

**DAV BR PUBLIC SCHOOL, BINA**  
**Half Yearly Examination 2024-25**  
**PRACTICE PAPER**

**Class - VIII**

**Subject - English**

**Time Allowed - 3 Hours**

**MM: - 80**

**General Instructions -**

1. This question paper consists of 3 sections, 14 questions and 7 pages.
2. All questions are compulsory.
3. Read instruction and the question statements carefully and then only start writing answers.
4. Attempt all the questions of the same section together.
5. Write correct question numbers in the answer sheets as given in the question paper.

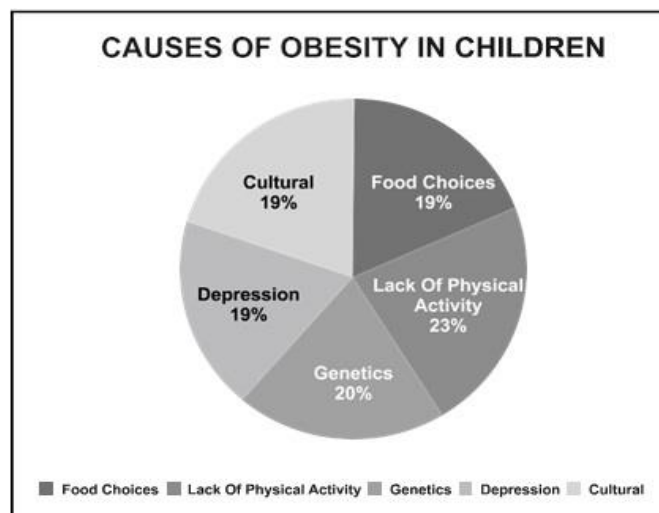
**Section 'A' - Reading Skills**

**20Marks**

**1x8=8**

Q1. Read the passage given below carefully.

1. An epidemic of obesity or being overweight is affecting many countries in the world; more than 300 million people are obese or overweight. Obesity could be for a particular reason. In India, some people tend to be overweight because of their high calorie diet and lack of physical activities. In the United States, obesity is more prevalent in lower income groups. Obesity is now well recognised as a disease in its own right. Though obesity commonly means being overweight, it is defined as an excess amount of body weight that includes muscle, bone, fat and water. 'Obesity' specifically refers to an excess amount of body fat.
2. A certain amount of body fat is needed to store energy, keep warm and absorb the shocks. Usually men with more than 25% body fat and women with more than 35% body fat are regarded as obese. Obesity tends to run in families suggesting a genetic cause. Environmental factors include lifestyle behaviour such as what a person eats and his or her level of physical activity. So, one should choose more nutritious food which is low in fat, and become more active.
3. Then, there are psychological factors. Negative emotions such as boredom, sadness and anger are the main culprits. Then there is also 'binge eating' i.e. when people eat large amounts of food thinking that it is beyond their control how much they eat. Those with the most severe binge eating problem are also likely to have more symptoms of depression and low self-esteem.
4. Obesity is a health hazard giving rise to many serious medical conditions like type 2 diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure and stroke. Obesity is also linked to a higher rate of certain types of cancer. There are many ways of losing weight but exercise is the best as it is free from any type of harmful side effects.



Now answer the following questions:

1. Compare and contrast the trends of obesity in India and the US, as mentioned in the passage.
2. Enlist the two factors affecting obesity, as mentioned in paragraph 2.
3. How does depression lead to obesity?
4. As per the pie chart, which is the biggest cause of obesity in children?
5. Which two causes are equally responsible for obesity in children?
6. State True or False:

**According to the passage, one of the factors resulting in obesity is social status.**

7. Two harmful consequences of obesity are ----- and -----.
8. Find a word in paragraph 4, which means 'a threat'.

Q2. Read the passage given below carefully.

**1X12 =12**

1. One famous dry and hot place in the world with no visible rock or plant and barely any water is the Sahara Desert. It gives the impression of an ocean of pure white sand. Surprisingly, the Sahara is home to many strange animals.
2. These animals have survived over many generations because they were able to adapt to their particular conditions. One of the most interesting animals in the Sahara is the sand stink, which in French means 'fish of the desert'. The sand stink behaves just like a fish except that instead of in water, it 'swims' through the sand. Its legs act as fins and the hard scales on its skin act as an armour helping it move through the sand. A piece of transparent skin protects its eyes as it swims through the sand. Its eggs are covered with skin to prevent dehydration.
3. One of the rare animals able to bask in the desert sun is the camel. For many hundreds of years, the camel has been the

'horse of the desert', helping travellers across the desert. This horse' is slow-moving, yet it is big and strong enough to carry extremely heavy loads. The camel has large, padded feet almost like snowshoes. This characteristic prevents it from sinking into the sand.

