features not one wolf but two and ends with one of the wolves drowned. And *Briar Rose*, the story of a slumbering princess, is a drastically revised version of Perrault's *The Sleeping Beauty in the Woods*.

Although the Grimm brothers did not, technically speaking, write any of the tales, they altered them to make them more suitable for young readers. Their alterations were prompted, in part, by Wilhelm's puritanical leanings. But commercial concerns also played a role. The children's market for fairy tales, fueled by a growing recognition that children had their own unique interests, was growing tremendously, and publishers were more willing to invest money in books that parents found acceptable. Many of the tales "written" by the Grimms continued to be altered as they underwent translation.

1. *Little Red Riding Hood* was written by (1)
- |                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| a. Dorothea Wild      | b. Grimm brothers   |
| c. Amalie Hassenphlug | d. Charles Perrault |

2. 'Slumbering' means- (1)
  - a. Resting
  - b. Sleeping
  - c. Dreaming
  - d. Waking
3. Why do you think Grimm brothers rewrote many of the old fairy tales? (1)
4. Name the people who helped the Grimm brothers in collecting the folk stories. (1)
5. In which language do you think the Grimm brothers' *Aschenputtel* is written? (1)
6. What is the difference between *Little Red Cap* and *Little Red Riding Hood*? (2)

**II. Read the passage and answer the following questions:**



Interactive software that “reads” and analyzes footprints left by black rhinoceroses can be used to monitor the movements of the animals in the wild, giving conservationists a new way to keep watch on the endangered species and help keep it safe from poachers, according to a Duke University-led study.

The software, called the Footprint Identification Technique (FIT), runs on JMP software from SAS and uses advanced algorithms to analyze more than 100 measurements of a rhino’s footprint.

Because each rhino’s footprint is as distinctive as a human fingerprint, the analyzed images can be archived electronically in a global database of previously collected footprint images for matching.

“If you find a match, you can identify the individual animal who left the mark and, by plotting the locations of all the other places that mark has been seen, track its movements without disturbing it or coming into close enough contact with it for there to be a risk of animal-to-human viral transmissions,” said Zoe Jewell, adjunct associate professor at Duke University’s Nicholas School of the Environment and principal research associate at the JMP Division of SAS, who co-led the study and is co-creator of FIT.

“It’s a cost-effective approach that not only protects the health of the rhino and the human, but also brings a centuries-old tracking skill into the 21st Century,” she said.

Jewell and her colleagues are now working with Namibia’s Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism to train wildlife conservationists, land managers, local guides and anti-poaching agents how to use FIT.

The scientists published their peer-reviewed study describing the technology’s effectiveness for monitoring the endangered rhinos on Aug. 14 in the open-access journal PeerJ.

Namibia is home to an estimated 2,000 black rhinos, or about 90% of the species' total population worldwide. Though legally owned by the government, the animals are dispersed geographically on private lands across the country.

Stepped up government policing in recent years has significantly slowed the rate of loss due to poaching, but between 30 and 50 of the animals are still slain each year for their horns, which can sell for more than \$60,000 a kilogram on the Asian black market, where they are used in traditional medicine or displayed as a symbol of wealth and success.

1. Which of these is a feature of a Rhino's footprint? (1)  
A) They are all alike      B) They are different from that of other animals  
C) Every Rhino has the same type of footprint      D) Each Rhino has a distinctive footprint
2. How many Rhino's are present worldwide? (1)  
A) 1800      B) 2800      C) 2222      D) 2010
3. Why are Rhino's hunted by poachers? (2)
4. Imagine that the picture shows a mother rhino, named Mrs Tino and a baby rhino, named Bruno. Which of the following dialogues are they likely to have based on the passage — (1)
  - a) *Bruno—Mom, I am very hungry*  
*Mrs Tino---Sorry, Human beings have stolen our food*
  - b) *Bruno---Do our horns cure human diseases?*  
*Mrs Tino---There is no cure for human greed*
  - c) *Bruno-----Will you play with me?*  
*Mrs Tino---No, I am tired*
  - d) *Bruno---Mom, I hurt my horn*  
*Mrs Tino---Time heals all wounds*
5. Mention the benefit of FIT (Footprint Identification Technique), with reference to the passage mentioned above. (2)
6. Which people are being trained on how to use FIT? (2)

### SECTION B: WRITING (10 MARKS)

III. Answer any one of the following questions in 90-100 words.

- A. Write a report on a science exhibition held in ABC School, Nainital.
- B. You are Ritu/Rahul, the Health Club Secretary of St. Xavier's School, Patna. Write a notice informing students about a health check-up camp to be organised on 8 May.

