

# PRAGATI PUBLIC SR. SEC. SCHOOL

Ujjawal Vihar, Baran Road, Kota

## SUMMER VACATIONS HOLIDAY HOMEWORK

### Class- VIII

#### English -

Comprehension exercises are intended to test and improve the student's ability to understand the language. In the examination, a passage is given and you are required to answer the questions based on the passage. You must be able to understand the passage before you go on to answer the questions.

#### 1. Read the following passage:

Armadillo (Picture of Armadillo)

Armadillos are western mammals known for their unique armour-like shell and notorious for their digging habits.

Armadillos prefer warm, moist climates, and thrive in forested areas and grasslands. Because they must dig for their food and shelter, they generally gravitate towards areas with loose, porous soil.



These animals use their strong claws to dig several burrows through their home range in which to

live and seek refuge from extreme weather or predators. An armadillo burrow is about 7-8 inch wide and up to 15 feet deep.

Armadillos are mainly insectivores, with over 90 per cent of their diet consisting of animal matter, like insects and other invertebrates. They're also known to eat the occasional reptile or amphibian - especially in colder weather. The remainder of their diet consists of plant matter, although it's been found that most of the vegetation they eat has been consumed incidentally.

In native southern regions, armadillos are nocturnal year-round, keeping cool underground during the day and foraging at night. However, because of the armadillos' relatively low body temperature, the nine-banded species in North America tends to change its habits in the cooler months and emerge during the day to take advantage of the warm sun.

Solitary animals, armadillos spend their lives foraging alone and only interact to breed or care for their young. Young armadillos become independent about 6-12 months after they are born.

#### A. On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer the following questions.

1. What makes armadillos unique?
2. What kind of climate do armadillos prefer?
3. Why do armadillos gravitate towards loose porous soil?
4. What is an armadillo's main diet?
5. Why do the armadillos, that are found in the North America, come out during the day time?
6. At what age does an armadillo begin to become independent?

#### B. Find a word from the passage that means the same as each of the following.

- |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1. wander   | 2. feed     |
| 3. solitary | 4. foraging |

#### II. Read the following passage:

##### The Mughals

The Mughals who ruled over India for over three centuries have a tremendously rich history and influence over India. From Babar to Aurangzeb, each Mughal emperor has his unique significance. With six rulers, namely, Babur, Humayun, Akbar, Jehangir, Shah Jahan, and Aurangzeb, the Mughal Empire reached its peak and some of the famous architecture India enjoys today, was built under their reign. The last Mughal emperor was Bahadur Shah II.

The first Mughal emperor to rule over India was Babur, who descended from the Turko-Mongol conqueror Timur and the founder of the Mongol Empire, Ghenghis Khan. Babur established supreme control over northern India after winning the Battle of Panipat in 1526.



Under the reign of Aurangzeb, who imprisoned his own father, the Mughal Empire had reached the peak of its territorial dominance with its influence stretching from Afghanistan to Cape Comorin. All the major civilizations in India felt the presence of the Mughal Empire during his reign.

The Mughal Empire gave a lot of rich architectural buildings to India and their influence over the Indian architecture is immense. Some of the finest examples include Red Fort, Jama Masjid, Humayun's Tomb, Shalimar Gardens and Fatehpur Sikri. Unlike his predecessors, Shah Jahan's architecture exuded elegance and an enormous attention to detail. The finest example of this is the Taj Mahal, which was built in the memory of his beloved wife, Mumtaz Mahal.

Originally coming from the imperial kitchens of the Mughal Empire, the Mughal cuisine has become an integral part of the Indian culture, especially in North India. It is characterized by a distinctive aroma and its spices. The kebabs are an example. A painting style which was a blend of the Indian and the Persian painters flourished during the empire. It was during Akbar, Shah Jahan and Jahangir's reign, that we saw an increased attention towards art. Some notable works include Hamzanama, Khamsa of Nizami and Darab Nama.

**A. On the basis of the above passage, answer the following questions.**

1. How many emperors ruled during the peak of Mughal period?
2. Who was the last Mughal Emperor?
3. Mention one major achievement of Aurangzeb.
4. Write a short note on Mughal architecture in your own words based on what you have read in the above passage.

**B. Name the following**

1. One Mughal cuisine mentioned in the passage.
2. Some of the finest examples of Mughal architecture.
3. The Mughal painting is a blend of two different art forms. Name them.
4. Some notable Mughal paintings.

**III. Read the following poem:**

**Good Hours**

I had for my winter evening walk-  
No one at all with whom to talk,  
But I had the cottages in a row  
Up to their shining eyes in snow.  
And I thought I had the folk within:  
I had the sound of a violin;  
I had a glimpse through curtain laces  
Of youthful forms and youthful faces.  
I had such company outward bound.  
I went till there were no cottages found.  
I turned and repented, but coming back  
I saw no window but that was black.  
Over the snow my creaking feet  
Disturbed the slumbering village street  
Like profanation, by your leave,  
At ten o'clock of a winter eve.



