

**Half-yearly Examination - 2016-2017**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

Time : 2 Hrs. 15 mins.

F. M. : 80

Std. : VII

- I. Write a composition of any one of the following topics in not more than 250 words (20)
- i. Your favourite hobbies
  - ii. Adventure in a space-craft
  - iii. The season you like the most
  - iv. Should games be compulsory for school children?

2. Write a letter on any one of the following : (10)
- i. Write a letter to your cousin who lives in a village, telling him what your town is like.
  - ii. Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper about the problem of frequent power cut in your locality.

3. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow : (25)

One day, a high summer flood washed him out of the burrow where he lived with his father and mother, and carried him, kicking and clucking, down a roadside ditch. He found a little wisp of grass floating there, and clung to it till he lost his senses. When he revived, he was lying in the hot sun on the middle of a garden path, very dragged indeed, and a small boy was saying, 'Here's a dead mongoose. Let's have a funeral.'

'No', said his mother, 'let's take him in and dry him, perhaps he isn't really dead.'

They took him into the house, and a big man picked him up between his finger and thumb, and said he was not dead but half-choked, so they wrapped him in cotton wool and he opened his eyes and sneezed.

'Now' said the big man, 'don't frighten him, and we'll see what he'll do.'

It is the hardest thing in the world to tighten a mongoose, because he is eaten up from nose to tail with curiosity. The motto of all the mongoose family is, run and find out,' an Rikki-Tikki was a true mongoose. He looked at the cotton wool, decided that it as not good to eat, ran all round the table, sat up and put his fur in order, scratched himself, and jumped on the small boy's shoulder.

'Don't be frightened, Teddy,' said his father. 'That's his way of making friends.'

- A. Give the meanings of the words as used in the passage : (5)
- i. clung    ii. revived    iii. curiosity    iv. ditch    v. clucking

- B. Answer the following questions
- i. Where did the mongoose live? (1)
  - ii. What was the name of the Mongoose and the small boy? (2)

- iii. How did he reach the garden path? (2)
- iv. Why did the mongoose jump on the boy's shoulder? (1)
- v. Why is it difficult to frighten a mongoose? (2)
- vi. Give two examples of the Mongoose's behaviour from the story. (2)
- C. Give the meaning of the following phrases from the passage. (3)
- i. washed him out
- ii. eaten up with curiosity
- iii. put his fur in order
- D. Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following : (3)
- i. wet, limp and dirty
- ii. covered
- iii. to scare
- E. Make sentences with the following : (4)
- i. funeral    ii. scratched
- 4 a. Do as directed : (10)
- i. I ate \_\_\_\_\_ rice. (some/much)
- ii. The room is full of furniture. (change to plural)
- iii. He is \_\_\_\_\_ honest man. (a/an)
- iv. The man loaded the cart. (change to passive)
- v. The box is too heavy for me to lift. (Use : so that)
- vi. He is slow. He is sure (join)
- vii. Hearing the noise, he went to the window. (Begin : when)
- viii. The college \_\_\_\_\_ on 23rd June. (open/opens)
- ix. Prevention is \_\_\_\_\_ than cure. (good) change the degree of comparison.
- x. Alas! Poor Vimla is dead. (Identify the kind of sentences)
- b. Fill in the blank with suitable Prepositions (5)
- i. I am fond \_\_\_\_\_ music
- ii. He spoke \_\_\_\_\_ me \_\_\_\_\_ Urdu.
- iii. I shall do it \_\_\_\_\_ pleasure.
- iv. I will sit \_\_\_\_\_ my desk.

- v. O God! keep me \_\_\_\_\_ sin.
- vi. He broke the jug \_\_\_\_\_ a hundred pieces.
- vii. The public is cautioned \_\_\_\_\_ pickpockets.
- viii. They drove \_\_\_\_\_ Pune \_\_\_\_\_ Mumbai.

C. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the Verb given in the bracket.

(5)

- i. The baby \_\_\_\_\_ all morning. (cry)
- ii. The soup \_\_\_\_\_ good (taste)
- iii. I \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of work today. (do)
- iv. It started to rain while we \_\_\_\_\_. (play)
- v. I \_\_\_\_\_ Rahim at the zoo. (saw)
- vi. I am \_\_\_\_\_ to Shimla tomorrow. (go)
- vii. We \_\_\_\_\_ at Delhi for ten years. (live)
- viii. A thing of beauty \_\_\_\_\_ a joy forever. (is)
- ix. The train \_\_\_\_\_ at 5.30. (leave)
- x. I \_\_\_\_\_ my work. (finish)

D. Write the synonyms of the following words :

(3)

- i. prefer    ii. delight    iii. funny

E. Write the antonyms of the following words :

(2)

- i. shrink    ii. hides