



INDIAN SCHOOL DARSAIT

HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION, SEPTEMBER 2017



ENGLISH MODEL QUESTION PAPER-2

Class-VIII

Max Marks :80

Date:

Time :3 hrs

General Instructions:

1. This paper is divided into three sections: A, B and C. All the sections are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.
Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed Word limit while answering the questions.

| Section-A (Reading - 20mks) | | |
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| Q-1 | Read the following passage carefully. | 8mks |
| | <p>Low Women Workforce a Setback to Development Gender equality/disparity has become one of the most important indicators of a developed society. Women work participation is a ‘gender lens’ to look at this problem (phenomenon).</p> <p>According to International Labour Organization statistics, societies still having feudal ethos in the 21st century have the least women labour participation rates, and hence the highest gender disparity ratios.</p> <p>Afghanistan, Algeria, Iran, Iraq and Jordan have the least female participation rates (around 16 per cent), but globally the rate is 50 per cent. India and Pakistan record only 27 per cent, but Bangladesh has crossed the global average and achieved 57 per cent. Relatively small nations like Indonesia and Malaysia also have touched the global average, but Vietnam, Zambia, Tanzania and Uganda have the maximum rates around 75 per cent.</p> <p>This shows that the correlation between women’s work participation rate and gender equality is complex. No doubt, the least women participation in work is a clear indication of sharp disparity. But mere increase in work participation is not enough for gender equality since in some of the least developed countries with high rates of work participation, women are forced to get involved in back-breaking agriculture labour and deprived of good education and health care. Their families will be starved if they are not in the fields, often with very low wages.</p> <p>India has to think about its low women workforce participation if it wants to get into the real development orbit. Skilling the working population, especially the women, must be the top priority. China could break the barriers of low women work participation, and it is one of the reasons for their excellence in manufacturing, especially in the small and medium enterprises. Non-farm women’s work participation can only push their status up. The Vietnamese experience provides more insights. Even with very high women participation,</p> | |

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| | the gender pay gap has widened while it declined in many countries. 'Equal pay for equal work' has to be ensured if we are serious about gender inequality. | |
| | Now answer the following questions: (1 × 8 = 8 Marks) | |
| 1. | What is one of the most important indicators of a developed society? | |
| 2. | What is International Labour Organisation statistics? | |
| 3. | Which countries have the least women work participation rates? | |
| 4. | Which country has crossed the global average? Name two countries which has achieved the maximum rates in women's work participation. | |
| 5. | Why is mere increase in work participation not enough for gender equality? | |
| 6. | What does India need for real development of the country? | |
| 7. | What is needed to push women's states up? | |
| 8. | Why is 'equal pay for equal work' important? | |
| Q-2 | Read the following passage carefully: | 12 mks |
| | <p>1. Dr. Vikram Sarabhai was not only an imaginative and creative scientist but also a pioneering industrialist and an astute planner. He made significant contribution in the field of cosmic ray physics and in the development of nuclear power and space programmes. When Dr. Bhabha died suddenly in 1966 in a plane crash, it seemed almost impossible to fill the vacuum but fortunately a worthy successor could be found in Dr. Sarabhai. He took up the nuclear programmes with a challenge and also added fresh dimensions to the space research programmes.</p> <p>2. Dr. Sarabhai was born on August 12, 1919 at Ahmedabad in a rich industrialist family. His early education was in a private school in Gujarat College at Ahmedabad. He then went to Cambridge, England, and obtained his tripos in 1939 from St. John's College. He then came back to India and started research work in the field of cosmic rays with Sir C.V. Raman at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. In 1945 he went back to Cambridge to carry our further research on cosmic rays. There in 1947 he obtained a Ph.D. degree in the same field.</p> <p>3. It was as early as 1942, when Dr. Sarabhai and his newly-married wife, Sreemati Mrinalini, were staying for some time in Poona. There he conceived the idea of starting the Physical Research Laboratory in Ahmedabad. Soon after his return from Cambridge in 1947, Sarabhai started looking for a place for this project. He got a few rooms at the M.G. Science Institute to start the laboratory and Prof. K.K. Ramanathan was made its first director in 1948. The foundation stone of the new laboratory building was laid in February, 1952 by Sir C.V. Raman and the laboratory was formally opened in April 1954. Dr Sarabhai</p> | |

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| | <p>made the Physical Research laboratory virtually the cradle of the Indian Space Programme just like Tata Institute of Fundamental Research was one such centre for the Indian Atomic Energy Programme.</p> <p>4. Dr Sarabhai not only encouraged science but also devoted a good deal of time to industry. For over 15 years he nurtured a pharmaceutical industry and he was also a pioneer of the pharmaceutical industry in India.</p> <p>5. The first institution that Sarabhai helped to build was the Ahmedabad Textile industry's Research Association (ATIRA). In building ATIRA he helped to introduce the scientific method in a traditional industry. He was only 28 when he was asked to organise and build ATIRA. From 1949-1965 he remained the Honorary Director of ATIRA. In 1962 he helped to found the Indian Institute of Management at Ahmedabad. From 1962-1965 he remained the Honorary Director of this institute. Dr. Sarabhai was mainly responsible for setting up of the Thumba rocket launching station. In 1966, after the death of Dr. Bhabha, he became the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.</p> <p>6. Today, the success of space programmes in India is largely owing to the groundwork prepared by him in this regard. Dr. Homi Bhabha put India on the nuclear map of the world and Dr. Sarabhai did it in the field of space. Due to his efforts India could launch its first satellite, Aryabhata, just three-and-half years after his death.</p> <p>7. As a result of his achievements Dr. Sarabhai became a world renowned figure in the field of space research. He was given the Bhatnagar Memorial Award for Physics in 1962; Padma Bhushan in 1966 and was awarded Padma Vibhushan posthumously. He was elected the Vice-President and Chairman of the U.N. conference on peaceful use of outer space in 1968. He president over the fourteenth General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Dr. Sarabhai died on December 30, 1971 at the age of 52 when he was at the peak of his achievements. It was a great loss to India and the Indian science in particular.</p> | |
| | <p>I. Now answer the following questions in brief: (2 × 4 = 8 Marks)</p> | |
| <p>1.</p> | <p>In which field did Vikram Sarabhai make significant contribution? How did he prove himself a worthy successor of Dr. Bhabha? 2.</p> | |
| <p>2.</p> | <p>Where did Dr. Sarabhai conceive the idea of starting the Physical Research Laboratory in Ahmedabad? What did he do then?</p> | |

