



Half Yearly Exam 2021-22

Class - 10th

Subject - English



Section – A: Reading Comprehension

Read the following passage carefully and answer the question given below.

Unseen Passage-1

A young father was visiting an older neighbour. They were standing in the older man's garden and talking about children. The young man said. "How strict should parents be with their children?" The older man pointed to a string between a big, strong tree and a thin, young one. "Please untie that string" he said. The young man untied it. And the young tree bent over to one side "Now tie again, please" said the older man "But first pull the string tight so that the young tree is straight again."

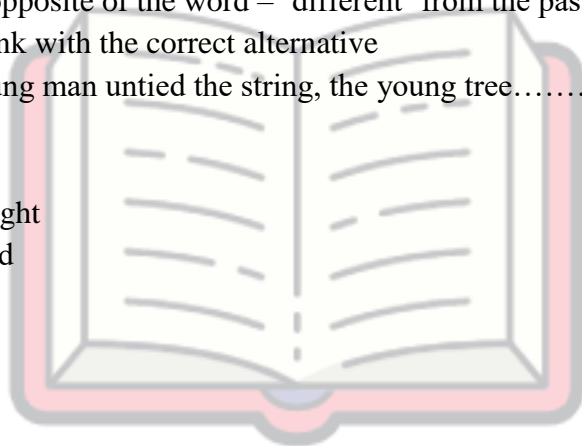
The young man did this. Then the older man said, "It is the same with children. You must be strict with them, but sometimes you must untie the string to see how they are getting on. If they are not yet able to stand alone, you must tie the string tight again. But when you find that they are ready to stand alone, you can take the string away."

Question:

- a) Where were the men standing?
- b) What did the older man ask the young man to do with the string?
- c) With whom should the parents be strict sometimes?
- d) Find out the opposite of the word – 'different' from the passage.
- e) Fill in the blank with the correct alternative

When the young man untied the string, the young tree..... to one side.

- i. fell down
- ii. bent over
- iii. stood straight
- iv. didn't bend



Unseen Passage-2

Of man's earliest invention we know very little. The first may have been the use of a stone to crack a nut. The next was possibly the use of a stick to strike an enemy. Once man found that stick and stones were useful, it was only a step further to the making of a crude weapon by fastening a stone to the end of a stick.

Man used sticks and stone long before he dared to meddle with fire; for the early man like all wild creatures dreaded the fire. Fire, of course, existed; for lightning must sometimes have set the forests ablaze just as it does today; and in those days volcanoes were much more active than they now are. The forgotten hero who first dared to tame fire to his own use was the greatest of early inventors. Once man had fire he was master of all lower creatures.

Question:

- a) What may have been man's earliest invention?
- b) Who was the greatest of early inventors?
- c) How did the early man make his first weapon?
- d) Find out a word from the passage which means – animals.
- e) In old days volcanoes were:
 - i. Not much active
 - ii. Less active
 - iii. Much more active
 - iv. passive

Unseen Passage-3

Read the following passage carefully and answer the question given below it.

There seems to be a general opinion in this country that Sardar Patel was slightly of harsh and rough temperament. Men called him the 'Iron man of India. He was no doubt, an iron man in the sense that one could rely on him for strict and efficient administration. But as a man, to those who had the good fortune of coming into close contact with him, he was kind and considerate. At times, he even became emotional where his personal friends and followers were concerned. However, it goes without saying that the Sardar Patel had the great skill for organizing affairs. He knew the way of picking people and putting them in their proper place. Once he judged a man and found him correct, he trusted him fully and got him to do anything he wanted.

Question:

- a) What did people call Sardar Patel?
- b) What special skill did Sardar Patel have?
- c) For whom was he kind and considerate?
- d) One could rely on him for strict and efficient:
 - i. People
 - ii. Work
 - iii. Administration
- e) Find out the word from the passage which means- 'luck'

Unseen Passage-

Read the following passage carefully and answer the question given bellow it. (2018)

‘Prevention is better than cure’ and it is recognized that the only way to get rid of malaria completely is to get rid of the mosquitoes which cause it. Malaria is always associated with damp and marshy land. This is not because the land is damp, but because the stagnant water is the breeding place of the mosquito, which begins its life as larva living in the water. Malaria does not frequently occur in dry desert countries, because mosquitoes cannot breed there. The only way to destroy mosquitoes is to prevent their breeding in stagnant water. This can be done by draining all ponds and pools, and by keeping them covered in the breeding season with a thin layer of kerosene oil, which by depriving the larva of air, kills them.

