

CBSE Class 9 English Sample Paper- Set 1 (2021 Question Paper Pattern)

ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE
CLASS- 9

MAXIMUM MARKS-80
TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS

- Section A Reading (20 Marks)
- Section B Writing & Grammar (20 Marks)
- Section C Literature & Long Reading Text (40 Marks)

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Students should attempt all the questions
2. All the answers should be correctly numbered as in the question paper and written in the answer sheet
3. Students should attempt all the questions in one section before going on to next section
4. Read each question carefully and follow the instructions

PART A: READING (20 Marks)

Q 1. Read the passage carefully

ALBERT Einstein was born on 14 March 1879 in the German city of Ulm, without any indication that he was destined for greatness. On the contrary, his mother thought Albert was a freak. To her, his head seemed much too large. At the age of two-and-a-half, Einstein still wasn't talking. When he finally did learn to speak, he uttered everything twice. Einstein did not know what to do with other children, and his playmates called him "Brother Boring." So, the youngster played by himself much of the time. He especially loved mechanical toys. Looking at his newborn sister, Maja, he is said to have said: "Fine, but where are her wheels?" A headmaster once told his father that what Einstein chose as a profession wouldn't matter, because "he'll never make a success at anything." Einstein began learning to play the violin at the age of six, because his mother wanted him to; he later became a gifted amateur violinist, maintaining this skill throughout his life. But Albert Einstein was not a bad pupil. He went to high school in Munich, where Einstein's family had moved when he was 15 months old, and scored good marks in almost every subject. Einstein hated the school's regimentation, and often clashed with his teachers. At the age of 15, Einstein felt so stifled there that he left the school for good. The previous year, Albert's parents had moved to Milan, and left their son with relatives. After prolonged discussion, Einstein got his wish to continue his education in German-speaking Switzerland, in a city which was more liberal than Munich. Einstein was highly gifted in Mathematics and interested in Physics, and after finishing school, he decided to study at a

university in Zurich. But Science wasn't the only thing that appealed to the dashing young man with the walrus moustache. He also felt a special interest in a fellow student, Mileva Maric, whom he found to be a "clever creature." This young Serb had come to Switzerland because the University in Zurich was one of the few in Europe where women could get degrees. Einstein saw in her an ally against the "philistines"—those people in his family and at the university with whom he was constantly at odds. The couple fell in love. Letters survive in which they put their affection into words, mixing Science with tenderness. Wrote Einstein: "How happy and proud I shall be when we both have brought our work on relativity to a victorious conclusion."

Multiple Choice Questions (10 out of 12 questions to be answered)

I. Read the given questions and write the option you consider the most appropriate in your answer sheet.

- 1) A headmaster once told his father that what Einstein chose as a profession wouldn't matter, because _____
 - (a) "he'll never make a success at anything"
 - (b) Einstein was not a bad pupil
 - (c) he was constantly at odds
 - (d) Science wasn't the only thing that appealed to him

- 2) What is the antonym for Victorious?
 - (a) Defeated
 - (b) Triumphant
 - (c) Arrived
 - (d) Conquering

- 3) Here are some sentences from the story. Choose the word from the brackets which can be substituted for the italicised words in the sentences.
 - (a) At the age of 15, Einstein felt so *stifled* that he left the school **for good**. (permanently, for his benefit, for a short time)
 - (b) Science wasn't the only thing that **appealed** to the dashing young man with the walrus moustache. (interested, challenged, worried)

- 4) Einstein began learning to play the violin at the age of six, because _____
 - (a) he was interested
 - (b) his mother wanted him to
 - (c) his father insisted on it
 - (d) he was child prodigy

- 5) The antonym of contrary is _____
 - (a) Opposed
 - (b) Contradictory
 - (c) Similar
 - (d) Obstinate

- 6) What is the meaning of 'Regimentation'?
- (a) order or discipline taken to an extreme
 - (b) feeling suffocated
 - (c) willing to understand
 - (d) something for personal enjoyment
- 7) Who called Einstein "Brother, Boring"?
- (a) His parents
 - (b) His teachers
 - (c) His playmates
 - (d) His sister
- 8) Einstein began to play Violin at the age of _____
- (a) Six
 - (b) Four
 - (c) Two and a half
 - (d) 15 months
- 9) Identify a term that means "at odds"
- (a) In conflict or a disagreement
 - (b) Agree
 - (c) Comply
 - (d) Cover
- 10) What did Einstein first ask on seeing his new born sister?
- (a) She's a freak
 - (b) Brother, boring
 - (c) Fine, but where are her wheels?
 - (d) She'll never make a success at anything
- 11) At the age of two and a half, Einstein still wasn't _____
- (a) Walking
 - (b) Talking
 - (c) Sitting
 - (d) Crawling
- 12) What does "gifted" mean?
- (a) Have exceptional talent / natural ability
 - (b) Jack of all trades
 - (c) Clumsy
 - (d) Awkward