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| 3. | What was his contribution in building the Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association or ATIRA? | |
| 4. | Mention some of Dr. Sarabhai's achievements that made him a world renowned figure in the field of space research? | |
| | II. Vocabulary: (1 × 4 = 4 Marks) | |
| 1. | The word 'cosmic' (Para 2) means | |
| 2. | The word 'pioneer' (Para 4) means | |
| 3. | The verb form of the word 'director' is | |
| 4. | The antonym for the word 'traditional' is----- | |
| | Section-B Writing and Grammar (30 mks) | |
| Q-3 | On the basis of the given telephone conversation, write a message in 50 words .Put the message in a box. | 4mks |
| | <p>Kishore : Hello ! Could I talk to Shami, who works in the Sales Department.</p> <p>Receptionist : Sorry, Shami has not yet arrived.</p> <p>Kishore : Could you convey to her that her brother is quite serious in Bhuvaneshwar and she should leave for Bhuvaneshwar immediately. He is in hospital in an intensive care unit. He met with an accident.</p> <p>Receptionist : Oh, so sad. Should I convey anything else ?</p> <p>Kishore : Yes, she should bring both her children. I am sure you will do me this favour.</p> <p>Receptionist : Yes, sure. I pray for his speedy recovery. By the way may I know who am I talking to ?</p> <p>Kishore : Oh! Sorry ! I was in a hurry and did not introduce myself. I am Kishore, a neighbour of Shami's brother.</p> | |
| Q-4 | The surroundings of your colony have fallen into neglect resulting in mounds of garbage, choked drains, overflowing dustbins that are becoming a breeding ground for mosquitoes, flies and bacteria. As a resident of the colony, write a letter to the editor of the local daily, drawing attention to the careless attitude of the authorities towards the health of the people. (80-100 words) | 6mks |

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| Q-5 | As the Head Girl/ Head Boy of your school, you are pained at the attitude of the students towards basic amenities like electricity and water. Leaking taps, running fans, lights on in empty class rooms don't seem to affect the students. In your speech on the occasion of the Earth Day, highlight these issues and the need for conservation of resources. (100-120) words | 8mks |
| Q-6 | Fill in the blanks with the correct tense forms of the verbs given in brackets. | 4mks |
| | My watch _____(stop) again. Something _____(be) wrong with it. I _____(purchase) it long ago. I _____(get) it repaired tomorrow. | |
| Q-7 | Change the voice of the following sentences: | 8mks |
| | i) They expect us to be there before five. ii) The school is organizing a trip to USA. iii) Manu has lost his School diary. iv) Boys submitted their rough record yesterday. v) They were practising dance for the farewell function . vi) The Central Board had published the results. vii) The Lawyer will discuss the matter in the meeting.. viii) Do not disturb others . | |
| SECTION C : Literature (30 mks) | | |
| Q-8 | Read the following extract and answer the questions that follows | |
| 1 | 'Why do they make good neighbours?' a. What does the word <i>they</i> refer to? b. Who said this? c. Whom did the speaker say this to? (<i>Mending Wall</i>) | 3mks |
| 2. | Till her captain turns the lever 'neath his hand, And the monstrous nine-decked city goes to sea. a. What does the poet mean by the word ' <i>neath</i> ? b. What does the word <i>monstrous</i> mean, here? c. What is the <i>nine-decked city</i> ? (<i>The Secret of the Machines</i>) | 3mks |

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| Q-9 | Answer any six of the questions that follows in 40 to 50 words. | 12mks |
| 1. | Why did Swami plan to disobey Samuel ? | |
| 2. | Describe Chester as a person. | |
| 3. | What was wrong with the way Miss Lucy had been brought up? | |
| 4. | How was Daru involved in crime ? | |
| 5. | What did the narrator first do on her arrival at the camp? | |
| 6. | Who was Tuskless? How was she drawn to the camp? | |
| 7. | How could Miss Lucy believe that Christmas is the most important time? | |
| 8. | How did Swami convince himself about giving the letter to the headmaster? | |
| Q10 | Answer any one of the following in 100-120 words | 6marks |
| 1. | Imagine you are Tuskless .Describe the feast that you enjoyed .(Elehants raid the kitchen) | |
| 2. | Describe the values you could inculcate from the lesson 'A Most Important Person' | |
| 3. | Give a detail description of poachers. | |
| Q11 | Answer any one of the following in 100-120 words. | 6 mks |
| a | Describe the qualities that made the poet (Walt Whitman) think he could turn and live with animals and also mention the vices in the human beings noticed . | |
| b | Imagine you are Swami. Write a page in your diary about the day's events and the lesson that you learnt from this experience. | |