

KOTHARI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, NOIDA
ANNUAL EXAMINATION, SESSION: 2025-26
GRADE: 8 SUBJECT: ENGLISH
SET B (SUBJECTIVE)

DAY & DATE: FRIDAY, MARCH 06, 2025

MAXIMUM MARKS: 60

NAME: _____

TIME ALLOTTED: 2.5 HRS

ROLL NO: _____

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. This question paper consists of 7 pages and 8 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

Q1. Read the passage based on the chapter ‘The Purple Children’ and answer the questions that follow. 10

(1) “I shall lose her,” said the girl in a quavering voice. “I’ve had her from a little kitten, and now I shall never get her back again. Oh, please!”

(2) “I can’t let you in there. I should get into trouble if anybody found out—”

(3) “Well, who’s going to find out? All I want is to get my cat. You’ll be there close to me every minute. You can see every move I make. And you’ve got a gun—I don’t see what you have to be afraid of. Oh, do please help me! Only a moment! If she won’t come to me, I promise I’ll go home.”

(4) He had not meant to do it, but somehow, he had set his hand to the bars beside hers and thrust the gate open before her.

(5) “Well, be quiet about it, can’t you, or somebody’ll hear us? Come on, quick, and get her, and get yourself out of here.”

(6) She slipped past him like a shadow. The only sound was the light, hasty tread of his own feet keeping hard on her heels. He turned his back on the gate and the silent, dark lane outside, and pressed at the girl’s shoulder as she flitted into the most obscure corner of the yard, where the shabby outhouses leaned together in a huddle of shadows, and the steps plunged down to the cellar.

(7) Behind them, the tall bulk of the Town Hall shut off the awakening stars, and the ropes of the flagstaff creaked faintly in the wind.

(8) “Look! There she is! You see, I told you!” whispered the girl triumphantly and darted forward, disappearing among the deeper shadows under the wall. There really was a cat, the sentry saw with relief and satisfaction.

(9) Finally, they cornered the cat at the foot of the cellar steps. The girl bent quickly and caught it in her arms. It took them 10 minutes to run it to earth at the foot of the cellar steps, against the closed door. The girl snatched it up and held it struggling in her arms, looking up at him under the black tangle of her hair with a wild smile.

(10) “Thank you! Now I’ll go home.” But she did not move; she stood looking at him still, her lips parted, her eyes enormous, shy, and wary. When she looked at him like that, he felt how alien he was in this place, and even her thanks could not compensate him for the quiet, patient hatred of her people. And then they both heard, clear through the silence, the sudden light impact of feet, as though someone had dropped from the high wall. The girl’s eyes did not waver; she gave no sign of having noticed anything amiss. But the sentry spun around and went up the cellar steps three at a time, just in time to see the figure of a boy disentangle itself from the severed ropes of the flagstaff and run, head down, for the gate.

1. Why does the girl say she will ‘lose her’? (1)
 - a) She is afraid of the sentry.
 - b) Her cat has run away.
 - c) Someone has taken her cat.
 - d) The cat is injured.

2. What finally makes the sentry open the gate? (1)
 - a) He feels sorry for the girl.
 - b) He is ordered to do so.
 - c) He is convinced by her assurance and words.
 - d) He sees the cat himself.

3. The yard is described as dark mainly to show (1)
 - a) it is daytime
 - b) it is a busy place
 - c) it is quiet and secretive
 - d) it is a festive place

4. The sentry feels ‘relief and satisfaction’ because (1)
 - a) the girl agrees to leave
 - b) he finds someone else in the yard
 - c) there really is a cat
 - d) he enjoys helping people

5. The girl’s eyes ‘did not waver’ when the sound of footsteps was heard. This shows (1) that she was
 - a) frightened
 - b) confused
 - c) calm and controlled
 - d) unaware

6. Choose the correct meaning of the word “quavering” as used in the passage: (1)
a) loud and angry
b) soft and playful
c) shaking with emotion
d) confident

7. The phrase ‘run it to earth’ in para 9, most nearly means (1)
a) to let something escape
b) to chase and catch something
c) to hide something carefully
d) to frighten someone

8. Which word from the passage means “moving quickly and quietly”? (1)
a) creaked
b) flitted
c) plunged
d) disentangle

9. Where do the girl and the sentry finally catch the cat? (1)

10. Who does the sentry see running towards the gate at the end of the passage? (1)

Q2. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow. (10)

(1) People who lived 200 years ago socialised by either physically meeting their loved ones or writing letters or sending oral messages through someone. There were proper ways to write a letter and address people.

(2) Imagine a time where there was no internet! Yes, such a time existed and everyone lived happy and fulfilling lives. In fact, most scientific discoveries are attributed to that period. Scientists discovered the telegraph, then the telephone, the radio followed and finally in 1983 the internet. While the telegraph and telephone were for elite use in the beginning, the internet took much less time to reach everyone.

(3) The internet is a huge game changer for humankind. Suddenly everyone is accessible at all hours of the day, anywhere in the world. Social media websites and apps have mushroomed in every country. Each claims to make life easier, more convenient or fun for the users. As with all inventions, this too comes with a price tag. The price tag is the change in human behaviour. As social media has grown, human interaction has increased, but only digitally.

(4) Cyber involvement has gone up manifold. On one hand, the cyber world is a blessing for many people but on the other hand, it is also becoming a place for crime.