Question:

- a) In what places does malaria occur most?
- b) How does a mosquito begin its life?
- c) In what places malaria does not occur?
- d) The is the breeding place of the mosquito.
(i) flowing water (ii) dry desert
(iii) stagnant water
- e) Malaria is caused by :
(i) housefly (ii) mosquito
(iii) honeybee (iv) butterfly

Unseen Passage-5

Read the following passage carefully and answer the question given bellow it.

Students who are very fond of reading books are often labelled by their companions as bookworms. The criticism generally comes from students who consider themselves better in sports. Students who shine in athletics or in some games consider that it is better to spend time and envy in a sports arena than in classroom or at a reading desk. All the same they do envy their fellows who shine academically. Academic honours has glamour which is unique. It is not to be denied that playing games is a useful activity, because it creates team spirit and also make the sportsmen healthy and vigorous. That is why games and sports are given so much importance in the curriculum of schools and colleges. But studies should not be neglected and should be given due importance along with other activities connected with education. Let each type of activity have its own place in our daily routine. Then only we will have students both academically sound and physically fit. We want our education system to generate this energy among our youth.

Question:

- a) Students who are very fond of reading books are often labelled by their companion as
(i) sports loving (ii) studious (iii) bookworms
- b) Why are academically sound students called bookworms?
- c) Who envy their fellows who shine academically?
- d) Why do we play games?
- e) honour has a glamour which is unique.
(i) Academic (ii) Sports (iii) Creative

Unseen Passage-6

Read the following passage carefully and answer the question given bellow it. (2016)

Once on a lonely island in the sea there lived three people, a wise old man named Prospero, his beautiful young daughter Miranda and their servant Caliban. Prospero and Miranda had come to the island twelve years ago. When Miranda was only a baby, she hardly remembered having seen any human face except her father's. As for Caliban he looked hardly human; he was more like a fish than a man.

Prospero had another servant, a magic spirit named Ariel, whom he commanded by means of his magic. Before Prospero's arrival, lived on the island, a witch called Sycorox; the ugly Caliban was her son. This witch had imprisoned Ariel in the heart of a pine tree and left him there when she died. Prospero found him and he became Prospero's servant. Ariel carried out all Prospero's commands, whether it was to raise a storm in the sea or make thunder in the air.

Question:

- a) Mirada was the of Prospero.
(i) daughter (ii) sister (iii) wife
- b) When did they come there?
- c) Who was Ariel?
- d) How did Ariel help Prospero?
- e) Find the opposite of 'ugly' from the passage.

Unseen Passage-7

Read the following passage carefully and answer the question given bellow it. (2016)

One day a wonderful plate made of gold fell from heaven into the court of a temple. These words were inscribed on the plate. "A gift from heaven to him who loved mankind the best" The priests invited people to the temple and told them about gift from the heaven. All claimed that they loved mankind the best. Then each one got up and one by one narrated his own kind one deeds but as soon as he touched the plate, it turned into lead. The richest man in the city got up and spoke about his charity. But as soon as he touched the plate, it turned into lead. A poor farmer was also present there. He did not know about the plate. He sat in a corner quietly. People called him. He bowed to the priests and touched the plate. It shone more brightly. The priest awarded the plate to the poor farmer.

Question:

- a) From where did the plate of gold fall?
- b) Who was awarded the plate?
- c) What happened when the richest man touched the plate?
- d) The noun form of the word "invite" is
- e) The word "inscribe" means
(i) to write (ii) to read (iii) to paint

Unseen Passage-8

Read the following passage carefully and answer the question given bellow it. (2017)

It is an admitted fact that union or cooperation is strength, disunion is weakness. A united family, a united community, a united society, a united nation is strong. But those who are disunited or split up into fractions or groups are all weak. Take the case of a football or hockey team. If the members of the team play together and cooperate with one another, they will form a strong team. But if each member plays his own game, they will surely be defeated,

however strong the individual players may be. The same is true of an army To win a battle, an army must work as one man Napoleon's motto was "Divide and conquer" He tried to split up the armies fighting against him. Then he would overcome them one by one. Divided they were weak. A united team, a united army, a united nation is strong. "United we stand; divided we fall".

Question:

- a) What is the factor that assures strength?
- b) What happens if each member of a football team plays his own game?
- c) What moral does the passage carry?
- d) Divide and conquer was the motto of
 - (i) Churchill
 - (ii) Hitler
 - (iii) Stalin
 - (iv) Napoleon
- e) Give an antonym of the word "Weak".

