

**KOTHARI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, NOIDA**  
**TERM END ASSESSMENT, SESSION: 2024-25**  
**GRADE: 8 SUBJECT: ENGLISH**  
**SET A (SUBJECTIVE)**

**DAY & DATE: FRIDAY- FEBRUARY 21, 2025**

**MAXIMUM MARKS: 60**

**NAME: \_\_\_\_\_**

**TIME ALLOTTED: 2.5 HRS**

**ROLL NO: \_\_\_\_\_**

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

**1. This question paper consists of 7 pages and 9 questions with sub-parts.**

**2. The paper contains three sections: A, B & D**

*Section A-Reading is of 20 marks*

*Section B-Writing is of 12 marks*

*Section D-Literature is of 28 marks*

**3. It is compulsory to attempt all the questions.**

**4. Read the question paper carefully and then attempt it.**

**SECTION A-READING**

<b>Q1.</b>	<b>Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow.</b>  1. Mountains have always been held in great awe by mankind. They have been a challenge to humans. Those brave among us have always wanted to conquer them. You see, the more incredible the mountains, the greater the thrill – a challenge to the bravery of the human race. Climbing mountains is an experience that is hard to put into words. You are in a beautiful environment and, when you reach the top, you feel incredible. But you also have to climb down, which is when most accidents happen – people are tired, it gets dark, it’s harder. So, mountain climbing is undoubtedly one of the most popular adventure sports along with being challenging and risky for the climber.  2. Without any perceived risk, there can’t be a feeling that any significant challenge has been surmounted. Fair, but we have to bear in mind that mountaineering is not a sport that can be embraced without preparation. The enthusiasts must develop in themselves the spirit of adventure, willingness to undertake hardships and risks, extraordinary powers of perseverance, endurance, and keenness of purpose before climbing a mountain. They should also know how to handle the mountaineering equipment. Then comes the penance of the rigorous training. This could very well be the lifeline up there. It helps inculcate and hone survival instincts that allow the climber to negotiate perilous situations. There are numerous institutes in India and abroad that offer such training.  3. Mountain climbers are unanimous in agreeing that the unpredictable weather is what they fear the most. There may be sunshine one moment and a snowstorm the other.	<b>8</b>
------------	---	----------

	<p>At higher altitudes, snow is a regular feature and being decisive about setting up camps or proceeding further is crucial. The icy sheets after ice storms make walking treacherous, while the powdery snow makes a mountaineer sink deep into the snow. Up there, where the intention is to embrace Nature’s wonder, one realises that it cannot be done without facing its formidable glory. A true mountaineer may challenge the mountain, yet is always respectful to the powerful forces of nature.</p> <p>4. Summiting mountains carries its own health risks such as oxygen and altitude sickness problems, frost bites, swelling of hands and feet, fluid collection in brain or lungs and exhaustion. Yet, the gratification mountaineers feel from mastering something that is so frightening, urges them to undertake these endeavours. We may think that the mountaineers are fearless, experts say, “Not at all. It’s fear that keeps them so intrigued with such arduous journeys.” Impulse and brazenness can be deadly foes. In the words of the Indian mountaineer, Bachendri Pal, “The biggest risk ... is to not to take the risk at all.” Remember that.</p>	
i.	<p><b>Why does the writer say that mountains inspire ‘awe’ in humans? (Paragraph 1)</b></p> <p>A. They present us with opportunities for exciting sports.  B. They evoke the wish in us, to master them.  C. They inspire in us, deeds of valour.  D. They represent peace and calm, to us.</p>	(1)
ii	<p>Based on your reading of the text, list 2 reasons why the writer says that “mountaineering is not a sport that can be embraced without preparation”. (Paragraph 2)</p>	(1)
iii	<p>What connect does the writer draw out between unpredictable weather and setting up of camps? (Paragraph 3)</p>	(1)
iv	<p>The writer says, “A true mountaineer may challenge the mountain, yet is always respectful to the powerful forces of nature.” (Paragraph 3) Select the reason the mountaineer is respectful to the forces of nature, up in the mountains.</p> <p>A. survival  B. experience  C. tradition  D. directive</p>	(1)
v	<p>Give a reason to justify the following:  While mountain climbing, an impulsive mountaineer is either disaster-prone or as good as dead.</p>	(1)
vi	<p>State whether the given statements are True or False. Also, write the correct statement for the false ones.</p>	(2)

