

केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन, कोलकाता संभाग
KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN, KOLAKATA REGION
अर्ध वार्षिक परीक्षा / HALY YEARLY EXAMINATION, 2026-27

कक्षा/ CLASS :VII

समय/ Time: 02:30 घंटे/ Hours

विषय/ SUBJECT : अंग्रेजी / ENGLISH

अधिकतम अंक/ Max. Marks: 60

General Instructions:

The question paper is divided into four sections:

Section A	:	Reading	15 Marks
Section B	:	Writing	10 Marks
Section C	:	Grammar	10 Marks
Section D	:	Literature	25 Marks

SECTION: A READING (15 MARKS)

I. Read the passage and answer the following questions:

8 Marks

An elderly carpenter who had spent many years in the house-building business decided that it was finally time to retire. He wanted to leave his demanding job and enjoy a quieter life with his family. Although he knew that retirement would mean giving up his regular pay cheque, he felt that he needed to slow down and devote more time to his loved ones.

His employer was saddened by the carpenter's decision because he had been a sincere and dependable worker for many years. Before he left, the employer requested him to build one final house as a personal favour. The carpenter agreed, but his heart was no longer in the work. Since he was eager to finish and retire, he did not put in his usual effort. He used inferior materials and paid little attention to the quality of his workmanship. As a result, the house was poorly constructed.

When the house was completed, the employer handed the carpenter its keys and said, "This is your house. My gift to you." The carpenter was stunned. He felt deeply ashamed and regretted his careless work. Had he known that he was building the house for himself, he would certainly have chosen better materials and worked with greater care.

The carpenter's experience teaches us an important lesson about life. Our lives are like houses that we construct every day through our actions, decisions and attitudes. Every choice we make becomes a part of the life we eventually have to live. Therefore, we should never perform our duties carelessly or give less than our best. We may not be able to undo yesterday's mistakes, but we can make wiser choices today and build a better tomorrow. We are the carpenters of our own lives; therefore, we must build wisely.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions:

1. Which word in the first paragraph means the same as 'art or skill of a workman'? (1)
2. What was the carpenter's reaction when he learnt that the house was his? (1)
 - A. He felt surprised and deeply disappointed.
 - B. He felt proud and extremely satisfied.
 - C. He felt happy and pleasantly excited.
 - D. He felt relieved and completely confident.

3. The carpenter used high-quality materials because he wanted to make the final house special. (1)
A. True B. False
4. Assertion (A): The carpenter regretted the way he had built the final house. (1)
Reason (R): He realized that he himself would have to live in it.
A. Both A and R are true, and R explains A.
B. Both A and R are true, but R does not explain A.
C. A is true, but R is false.
D. A is false, but R is true.
5. What does the phrase “build wisely” most appropriately mean in the passage? (1)
A. Make thoughtful choices and perform duties sincerely.
B. Make expensive choices and construct houses carefully.
C. Make quick decisions and complete responsibilities efficiently.
D. Make independent choices and avoid unnecessary difficulties.
6. Why was the surprise a ‘shame’ for the carpenter? (2)
7. What is the main message of the passage? (1)
A. Our future depends mainly on the opportunities we receive.
B. Our future depends largely on the choices we make today.
C. Our future depends mostly on the people who guide us.
D. Our future depends greatly on the success we achieve today.

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

7 Marks

*I lay in sorrow, in deep distress;
My grief a proud man heard;
His looks were cold, he gave me gold,
But not a kindly word.
My sorrow passed—I paid him back
The gold he gave to me;
Then stood erect and spoke my thanks
And blessed his charity.
I lay in want and grief and pain;
A poor man passed my way,
He bound my head, he gave me bread,
He watched me night and day.
How shall I pay him back again
For all he did to me?
Oh, gold is great, but greater far
Is heavenly sympathy.*

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the following questions:

1. How did the proud man help the poet when he was in deep distress? (1)
(i) He gave him jewels. (ii) He took him home.
(iii) He gave some money. (iv) He cared for the poet.
2. What did he not give to the poet? (1)
(i) money (ii) gold
(iii) wealth (iv) sympathy

3. How did the poor man take care of the poet? (2)
4. Which of the following statements is not true? (1)
- The poet repaid his debt to the proud man only by thanking him.
 - The poet blessed the charity of the rich man.
 - When the poet was in sorrow, he was given money.
 - The poet says, he cannot repay the poor man for his sympathy.
5. Which word in the poem means 'giving money to a person who is in need'? (1)
- charity
 - sympathy
 - kindness
 - distress
6. According to the poet, which quality is considered greater than gold? (1)
- Material wealth
 - Human charity
 - Heavenly sympathy
 - Physical comfort
7. **Assertion (A):** The poet finds the poor man's help more valuable than the rich man's gift. (1)
- Reason (R):** The poor man showed genuine care and sympathy towards him.
- Both A and R are true, and R explains A.
 - Both A and R are true, but R does not explain A.
 - A is true, but R is false.
 - A is false, but R is true.

