

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sec: \_\_\_\_ Roll No. \_\_\_\_\_

**BURNPUR RIVERSIDE SCHOOL, BURNPUR  
ANNUAL EXAMINATION : ( 2020-2021)  
ENGLISH  
CLASS - VIII**

**TIME: 3 Hrs**

**Maximum Marks : 80**

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**General Instructions:**

*1. The question paper is divided into three sections:*

*SECTION A: Reading 20 MARKS*

*SECTION B: Writing and Grammar 30 MARKS*

*SECTION C: Literature 30 MARKS*

*II. All questions are compulsory.*

*III. You may attempt any section at a time.*

*All questions of that particular section must be attempted  
in the correct order.*

**SECTION A : READING (20 marks)**

1 Read the following passage carefully and do as directed.

8

An owl is a bird. There are two basic types of owls: typical owls and bam owls. Owls live in almost every country of the world. Owls are mostly nocturnal, meaning they are awake at night. Owls are predators—they hunt the food that they eat. Owls hunt for mice and other small mammals, insects and even fish. Owls are well adapted for hunting. Their soft, fluffy feathers make their flight nearly silent. They have very good hearing which helps them to hunt well in the darkness. The sharp hooked beaks and claws of the owl makes it very easy to tear apart their prey quickly, although owls also eat some prey whole.

Owl’s eyes are unusual. Like most predators, both the eyes of the owl face front. The owl cannot move its eyes. Owls are far—

sighted, which means they can see very well far away..... but they can't see those very well at all. Fortunately, their distant vision is what they use for hunting and they can see far away even in low light. Owls have facial disks around their eyes, tufts of feathers in a circle around each eye. These facial disks are thought to help the Owl's hearing. Owls can turn their heads 180 degrees. This makes it look like they might be able to turn their heads all the way around, but 180 degrees is all the owl needs to see what's going on all around its. Perhaps because of the Owl's mysterious appearance, especially its round eyes and flexible neck, there are a lot of myths and superstitions about owls. Many cultures believe that owls are unusually wise. Because owls are nocturnal, some cultures associate owls with bad omens. The screech of the bam owl is considered by many to sound eerily human, like a person screaming. However, owls probably do not interact with the fates of humans at all. In fact, some owl species may become extinct because of humans.

- i Which of the following is not true about owls?
  - (a) Owls eat small animals
  - (b) Owls are able to fly silently
  - (c) Owls have the best hearing of all birds
  - (d) Owls have poor vision
  
- ii The eyesight of the owl is used for.....
  - (a) flying
  - (b) hunting
  - (c) sleeping
  - (d) none of these
  
- iii The purpose of this short article is.....
  - (a) to entertain
  - (b) to inform
  - (c) to persuade
  - (d) none of these
  
- iv Title for this story can be.....
  - (a) Owls hunt at night
  - (b) Owls can fly silently
  - (c) Owls are interesting animals
  - (d) Owls have flexible necks

- v Nocturnal means -----
- vi Owls hunt for mice-----
- vii -----both the eyes of the owl face front.
- viii The screech of the bam owl is considered by-----  
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2 Read the following passage carefully and do as directed.

12

Valley of Flowers is a national park in Uttarakhand, India. Nestled in the Western Himalayas, the valley is located at an altitude of 3,600 meters above sea level and is famous for charming meadows of alpine flowers. Myriad alpine flowers stretched across 87.5 sq km. make this place a colourful paradise. The beautiful valley is also a world heritage site with its pristine beauty and mystical surroundings attracting nature lovers, photographers and botanists. Valley of Flowers is bifurcated by Pushpawati River. The locals believe that the valley was once inhabited by fairies. It is one of the famous trekking destinations in India. One cannot stay at the Valley of Flowers, therefore, Ghangaria, the base camp for the trek to the Valley of Flowers, remains an ideal place to relax and sleep.

The Valley of Flowers is a 3-km climb from Ghangaria. The Brahmakamal, the Blue Poppy and the Cobra Lily are some flowers that bloom in the valley. The Himalayan Balsam is the most predominant flower of the valley. The valley is covered with snow for most of the year. The valley opens on 1st June every year for visitors. There are huge glaciers in the Valley of Flowers in June. At this time, snow starts melting and the seeds of the last year's plants start germinating. By July, all the flowers are in full bloom. One can find the maximum number of flowers until mid-August. Snowfall starts in October, and the valley is closed officially for public.

i Answer the following questions

(a) Name some flowers found in the valley and the best time to visit the place.

(b) Why do visitors have to stay in Ghangaria?

(c) Where is the Valley of Flowers located? Which river bifurcates it?

(d) What attract nature lovers, photographers and botanists?

ii Choose the correct option.

(a) Valley of Flowers is a national park in

A) Uttarkhand

B) Uttaranchal

C) Bihar

D) Orissa

(b) For how long is the valley covered with snow?

A) for most of the year

B) for half of the year

C) for two months

D) none

iii (a) Give the antonym of the word 'beauty'.

(b) Which word in the passage means 'very pleasant or attractive'?

### **SECTION B: WRITING AND GRAMMAR (30marks)**

- 3 Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper, complaining about the bad condition of water supply in your locality. You are Prabhu / Priti Dayal living at 19 Dayal Bagh Colony, New Delhi. (100-150 words) 8
- 4 It was a bright day and you were reading a book in your lawn. Suddenly a man threw a bag in your garden and ran away. You called him out but.....Complete the story within 150-200 words 10
- 5 Fill in the blanks with one word only 4
- Everybody (a) \_\_\_\_\_ have an aim or an ambition in life. There are, however, some persons who do not plan (b) \_\_\_\_\_ careers. (c) \_\_\_\_\_ have no aim in life. (d) \_\_\_\_\_ who have no aim in life are a ship without a rudder or an envelope without an address.

- 6 The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correct word. 4
- a Patriotism mean love of one's native land. a)-----
- b Just if we love our father and mother, so we b)-----
- c love the land of our birth. This feeling are called c)-----
- d patriotism. Patriotism is a natural feeling at the heart. d)-----
- 7 Rearrange the given words and phrases to form meaningful sentences. 4
- a work and play / things / different / parents see / as two
- b is a / of time / they / waste / think / that playing
- c important/games / studies / are as / as
- d a student / to both / proper / should / attention / pay

**SECTION C : LITERATURE (30 marks)**

- 8 Read the extract and answer the questions that follow. 4
- “He rapped the stones in front,  
Trust me, he said, and come;  
I followed like a child-----  
A blind man led me home.
- a Name the poem and the poet.
- b Where did the passer-by lead the speaker?
- c How did he do so?
- d What do you mean by the word ‘rapped’?

- 9 Answer the following short questions within 30-40 words. 10
- a Why is Grandpa's plate of food arranged like a clock?
  - b Why did the man glare at Ms Susskind?
  - c What is the fate of the wandering singers?
  - d What does the speaker compare the ship to? Why?
  - e Why did Gopal feel 'a mixture of victory and sympathy'?
- 10 Answer the VBQ within 60-80 words 4
- What is your opinion of Shackleton's advertisement? Would you have responded to it? Why?
- 11 Answer the long question within 100-120 words. 6
- How did the narrator shoot a close-up of the engine's chimney?  
What did he finally realize?
- 12 Answer the long question within 100-120 words. 6
- How did Dr Norton solve the mystery of the White Visitor?

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