	<p>a. Mountaineering can be embraced without any prior preparation or training.</p> <p>b. Mountaineers are completely fearless when they undertake arduous journeys.</p>	
vii.	<p>Evaluate the INAPPROPRIATE reason for the feeling of exhilaration on reaching a summit, that the mountain-climbers experience.</p> <p>A. Achievement of a seemingly impossible feat</p> <p>B. Spectacular panoramic view</p> <p>C. Application of the inculcated survival instincts</p> <p>D. Opportunity to use sophisticated mountaineering equipment</p>	(1)
Q2.	<p><b>Read the given extract from the story, 'The Lady, or the Tiger' and answer the questions that follow:</b></p> <p>1. This semi-barbaric king had a daughter as blooming as his most florid fancies, and with a soul as fervent and imperious as his own. As is usual in such cases, she was the apple of his eye, and was loved by him above all humanity. Among his courtiers was a young man of that fineness of blood and lowness of station common to the conventional heroes of romance who love royal maidens.</p> <p>2. This love affair moved on happily for many months until one day the king happened to discover its existence. The youth was immediately cast into prison, and a day was appointed for his trial in the king's arena. This, of course, was an especially important occasion, and his majesty, as well as all the people, was greatly interested in the workings and development of this trial. Never before had such a case occurred; never before had a subject dared to love the daughter of the king.</p> <p>3. The tiger-cages of the kingdom were searched for the most savage and relentless beasts, from which the fiercest monster might be selected for the arena; and the ranks of maiden youth and beauty throughout the land were carefully surveyed by competent judges in order that the young man might have a fitting bride in case fate did not determine for him a different destiny.</p> <p>4. The appointed day arrived. From far and near the people gathered, and thronged the great galleries of the arena, and crowds, unable to gain admittance, massed themselves against its outside walls. The king and his court were in their places, opposite the twin doors, those fateful portals, so terrible in their similarity.</p> <p>5. As the youth advanced into the arena he turned, as the custom was, to bow to the king, but he did not think at all of that royal personage. His eyes were fixed upon the princess, who sat to the right of her father. Had it not been for the moiety of barbarism in her nature it is probable that lady would not have been there, but her intense and fervid soul would not allow her to be absent on an occasion in which she was so terribly interested.</p>	12

i.	<b>The princess was described as (Para 1):</b> a) Gentle and timid b) Fervent and imperious c) Modest and kind d) Hesitant and unsure	(1)
ii	What was unique about this trial in the king's arena? (Para 2) a) It was the first trial involving a royal maiden's love. b) It was the first time a subject loved the king. c) The trial involved two kings. d) It was the first trial with no audience.	(1)
iii	What was the purpose of selecting the fiercest tiger? (Para 3) a) To guard the king's treasures. b) To provide a fair challenge for the young man. c) To ensure the trial had a savage option for punishment. d) To entertain the audience.	(1)
iv.	How did the crowd react to the trial? (Para 4) a) They protested against it. b) They came in large numbers to witness it. c) They ignored it. d) They supported the young man.	(1)
	Why was the princess present at the trial? (Para 5) a) She was forced to attend. b) She wanted to witness the trial despite its emotional toll. c) She planned to stop the trial. d) She wanted to mock the young man.	(1)
v.	What does 'cast into prison' mean in this context?	(1)
vi.	How does the princess's nature reflect her decision to attend the trial?	(2)
vii.	How does the king's method of justice reflect the blend of barbarism and civilization in his character?	(2)
viii	What lessons do you learn from this extract?	(2)
<b>SECTION B- WRITING</b>		
<b>Q3.</b>	<b>Descriptive Paragraph &amp; Notice Writing</b> <b>Attempt any ONE.</b> Write a <b>descriptive paragraph</b> describing your stay at the Bed and Breakfast that made the place so vivid and memorable.  <b>OR</b> Write a <b>notice</b> informing students about a Debate Competition being organised on the occasion of World Environment Day.  <i>(Word limit- up to 100 words)</i>	(5)
<b>Q4.</b>	<b>Formal Letter Writing</b>	(7)