SECTION B : WRITING (10)

III. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 100-120 words: (5x1)

- a. Write a letter to your friend describing your plans for the upcoming autumn break. Mention where you plan to go, whom you will go with, and how you plan to spend your holidays. You are Ritam/Ritabhari of 56 Dover Lane, Kolkata..



- b. Look at the picture given above and write a paragraph describing what you see.

You may include:

- the people and activities in the picture
- the place and surroundings
- the mood/atmosphere
- any message the picture gives you

IV. Answer ANY ONE of the following questions in about 100-120 words: (5x1)

- a. Imagine that you are Rohit/Raaya who spent a rainy afternoon making and sailing paper boats with your friends. You enjoyed watching the boats float away in the rainwater. Write a diary entry describing your experience, feelings, and what you learnt from the experience.
- b. Develop a story using the hints given below. Give a suitable title and moral.
Hints: Lion sleeping under a tree → mouse accidentally disturbs him → lion catches the mouse → mouse begs for mercy → lion sets him free → some days later lion caught in a hunter's net → mouse hears his roar → cuts the net with his sharp teeth → lion is freed → lion realises that even a small creature can be helpful.

SECTION C : GRAMMAR (10)

V. Attempt any TEN of the following: (1x10)

1. The train ____ before we reached the station.
a) leaves b) has left c) left d) had left
2. We ____ the museum last Sunday.
a) visit b) have visited c) visited d) are visiting
3. Which suffix can be added to "kind" to form a noun?
a) -ly b) -ness c) -ful d) -less
4. They ____ for the bus for half an hour.
a) waited b) have been waiting c) are waiting d) had waited
5. "What a beautiful painting it is!" is a/an:
a) interrogative sentence b) imperative sentence
c) declarative sentence d) exclamatory sentence
6. Please ____ the lights before leaving the room.
a) turn off b) turn up c) turn into d) turn over
7. Riya ____ her lunch already.
a) ate b) has eaten c) is eating d) eats
8. You ____ obey the rules of your school.
a) may b) might c) must d) could
9. Choose the opposite of "ancient".
a) old b) modern c) historic d) traditional
10. The children completed their homework ____.
a) quick b) quicker c) quickly d) quickness
11. Choose the sentence that is in the present perfect continuous tense.
a) She reads a book every day.
b) She has been reading a book for two hours.
c) She read a book yesterday.
d) She had read the book before dinner.
12. The cat is hiding ____ the table.
a) on b) under c) at d) between

SECTION D : LITERATURE (25)

VI. Answer ANY ONE of the following extract-based questions:

(1x4)

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

*Day by day I float my paper boats one by one down
the running stream.*

*In big black letters I write my name on them and the
name of the village where I live.*

*I hope that someone in some strange land will find
them and know who I am.*

*I load my little boats with shiuli flower from our
garden, and hope that these blooms of the dawn will
be carried safely to land in the night.*

(i) Why does the child write his name on the boats?

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| a. To communicate with someone unknown | b. To decorate the boats with letters |
| c. To keep a record of his boats | d. To make the boats look attractive |

(ii) “*I hope that someone in some strange land will find them and know who I am.*”- which of the following poetic devices is used in this line?

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| a. Personification | b. Simile |
| c. Metaphor | d. Alliteration |

(iii) What does the paper boat primarily symbolise?

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a. Childhood imagination and hope | b. Adult responsibility and duty |
| c. Fear of nature and change | d. Competition among young children |

(iv) Complete the analogy:

Paper boat : imagination :: Flower : _____

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. beauty and freshness | b. machinery and movement |
| c. darkness and silence | d. noise and confusion |

B. Read the extract and answer the following questions.

*But up the insect went once more,
Ah me! 'tis an anxious minute;
He's only a foot from his cobweb door,
Oh say, will he lose or win it?*

*Steadily, steadily, inch by inch,
Higher and higher he got;
And a bold little run at the very last pinch
Put him into his native cot.*

*“Bravo, bravo!” the King cried out,
“All honour to those who try;
The spider up there, defied despair;
He conquered, and why shouldn't I?”*

(i) What quality of the spider impressed King Bruce most?