Q 2. Read the given passage carefully and follow instructions

Cardamom, the queen of all spices, has a history as old as the human race and is an expensive spice, second only to saffron. Indian cardamom is known in two main varieties: Malabar cardamom and Mysore Cardamom. The Mysore variety contains levels of cineol and limonene and hence is more aromatic. India was the world's largest producer and exporter of cardamom till the 1980s. By 1990s Guatemala emerged as the leading producer and exporter of cardamom. The main harvest season of cardamom in India between August- February. Cardamom reaches yielding stage two years after planting. The primary physical markets of cardamom are kumily, Vandenmodu, Jhekkady, Puliarmala in Kerala and Bodynaikkanur and Cumbum in Tamil Nadu. Kerala is the main producer of cardamom and contributes up to 60% in total production. Karnataka produces around 25% cardamom of the total production. Ooty is the main producer of cardamom in Tamil Nadu and contributes around 10-15% of the total production. Besides India, Guatemala also produces around 2,200-ton cardamom. On the other hand, India produces nearly 1,000 - 2,000-ton cardamom per year. Due to low quality of cardamom from Guatemala, it remains available at cheaper rates.

Multiple Choice Questions (10 out of 12 questions to be answered)

- 1) What makes the Mysore variety of Cardamom aromatic?
 - (a) Cineol and limonene
 - (b) Presence of saffron
 - (c) Its green colour
 - (d) It contains perfume

- 2) Which state contributes to 25% of total cardamom production?
 - (a) Kerala
 - (b) Karnataka
 - (c) Tamil Nadu
 - (d) Guatemala

- 3) Why were cardamom from Guatemala available at cheaper rates?
 - (a) Due to low quality of cardamom
 - (b) Because Guatemala is largest exporter of cardamom
 - (c) As the cardamoms are very aromatic
 - (d) Guatemala produces cardamom in a bulk

- 4) Find the options from the words which gives the same meaning as: (1 x 4 = 4 marks)
 - i) **Aromatic**
 - a) Humid
 - b) Arid
 - c) Fragrance
 - d) Export

 - ii) **Permanent**
 - a) Old

- b) Exotic
- c) Unique
- d) Perennial

iii) Yield

- a) Import
- b) Export
- c) Produce
- d) Deliver

iv) Primary

- a) Leading/ Main
- b) Secondary
- c) Last
- d) Final

5) Read the sentences given below and fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate options from those given. (1 x 5= 5 marks)

- i. Guatemala _ (emerged/ immersed) as the leading _ (importer/producer) and exporter of cardamom.
- ii. The Mysore variety _ (contains/controls) levels of cineol and limonene and hence is _ (more/less) aromatic.
- iii. Cardamom, the _____ of all spices, has a history _____ as the human race.
- iv. Indian cardamom is known in **(a)** _ main varieties**(b)** _ Cardamom.
 - a) Two / one/ three/ four
 - b) Malabar and Mysore cardamom / Guatemala cardamom/ Karnataka cardamom / Tamil Nadu cardamom
- v. _____ (Cardamom/ Saffron) reaches _ (yielding / growing) stage two years after planting.

PART A: Literature Textbook (10 Marks)

Q 3. MCQs based on an extract from drama/prose to test inference, evaluation and vocabulary. Any 1 out of 2 extracts to be done. (5x1=5)

1. Read the passage carefully

“Come, child, come,” called his parents, as he lagged behind, fascinated by the toys in the shops that lined the way. He hurried towards his parents, his feet obedient to their call, his eyes still lingering on the receding toys. As he came to where they had stopped to wait for him, he could not suppress the desire of his heart, even though he well knew the old, cold stare of refusal in their eyes. “I want that toy,” he pleaded. His father looked at him red-eyed, in his familiar tyrant’s way. His mother, melted by the free spirit of the day was tender and, giving him her finger to hold,

said, "Look, child, what is before you!" It was a flowering mustard-field, pale like melting gold as it swept across miles and miles of even land.