(5) Today cyber crime is a reality. Cyber crime is a crime committed with the active use of the internet. For example – someone could use your smart-phone and transfer money from your account to their account. Or, someone could access your private information through your emails. Your photos could be leaked to public sites. Many people send emails to strangers requesting for money for someone. Some people pose as bank officials and send you an email

to ask for your passwords. Such emails are definitely fake and bogus.

(6) Social media has opened our lives for the world to see and comment upon. To use social media in a healthy and beneficial manner, one must follow certain rules.

1. How did people socialize 200 years ago according to the passage? **(1)**
 - a) Through social media and emails
 - b) By physically meeting, writing letters, or sending oral messages
 - c) By using telephones and radios
 - d) Through online messaging platforms

2. What does the passage suggest about life before the internet? **(1)**
 - a) It was difficult and unproductive.
 - b) People depended only on science.
 - c) People lived happy and fulfilling lives.
 - d) Communication was impossible.

3. Which invention is mentioned as being discovered before the telephone? **(1)**
 - a) Radio
 - b) Internet
 - c) Telegraph
 - d) Smartphone

4. What does the passage say about the early use of the telegraph and telephone? **(1)**
 - a) They were used by everyone
 - b) They were mainly for elite use
 - c) They were avoided by scientists
 - d) They spread faster than the internet

5. The internet reached people faster than earlier inventions because **(1)**
 - a) it was free of cost
 - b) it was discovered later
 - c) it took less time to spread widely
 - d) it replaced all other inventions

6. What major change in human behaviour is mentioned because of social media growth? **(1)**
 - a) Decrease in communication
 - b) Increase in face-to-face interaction
 - c) Increase in digital interaction
 - d) Complete isolation from society

7. The word “mushroomed” in the passage most nearly means **(1)**
 - a) disappeared suddenly
 - b) grew rapidly
 - c) became expensive
 - d) failed completely

8. What does the passage mean by saying cyber involvement has gone up “manifold”? (1)
a) It has stopped completely.
b) It has increased greatly.
c) It has become confusing.
d) It has reduced slowly.
9. Mention one example of cyber crime given in the passage. (1)
10. Why should social media be used in a healthy and beneficial manner, according to the passage? (1)

SECTION B- WRITING

- Q3. Attempt any ONE. (5)

Your school, Silver Oaks High School, is organizing an "Inter-Class Debate Competition" for students of Grades 7 and 8 on the topic 'Artificial Intelligence: A Boon or a Bane?'. As the Secretary of the Literary Club, write a **notice in about 50 words** informing students about the participation and other relevant details about the event.

OR

During your winter vacation, you visited a local Street Food Festival in your city. The area was crowded with stalls, music, and people from all walks of life. In a **paragraph of 100–120 words**, describe the atmosphere of the festival.

- Q4. Attempt any ONE. (7)

You are Karan Mehta, a student of Class VIII A, Green Valley School, Jaipur. The school library does not have enough books for students, and many books are outdated. Write a **letter to the principal** requesting improvement of the library facilities.

OR

You are Aman Verma, a resident of Andheri East, Mumbai. You are concerned about the increasing use of mobile phones by children, which is affecting their health and studies. Write a **letter to the Editor** of a local newspaper expressing your views.

- Excessive use of mobile phones by children
- Bad effects on health (eyes, sleep) and studies
- Reduced outdoor activities and social interaction
- Need for parental control and screen-time limits
- Appeal for awareness among parents, schools, and society

Q5. Refer to the given extract from the poem ‘O Captain, My Captain’ and answer the following questions. (6)

*The ship has weather'd every rack,
the prize we sought is won,
The port is near, the bells I hear,
the people all exulting,
While follow eyes the steady keel,
the vessel grim and daring;*

- i. Why is the ship described as ‘grim and daring’? What does this suggest about the journey it has just completed? (2)
- ii. What is the ‘prize’ that the speaker refers to? (2)
- iii. Explain the meaning of the phrase ‘weather’d every rack.’ (2)

Q6. Refer to the given extract from the poem ‘Daffodils’ and answer the following questions. (6)

*Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.*

- i. What is being compared to the stars in the sky? Which poetic device is used here? (2)
- ii. What does the phrase ‘never-ending line’ suggest about the scene? (2)
- iii. What mood is created by this description? (2)

Q7. Answer the following in about 60-70 words each: (3*4)

- i. How does the astrologer’s profession depend on human psychology rather than astrology?
(An Astrologer’s Day)
- ii. Through Jim and Della , how does the story highlight the theme of love and sacrifice?
(The Gift of the Magi)
- iii. Mention any three red alerts/flags that Billy ignored.
(The Landlady)
- iv. Explain how ‘O Captain! My Captain!’ is both a poem of victory and loss.
(O Captain, My Captain)

Q8. Answer any one of the following questions in about 80-90 words:

(4)

Imagine that Billy Weaver meets a friend after escaping from the boarding house. He narrates his experience and reflects on the warning signs he ignored. **Write a dialogue** between Billy and his friend highlighting the importance of being alert and not trusting appearances blindly.

OR

Imagine you are **Jim** on Christmas Eve. Write a **diary entry** reflecting on how you felt when you sold your watch to buy a gift for Della, and your thoughts when you discovered her sacrifice.