4. A camel is able to drink up to one hundred and eighteen litres of water in a day. Once it is full, it can move for five to seven days without water, carrying its own portable 'water tank'. Its humps help to store fats, which serve as a storage of strength, removing the need for food, sometimes for a week. Humps also help to regulate the camel's temperature.

**Attempt ANY 12 out of the 13 questions given below :**

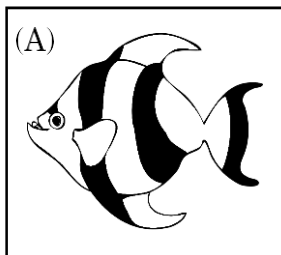
1. Why do you think the Sahara is compared to an ocean?
2. How are the animals able to survive the extreme conditions of the desert?
3. Identify the poetic device used in the third sentence of para - 2.
4. Comment on the use of the word 'swim' in paragraph 2.
5. Give one possible reason for protecting stink's eggs against dehydration.
6. Find a word from the passage that means 'moveable'.
7. The following statements are marked Assertion (A) and Reason (R).

(A) A camel's feet don't sink into the sand.

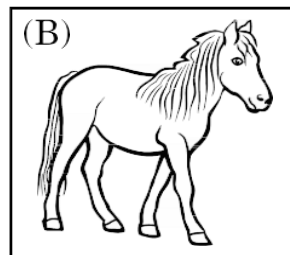
(R) It has large, padded feet.

Read the statements and choose the correct option:

- (a) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
  - (b) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation for (A).
  - (c) (A) is true, but (R) is false.
  - (d) (A) is false, but (R) is true.
8. Identify the picture of 'fish of the desert', from the pictures given below:



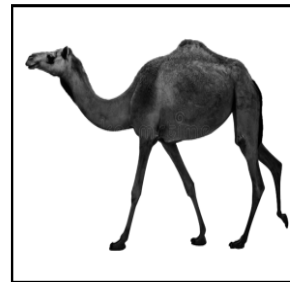
(A)



(B)



(C)



(D)

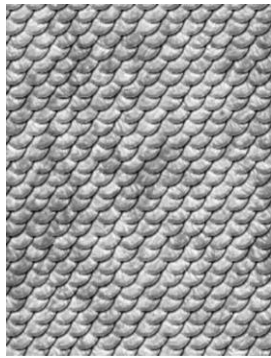
9. Why has the camel been compared to a 'horse' in the passage?  
 (a) It runs as fast as a horse.  
 (b) It is strong enough to carry heavy loads.  
 (c) It is an elegant and graceful animal.  
 (d) It has large, padded feet.
10. Choose the picture to which the scales on a stink's body have been compared.



(A)



(B)



(C)



(D)

11. Which of the following can a camel store in its hump?  
 (1) Food      (2) Water      (3) Fats      (4) Water Tank  
 (a) Both 1 and 2  
 (b) Both 3 and 4  
 (c) Both 2 and 3  
 (d) Both 1 and 4
12. If the camel did not have its hump, which of the following would happen?  
 (1) It would starve.  
 (2) It would run faster.  
 (3) It would look more graceful.  
 (4) It would get dehydrated.  
 (5) It won't survive the heat of the desert.  
 (6) Its feet would sink into the sand.