- 1) What was he fascinated by at the shops?
 - (a) the sweets
 - (b) the furniture
 - (c) the toys
 - (d) mustard-field
- 2) Identify the term that is the antonym for "lag"
 - (a) Slow
 - (b) Opposite
 - (c) Haste
 - (d) Linger
- 3) How is the mustard field described in this passage?
- 4) What did his mother say to him?
 - (a) "Look, child, what is before you!"
 - (b) "I want that toy,"
 - (c) Come, child, come"
 - (d) "See, this vast gold field"
- 5) Who is the red-eyed tyrant?
 - (a) His father
 - (b) The narrator / the child
 - (c) His mother
 - (d) The Shop keeper

Or

ON 27 October 1999, seven years after his mother's death, Prashant had gone to the block headquarters of Ersama, a small town in coastal Orissa, some eighteen kilometers from his village, to spend the day with a friend. In the evening, a dark and menacing storm quickly gathered. Winds beat against the houses with a speed and fury that Prashant had never witnessed before. Heavy and incessant rain filled the darkness, ancient trees were uprooted and crashed to the earth. Screams rent the air as people and houses were swiftly washed away. The angry waters swirled into his friend's house, neck deep. The building was of brick and mortar and

was strong enough to survive the devastation of the wind's velocity of 350 km per hour. But the cold terror of the family grew with the crashing of trees that had got uprooted and fallen on their house, sometime in the middle of the night, damaging its roof and walls. The crazed destruction wrought by the cyclone and the surge of the ocean continued for the next thirty-six hours, although wind speeds had reduced somewhat by the next morning. To escape the waters rising in the house, Prashant and his friend's family had taken refuge on the roof. Prashant will never forget the shock he experienced at his first glimpse of the devastation wrought by the super cyclone, in the grey light of the early morning. A raging, deadly, brown sheet of water covered everything as far as the eye could see; only fractured cement houses still stood in a few places. Bloating animal carcasses and human corpses floated in every direction. All round even huge old trees had fallen. Two coconut trees had fallen on the roof of their house. This was a blessing in disguise, because the tender coconuts from the trees kept the trapped family from starving in the several days that followed. For the next two days, Prashant sat huddled with his friend's family in the open on the rooftop. They froze in the cold and incessant rain; the rain water washed away Prashant's tears. The only thought that flashed through his mind was whether his family had survived the fury of the super cyclone. Was he to be bereaved once again?

1) Identify from the options given for these words: **(1 x 3 = 3 marks)**

a) Menacing

(dangerous and harmful / dead bodies of animals / uproar)

b) Incessant

(constant/ unceasing; continual / confusion /

c) devastation

(small remaining quantities/ destruction/ huddled)

2. How was the roof and wall damaged?

3. Bloating Animal _____ and human _____ floated in every direction.

Q 4. Multiple Choice Questions based on an extract from poetry to test analysis and interpretation. Any 1 out of 2 extracts to be done. (5x 1 =5 marks)

The Solitary Reaper

Behold her, single in the field,

Yon solitary Highland lass!

Reaping and singing by herself;

Stop here, or gently pass!

Alone she cuts and binds the grain,
And sings a melancholy strain;
O listen! for the Vale profound
Is overflowing with the sound.

No Nightingale did ever chaunt
More welcome notes to weary bands
Of travellers in some shady haunt,
Among Arabian sands:
A voice so thrilling ne'er was heard
In spring-time from the Cuckoo-bird,
Breaking the silence of the seas
Among the farthest Hebrides.

Will no one tell me what she sings?
Perhaps the plaintive numbers flow
For old, unhappy, far-off things,
And battles long ago:
Or is it some more humble lay,
Familiar matter of to-day?
Some natural sorrow, loss, or pain,
That has been, and may be again?

Whate'er the theme, the Maiden sang
As if her song could have no ending;
I saw her singing at her work,
And o'er the sickle bending;
I listened, motionless and still;
And, as I mounted up the hill,

The music in my heart I bore,
Long after it was heard no more.