Unseen Passage-9

Read the following passage carefully and answer the question given bellow it. (2017-19)

Helen Keller lost her eye-sight and hearing at the age of two because of an illness. She became deaf. She also lost the ability to speak, for we learn to speak by imitating what we hear. At first, it seemed impossible that she would never understand other's or be understood by them. Hers was thus a lonely world. But she was helped by a wonderful teacher named Miss Sullivan who had herself been blind as a child but recovered her eye-sight by an operation. Miss Sullivan volunteered to help Helen and taught her to speak, read and write. Helen later went to a university and gained a degree. She then spent the rest of her life working to help the blind and the deaf.

Question:

- a) How do we learn to speak?
- b) How did Miss Sullivan help Helen?
- c) What did Helen do for the blind and the deaf?
- d) When did Helen Keller lose her eye-sight and hearing?
 - (i) at birth
 - (ii) at the age of two
 - (iii) at the age of four
- e) Which word in the passage means 'One who is not able to see'?
 - (i) deaf
 - (ii) sight
 - (iii) blind

Unseen Passage-10

Read the following passage carefully and answer the question given bellow it. (2017)

It is a fact universally acknowledged that means justify the end. Therefore we all must remember that one of the keys to success is to pay as much attention to the means as to the end. The duty of every human being is to help others and do something good to the world and society Religious texts teach us that the giver and receiver both are equally blessed. It is our duty to be thankful to God that we have been allowed to exercise our power of benevolence and March in the world and thus become pure and perfect. The natural course of events dictates that every action has to reach its concluding phase. The act once performed is bound to bear fruit. No power in the universe can stop it from bringing its results.

Questions:

- a) What should be the relationship between means and end ?
- b) What is the secret of success?

c) Who is more blessed the giver or receiver or both

d) The fact is acknowledged

(i) universally

(ii) really

(iii) fully

(iv) truly

e) Give the noun form of perform

(i) performed

(ii) performance

(iii) perfect

(iv) performing

A

e

Answer

Section – A: Reading Comprehension

Unseen Passage-1

Ans. 1

- a) The men were standing in the older man's garden.
- b) The older man asked the young man to untie the string.
- c) The parents should be strict sometimes with their children.
- d) Same
- e) Bent over.

Unseen Passage-2

Answer:2

- a) Man's earliest inventions may have been the use of a stone to crack a nut and use of a stick to strike an enemy.
- b) The man who tamed fire was the greatest of early inventors.
- c) The early man made his first weapon by fastening a stone to the end of a stick.
- d) creatures
- e) (iii) Much more active.

Unseen Passage-3

Ans. 3

- a) People called Sardar Patel the 'Iron Man of India'.
- b) Sardar Patel had the skill for organizing affairs.
- c) He was kind and considerate for the people who were in the close contact with him.
- d) (iii) Administration
- e) Fortune

Unseen Passage-4

Ans.4

- a) Malaria occurs most in damp and marshy places.
- b) Mosquito begins its life as larva living in the water.
- c) Malaria does not occur in dry desert places.
- d) Stagnant water
- e) mosquito

Unseen Passage-5

Ans.5

- a) (iii) book worms
- b) Sports loving students envy the academically sound students, so they called them book worms.
- c) Sports loving students envy their fellows who shine academically
- d) Playing games makes us physically fit.
- e) (i) Academic.

Unseen Passage-6

Ans.6

- a) (i) daughter
- b) They came there twelve years ago.
- c) Ariel was a magic spirit.
- d) Ariel helped Prospero by raising storm in the sea.
- e) Beautiful.

Unseen Passage-7

Ans.7

- a) The plate of gold fell from heaven.
- b) The poor farmer was awarded the gold plate.
- c) When the richest man touched the plate, it turned into lead.
- d) Invitation
- e) (i) to write.

Unseen Passage-8

Ans.8

- a) Unity is the factor that assures strength.
- b) If each member of a football team plays his own game the team will surely be defeated, however strong the individual player may be.
- c) The moral is United we stand, divided we fall.
- d) Napoleon
- e) Strong

Unseen Passage-9

Ans.9

- a) We learn to speak by imitating what we hear.
- b) Miss Sullivan taught her to speak, read and write.
- c) She spent the rest of her life working to help the blind and deaf.
- d) (b) at the age of two
- e) (c) blind.

Unseen Passage-10

Ans.10

- a) Means should justify the end.
- b) The secret of success is to pay as much attention to the means as to the end.
- c) The giver and the receiver are both blessed.
- d) (i) universally
- e) (ii) performance