(a) 1, 3, 4	(b) 2, 5, 6
(c) 1, 4, 5	(d) 1, 2, 4

13. Select the option which gives the right combination of the words given in the two tables:

A. Padded feet	1. Water tank
B. Legs	2. Snowshoes
C. Hump	3. Fins

- (a) A-2, B-1, C-3  
(c) A-3, B-2, C-2

- (b) A-2, B-3, C-1  
(d) A-1, B-2, C-3

**Section 'B' – Grammar and Writing Skills**

**30Marks**

- Q3. You are Raghav/Riti, Head Boy/Head Girl of Glory Public School, Faridabad. Your school is organising a free vaccination drive for the students of age group of 12 and above. Breakfast is advisable before vaccination. Draft a notice in about 50 words with all necessary details. **4**
- Q4. Newspapers are full of articles related to violence and indifference towards one another. News items related to love and compassion are very rare to find. Human values are decreasing day by day. People are becoming materialistic and self-centred. Virtues like compassion and forgiveness are lacking in society. Write an article in about 100-120 words on 'Humanity is the only Religion'. Include ideas from the unit 'Compassionate Souls', along with your own ideas. (Word limit: 100-120) **8**
- Q5. The following passage has not been edited. There is an error in each line. Write the incorrect words and the correction in your answer sheet. The first one has been done for you as an example. **1/2x8=4**
- |   |           |            |
|---|-----------|------------|
| Rajasthan have some of the grandest Heritage structure of country.  | Incorrect | Correct    |
| And, many of these historical buildings are fading by time. World Heritage Day is observe on April 18, to make efforts to conserve these sites. | e.g. have | <u>has</u> |
|   | a. -----  | -----      |
|   | b. -----  | -----      |
|   | c. -----  | -----      |
|   | d. -----  | -----      |
- Q6. The following sentences are not in the correct sequence. Read them carefully and arrange them in a meaningful sequence: **4**
- (a) In the morning, first of all, thank the Almighty for giving you a comfortable sleep and pray to enable you to do good deeds.  
(b) But remember to organise your things at night to avoid panic, enjoy a good breakfast and reach school on time.  
(c) One must get up early in the morning to keep oneself healthy.  
(d) However, to get up early, one should sleep between 9-10 p. m.
- Q7. Read the following conversation and report what was said by completing the following passage. Write the answers in your answer sheet. **1x4=4**
- Coach : What is your aim ?  
Nimit : I want to be an international chess player.  
Coach : Do you idolise any particular chess player?  
Nimit : Yes, I admire Vishwanathan Anand and I met him last year at a championship.  
Coach : Wish you good luck for your bright future.
- The coach asked Nimit (a) ..... Nimit replied (b) .....  
He was then asked (c) ..... He replied in the affirmative that he admired Vishwanathan Anand and added (d) ..... The coach wished him good luck for his bright future.
- Q8. Choose the correct word from the options given below to complete **1x3=3**

the following passage:

Ayurveda, which means 'the science of life', (a) -----  
(prescribe/prescribes/prescribed) six different tastes in every meal.  
The sweet taste (b) ----- (find/finding/found) in bananas,  
mangoes etc., is meant to (c) ----- (build/built/building)  
tissues and calm nerves.

Q9. Do as directed:

**1x3=3**

- (a) Traffic rules ----- not be violated. (Fill in a suitable Modal)  
(b) Idli and sambhar ----- his favourite dish. (Fill the Verb  
according to the subject)  
(c) I like smiling faces. (Is it a clause or a sentence.)

### **Section 'C' – Literature**

**30Marks**

Q10. Read the extract and answer the questions given below:

**1x4=4**

“Your strong piety is your children's strength.

You always shared your best with whoever needed the most,

You always gave, and gave with faith in Him.

I still remember the day when I was ten.”

- (a) What motivated the mother to be charitable?  
(b) Find an evidence of her generosity from the given extract.  
(c) What exactly does he remember of the day when he was ten?  
(d) In this extract the child is grateful to his mother for giving him  
faith in God. What else is he thankful for in the poem?

Q11. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

**1x4=4**

“I resolved to kill you on your way back. But the day passed and you  
did not return. So I came out from my ambush to find you, and I  
came upon your bodyguards and they recognised me and wounded  
me. I escaped from them, but should have bled to death, had you not  
dressed my wounds. I wished to kill you, and you have saved my life.  
Now, if I live, and if you wish it, I will serve you as your most faithful  
slave and will bid my sons do the same.”

- (a) Who had resolved to kill whom?  
(b) Which question of the king does the above incident refer to?  
(c) Why had the listener not returned while the man was waiting  
in ambush for him?  
(d) What was the change of attitude in the speaker towards the  
listener?

Q12. Attempt ANY SIX short answer type questions out of the seven given  
below: [30-40 words]

**2x6=12**

- a) What do you understand by “Monday morning blues”? Give an  
example.  
b) How can we say that Swami had to taste his own medicine?  
c) What were the king's three questions?  
d) How were war days difficult for Kalam?  
e) Granny defied age and stereotypes. Do you agree? Justify your  
answer.  
f) How did the narrator plan to manage his expenses after giving a  
lavish lunch to the lady at the Foyot's?  
g) How is the poem 'My Mother' a portrail of mother as God?

Q13. In the story "The Three Questions" the act of kindness pays at the end. Explain.

4

Q14. You are the poet of the poem, 'Granny's Tree Climbing'. You have learnt to climb trees from your granny, which keeps you agile, fit and close to nature. In this era of fastfood, you realised that the skill helped you remain healthy and immune. You are grateful to your granny. Write a diary entry, sharing your feelings of gratitude. (100 words)

6

**OR**

You are the king in the story, "Three Questions". After your meeting with the hermit and making friends with your enemy, you return to your kingdom. Write a diary entry to share your new learning that 'Knowledge gained through experience is more useful than theoretical knowledge'. Write your diary entry in about 100 words.

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