—William Wordsworth

1. Complete the summary of the poem with a suitable word/phrase in each blank. (2)

The poet finds a young Highland girl who (a) _____ alone and sings to herself. The poet asks us to listen carefully, because the whole (b) _____ is filled with the overflowing sound of her singing. He asks us to either (c) _____ and listen to her sad song, or gently pass by so as not to disturb her. He goes on to say that no nightingale ever sang a more (d) _____ song to bands of tired travellers in the Arabian Desert.

2. The following words and phrases occur in the given poem. Given below are the words and their meanings. Match each meaning with the word. (2)

- (i) Behold - (a) girl
- (ii) Weary - (b) climbed
- (iii) Lass - (c) tired
- (iv) Mounted - (d) look, see

3. How does the poet describe the lass in the fields? (1)

Or

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with triumph and disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with wornout tools;
If you can make one heap of all your winnings

And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on";

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with kings—nor lose the common touch;
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you;
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run—
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!

1. Which lines in the poem tell us to have self-control, a clear head and not to become bitter when people speak against us?
2. One must be as graceful in _____ (losing/ loosing) as he is in _____ (winning/ whining)
3. Identify the word from the poem, which means "a dishonest or unscrupulous man"
4. What is the meaning of the word "serve your turn" as given in the poem?
5. If all men ____ (count/ chant) with you, but none ____ (to/ too) much.

PART A: Grammar (10 Marks)

Q 5. MCQs (10 out of 12 Should be Answered)

10 Marks

1. Read the sentence given below and fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate use of words from the ones that follow: **2 Marks**

(a) I won't be able to assist you, _____ you give me all the details of the report.

(if/ unless)

(b) _____ you don't save some money; you can't go on a holiday.

(unless/ if)

2. Join the following sentences using 'unless' or 'if...not'. The sentences may require minor changes. **2 Marks**

(a) The light had not fused. I would not mind being alone at night.

(b) I would never keep a large dog. I have time to exercise it properly

3. Fill in the blanks using the appropriate word. **1 Mark**

(a) Take an umbrella, it _____ rain later (need / should/ mustn't / might)

4. Use the correct form of the words given in brackets to complete the dialogue given below. **1 Mark**

(a) This cup of tea (a) (embody) the work of thousands of people.

5. Read the conversation given below and complete the paragraph that follow: (2 marks)

Prateek: What are your plans for the future?

Aaryan: I want to take science in the next class.

Prateek: Why do you want to take science?

Aaryan: I want to be an engineer like my father.

Prateek asked Aaryan (a)_____. Aaryan replied that he wanted to take science in the next class. Prateek further asked him (b)_____.

6. Use the appropriate determiner from the given to fill in the blanks **1 Mark**

a) It seems that they would need _____ workers for the construction.

(a) Little

- (b) Either
- (c) More
- (d) Some

7. Yes or No Questions. Start the answer with 'she asked me'. 2 Marks

- (a) "Is the bus stop near the shopping Centre?"
- (b) "I like Burgers."

8.Fill with the appropriate verb. 1 Mark

- (a) Neither of the teams _____(were/was) very strong.

PART B: Writing (10 Marks)

Q6. Writing a Descriptive Paragraph (word limit 100-120 words). One out of two questions are to be answered. 5 Marks

- (a) Write in about 200 words what you are like, your identity and what you enjoy doing and how do you envision yourself in future.

Or

- (b) You visited an 'Old Home' with your friends. Using the hints given below together with your own ideas, make a diary entry of what you saw and experienced there.

(Hints: Old Home — People mostly above Sixty years- a residence-Peaceful Surroundings-Spacious- good sanitation- regular medical checkup- feeling of co-operation- means of creation-A home away from home).