- a. Intelligence b. Determination c. Speed d. Strength

(ii) “*The spider up there, defied despair;/He conquered...*” - Which of the following poetic devices is present here?

- a. Personification b. Simile
c. Metaphor d. Alliteration

(iii) The spider can best be considered a symbol of:

- a. failure b. fear c. perseverance d. laziness

(iv) If a student fails repeatedly but continues working, which lesson from the poem is the student applying?

- a. Avoid difficult tasks b. Depend entirely on others
c. Persevere despite failure d. Give up after several attempts

VII. Answer ANY ONE of the following extract-based questions:

(1x4)

A. Read the extract and answer the following questions.

“*Can I do something?*” asked Jahnavi. “*Well, it’s up to you,*” said the River. “*Seems to me little girls can do as much as little boys—they swim as fast as little boys. You just slip along one morning and sit there in the school and listen to what’s going on, and maybe the teacher will let you stay.*”

... Jahnavi said, “*Mother, when I grow up, I’ll be a teacher and I’ll go from house to house in our village and ask all the little girls to come to my school. And I’ll teach them all that I’m going to learn.*”

(i) What does Jahnavi's decision to attend school mainly show?

- a. Her desire to become famous b. Her courage and love for learning
c. Her dislike of village life d. Her wish to leave her family

(ii) **Assertion (A):** The River acts as a source of encouragement for Jahnavi.

Reason (R): It helps her overcome her fear and believe in her abilities.

- a. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
b. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
c. A is true, but R is false.
d. A is false, but R is true.

(iii) Jahnavi's wish to teach other girls after receiving education suggests that she values:

- a. competition b. sharing and social change c. wealth d. adventure

(iv) Complete the analogy:

Jahnavi : education :: River : _____

- a. encouragement b. punishment c. entertainment d. competition

B. Read the extract and answer the following questions.

Doctor Dolittle was sitting in his kitchen talking with the Cat's-food-Man who had come to see him with a stomach-ache. “*Why don't you give up being a people's doctor and be an animal doctor?*” asked the Cat's-food-Man. The parrot, Polynesia, was sitting in the window looking out at the rain and singing a sailor song to herself. She stopped singing and started to listen.

“*You see, Doctor,*” the Cat's-food-Man went on, “*you know all about animals—much more than what these vets here do. That book you wrote—about cats, why, it's wonderful! You might have been a cat yourself. You know the way they think.*”

(i) Why had the Cat's-food-Man come to see Doctor Dolittle?

- a. To seek his help for a sick cat
- b. To seek his help for a stomach-ache
- c. To ask his advice about animals
- d. To discuss his book about cats

(ii) What quality of Doctor Dolittle is highlighted when the Cat's-food-Man says that he "know[s] the way they think"?

- a. His ability to understand animals deeply
- b. His ability to communicate with people clearly
- c. His ability to write interesting books
- d. His ability to treat different illnesses

(iii) **Assertion (A):** Polynesia stopped singing and began listening to the conversation.

Reason (R): The conversation was about Doctor Dolittle becoming an animal doctor.

Choose the correct option:

- a. Both A and R are true, and R explains A.
- b. Both A and R are true, but R does not explain A.
- c. A is true, but R is false in this context.
- d. A is false, but R is true in this context.

(iv) What did the Cat's-food-Man think about Doctor Dolittle's knowledge of animals?

VIII. Answer ANY FOUR the following questions in 40-50 words.

(3x4)

- a) Why does the author value the sense of sight so greatly?
- b) How did Mary embarrass her mother and the guests?
- c) What does the speaker imagine while floating the paper boats?
- d) What qualities made Doctor Dolittle popular among animals?
- e) What was Jahnavi's dream? Why was it important to her?

IX.

(v) Answer ANY ONE the following questions in 100-120 words.

(5 x 1)

- a. What was the great invention made by the narrator's brother? Describe how the invention worked and explain why he considered it a great success. What does this tell you about his creativity and confidence?
- b. Describe the funny man as presented in the poem. What makes his appearance, actions and behaviour unusual and amusing? Explain how these elements create humour in the poem.