IV. Answer any one of the following questions in 90-100 words.

- A. You are Rohit/Riya of Lake View Colony, Bhopal. Write a letter to the Electricity Department complaining about frequent power cuts in your area.

- B. A. Write an article on “The Importance of Punctuality and Discipline in Student Life.”

**SECTION C: GRAMMAR (10 MARKS)**

**V. Answer the following questions:**

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ of players entered the ground.  
a. team    b. flock    c. army    d. league
2. You \_\_\_\_\_ respect your elders.  
a) may    b) should    c) might    d) could
3. Choose the correct pair:  
a) strong tea    b) powerful tea    c) heavy tea    d) big tea
4. Fill in the blank by using the correct form of the verb given in bracket:  
They \_\_\_\_\_ (play) football when it started raining.
5. Anagram (Unscramble the word to fit the sentence)  
The boy spoke the \_\_\_\_\_. (*hturt*)
6. I have \_\_\_\_\_ idea about the answer.  
a) little    b) few    c) many    d) several
7. The old chair finally \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) broke out    b) broke down    c) broke off    d) broke in
8. The teacher asked us to keep \_\_\_\_\_ (quite / quiet) during the test.
9. The idiom “**a blessing in disguise**” means:  
a) A hidden problem which is prominent now  
b) A good thing that seemed bad at first  
c) A sudden trouble which causes distress  
d) A punishment that seems unfair
10. \_\_\_\_\_ beautifully she sings!  
a) How    b) What    c) When    d) Where

**SECTION D: LITERATURE (25 MARKS)**

**VI. Read the extract and answer the following questions.**

- A.**                    *And soon the news spreads far and wide,  
Through forests, fields, and plains,  
Until the Zamindar himself  
Hears of these magic gains*

1. What news spread far and wide?

(1)

2. Which poetic device has been used in the line: (1)

*And soon the news spreads far and wide,*

*Through forests, fields, and plains*

3. What is meant by 'magic gains'? (2)

**OR**

**B.** *Queen of the gourd-flower, queen of the harvest,  
Sweet and omnipotent mother, O Earth!  
Thine is the plentiful bosom that feeds us,  
Thine is the womb where our riches have birth.*

1. What does the poet mean by "Thine is the womb where our riches have birth"? (2)

2. Which archaic word is used in this stanza? (1)

3. What is the meaning of omnipotent? (1)

- a. All knowing
- b. All seeing
- c. All powerful
- d. All hearing

**VII. Read the extract and answer the following questions (any one).**

**A.** *To the best of my knowledge, there's never been a regulation that forbids one to keep pets in a space station. No one ever thought it was necessary—and even had such a rule existed, I am quite certain that Sven Olsen would have ignored it. Actually he was a wiry little fellow, like most of the early spacers, and managed to qualify easily for the 150-pound bonus that kept so many of us on a reducing diet.*

1. According to the narrator, why was there no regulation against keeping pets on a space station?

(2)

2. What does the narrator suggest about Sven Olsen's attitude toward rules?

(1)

3. Why were the narrator and others on a reducing diet?

(1)

**OR**

**B.** Rain or no rain, a farmer wakes up early. Velu worked hard. His piece of land never failed him. Season after season he cultivated it, harvesting jowar one season and dhal the next. Throughout the year he worked, never thinking of rest or taking a holiday. For nearly six years it had been so, ever since he had got his own piece of land.

1. How is Velu described as a worker? (1)

2. What does the phrase "His piece of land never failed him" suggest about Velu's farming experience? (2)

3. Which two crops did Velu cultivate, and how often did he change them? (1)

**VIII. Attempt any four questions in 30-40 words each. (3x4)**

- a. What was the merchant's accusation against the young men? Why did he think they were guilty?
- b. Mention two instances when the cherry tree had a narrow escape and continue to grow.
- c. "Birds of the same feather flock together"- Cite examples from the text to highlight Nolan and Davenport's friendship.
- d. "Living root bridges prove to be a blessing for the people of Meghalaya." Give examples from the text to support this statement.
- e. How did Claribel's presence save the astronauts?

**IX. Attempt any one question in 100-120 words. (5x1)**

- a. If you had the magic brush of dreams what type of world would you create? Describe in detail.
- b. Imagine you are Velu. Write a diary entry describing your encounter with the old woman and reflecting upon her advice.

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