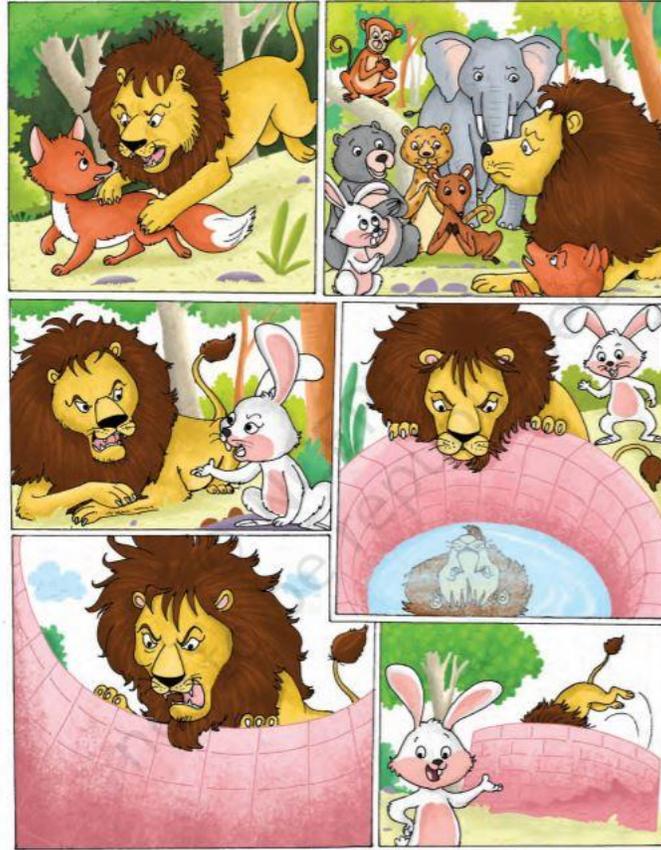
Q 7. Writing a story (word limit 100-120 words) on the basis of given cue/s. One out of two questions are to be answered 5 Marks

- (a) Complete the following story. It has to be a scary story that terrifies people. Give a suitable title to your story.

I stopped my scooter in front of an old and dilapidated building. A haggard, skinny old man with drooping shoulders came towards me. "Don't go in, Sir", he whispered. "It is dangerous..."

Or

(b) A group of pictures are given here. They make a story. This story is from the Tales of Panchatantra. Write the story and give it a title.



PART B: Literature (30 Marks)

Q 8. Four out of six Short Answer Type Questions to be answered in 20-30 words each. (2 x 4 = 8 Marks)

1. Write answers for any two out of these 3 questions

1) Make Adverbs from these Adjectives

(a) Angry _____

(b) Happy _____

2. Complete the following sentences. Beginning with a to-verb, try to answer the questions in brackets.

a) The school sports team hopes (What does it hope to do?)

b) We all want (What do we all want to do?)

3. Form the opposites of the words below by prefixing un- or in-

(a) Acceptable

(b) Demanding

2. Answer any 2 questions from the 3 given below:

1. Do you think the feeling of depression Johnsy has is common among teenagers?
2. During their conversation Lushkoff reveals that Sergei's cook, Olga, is responsible for the positive change in him. How has Olga saved Lushkoff?
3. What are the things the child sees on his way to the fair? Why does he lag behind?

Q 9. Four out of six Short Answer Type Questions to be answered in 40-50 words each (3 x 4 =12)

1. Answer any two questions from the 3 given.

- 1) She said, "Where did you find it?" "In my house." He pointed without looking, because he was busy reading. "In the attic." "What's it about?" "School." 3. Margie was scornful. "School? What's there to write about school? I hate school."
 - a) What was the book about and where did they find from? Also, who was scornful of the book and why?
- 2) What were the awards and recognition given to Bismillah Khan?
- 3) When the sky is covered with dark clouds and it starts raining, have you ever listened to the patter of soft rain on the roof? What thoughts flashed through your mind as you heard this melody of nature?

2. Answer any two of questions from the below 3.

- 1) Why does grandfather take Toto to Saharanpur and how? Why does the ticket collector insist on calling Toto a dog?
- 2) Why does the Happy Prince send a ruby for the seamstress? What does the swallow do in the seamstress' house?

- 3) The cat and the author are very fond of each other. How has this been shown in the story? Where was the cat after the fire? Who brings it back and how?

Q. 10 One out of two Long Answer Type Questions to be answered in about 100- 120 words each. 5 Marks

1. Discuss the following topic. 'The Schools of the Future Will Have No Books and No Teachers!' You can write an essay for or against the motion.

Or

Give your opinion on:

'Career Building Is the Only Goal of Education.'

or

'Getting a Good Job Is More Important than Being a Good Human Being.'

Q. 11 One out of two Long Answer Type Questions to be answered in about 100-120 words. 5 Marks

1. In Shakespeare's plays the fool is not really foolish. If you have read or seen Shakespeare's plays such as King Lear, As You Like It, Twelfth Night, talk about the role of the fool as depicted in them.

Or

To get confused and behave in 'unsuave' ways like Bill Bryson is normal and human. Write about any similar situation that you found yourself in.