	<p>Write a <b>formal letter</b> to the editor of The City Herald expressing your concern about illegal dumping of garbage in your neighbourhood.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health issues (diseases, foul smell).</li> <li>• Attracts pests, stray animals.</li> <li>• Drain blockage and waterlogging.</li> <li>• Solutions: More bins, regular waste collection, fines, awareness drives.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;">(Word limit- up to 150 words)</p>	
<b>SECTION D- LITERATURE</b>		
<b>Q5.</b>	<p><b>Refer to the given extract from the poem ‘O Captain! My Captain!’ and answer the following questions.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>O Captain! my Captain! our fearful trip is done, The ship has weather'd every rack, the prize we sought is won</i></p>	
i.	How might the word ‘Prize’ be interpreted in this excerpt? Provide both a literal and figurative interpretation.	(2)
ii	Write ONE literary device used in the given lines. Briefly explain that device along with stating its example from the context.	(2)
iii.	What emotions do you think the speaker is experiencing in these lines.	(1)
<b>Q6.</b>	<p><b>Refer to the given extract from the story ‘The Gift of Magi’ and answer the following questions.</b></p> <p>She had a habit for saying little silent prayers about the simplest everyday things, and now she whispered: “Please God, make him think I am still pretty.” Jim stopped inside the door, as immovable as a setter at the scent of quail. His eyes were fixed upon Della, and there was an expression in them that she could not read, and it terrified her.</p>	
i	<p>What does Della’s whispered prayer, “Please God, make him think I am still pretty,” reveal about her character?</p> <p>a) Her vanity b) Her deep love and insecurity c) Her indifference to Jim's opinion d) Her confidence in her appearance</p>	(1)
ii	Describe the emotions experienced by both Jim and Della in the passage.	(2)
iii.	What type of conflict is implied here? Justify your answer with an example.	(2)
<b>Q7.</b>	<b><u>Answer the following in about 40-50 words each:</u></b>	<b>3*3 = 9</b>
i.	<p>How does the poet’s reflection on the fleeting nature and beauty contribute to the overall message of the poem?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Daffodils)</p>	
ii.	<p>Was the BED AND BREAKFAST a safe place to stay? Provide an example from the story to support your answer?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(The Landlady)</p>	

iii.	Who is being addressed as ‘O Captain’ in the poem, and what does the speaker express about this individual? <b>(O Captain! My Captain!)</b>	
<b>Q8.</b>	<b><u>Answer ANY ONE of the following in about 80-90 words:</u></b>	<b>(4)</b>
	What message do you think Dahl is conveying through the use of dramatic irony in ‘The Landlady’? <b>(The LandLady)</b>	
<b><u>OR</u></b>		
	Why is it important that the story, ‘An Astrologer’s Day’ takes place in the evening? How would the story have been different if it had taken place earlier in the day? <b>(An Astrologer’s Day)</b>	
<b>Q9.</b>	Imagine you are Jim from <i>The Gift of the Magi</i> . Write a letter to Della, sharing your feelings about her sacrifice and how deeply moved you were by her gift. Express your thoughts on how her love and sacrifice have made you feel about the situation. ( <i>Word limit- up to 100-120 words</i> ) <b>(The Gift of the Magi)</b>	<b>(5)</b>