**Robert Frost**

**A. On the basis of the above poem, answer the following questions.**

1. At what hour is the poet taking his walk?
2. What does the poet hear while taking the walk?
3. What do you understand by "slumbering village street"? What disturbs the slumbering village street?
4. What did the poet see through the window curtains?

B. Write down some words from the poem that symbolize sound

C. What is the rhyme scheme used in the poem?

D. Write a short paragraph, describing the scene that the poet visualizes in his poem.

**IV. Read the following passage:**

**Stamp collecting**

Stamp collecting or philately has very few rules. One does not have to buy expensive instruments or gadgets to enjoy it. However, simple things need to be remembered when we collect stamps. One of the essential rules to remember is that the condition of a stamp is very important. Badly torn and damaged stamps are very unpleasant to look at, but they are not worth anything when compared

to their intact counterparts. Try to get the best, undamaged specimens. Stamps are rated in condition from damaged to best.

The stamps which are called "best" are of high quality. That means it has been centred perfectly, it has the right amount of colour and the quality of the gum is not cheap. Used stamps can also be called the "best", if the centre is in perfect angle. Fresh looking and lightly cancelled stamps can also pass. Since the stamps are only bits of paper, one should be cautious while handling them. Using tongs is the best way to handle stamps safely.



While collecting stamps, possibly the most important book a collector would want to use is a stamp catalogue. This depends on the type of stamps one wants to collect. One of the first things philatelists learn through collecting stamps of other countries is geography. It is best to get an atlas, globe or a world map to help locate countries whose issued stamps one wants to have in their collection. There have been many stamp atlases that have been published for philatelists. These atlases show "dead" countries that used to exist at one point of time and would issue stamps, as well as current nations that exist in the world. There are various reasons why collectors decide to collect stamps not by country of issue, but because of some other distinct feature. There are philatelists who collect stamps that are oddly shaped, or papers that are not specifically stamps, such as labels and seals which look like them. These are commonly called cinderellas as they appear to be something they are not.

**A. Now answer the following questions.**

1. What is the technical term used for stamp collection? Why is it not so difficult to do?
2. What is the most essential rule of stamp collecting?
3. How are stamps rated?
4. What do philatelists learn from collecting stamps?
5. What are cinderellas?

**B. Write true (T) or false (F) for the following statements.**

1. The condition of stamps is not important for collecting them.
2. Stamp atlases are published for philatelists.
3. The first thing a philatelist learns from stamps is biology.
4. Philatelists can also collect oddly shaped stamps.
5. Stamp atlases only show dead countries.

**V. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below.**

**Tom Sawyer**

Tom Sawyer was always getting into trouble. He was the kind of boy who just couldn't resist adventure. Tom lived with his Aunt Polly, his cousin Mary and his half-brother Sid. Everyone knew about his mischief-making. Sid told Aunt Polly about Tom missing school and going swimming.



Now, as a punishment for his behaviour, Tom found himself faced with the chore of whitewashing thirty yards of fence on a sunny Saturday afternoon. Tom appeared with a bucket of whitewash and a long-handled brush.

He surveyed the fence. All gladness left him and a deep melancholy settled down upon his spirit. Thirty yards of board fence, nine feet high! Sighing, he dipped his brush and passed it along the topmost plank; repeated the operation; compared the insignificant whitewashed streak with the far-reaching continent of unwhitewashed fence and sat down on a tree-box, discouraged.

Jim came skipping out at the gate carrying a pail and singing. Bringing water from the town pump had always been a hateful work in Tom's eyes before, but now it did not strike him so. He remembered that there was company at the pump. Boys and girls were always there waiting their turns, resting, trading playthings, quarrelling, fighting. And he remembered that although the pump was only a hundred and fifty yards off, Jim never got back with a bucket of water before an hour, and even then somebody generally had to go after him. Tom said, "Say, Jim, I'll fetch the water if you'll whitewash some. I'll give you a marble." Jim shook his head fearing Aunt Polly's slipper.

**A. Complete the following statements.**

1. Tom had been told to whitewash the fence as a punishment for...
2. Tom was discouraged as he looked at the whitewashed fence because...
3. Jim was going to...
4. Jim did not wish to trade places with Tom because...

**B. Tick (✓) the correct option.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ had complained to Aunt Polly about Tom's mischief.  
i. Sid                      ii. Mary                      iii. Jim
2. As Tom looked at the fence, his feelings were those of  
i. unhappiness                      ii. fear                      iii. gladness
3. As Tom began to whitewash the fence, he felt discouraged because  
i. the topmost plank was too high  
ii. whitewashing the fence would take time  
iii. the fence would soon be whitewashed
4. Tom offered Jim a marble because  
i. he wanted Jim to whitewash the fence  
ii. he wanted to go and fetch water  
iii. he wanted Aunt Polly to hit Jim with her slipper
5. Tom offered to fetch water for Jim as  
i. Jim had given him a marble  
ii. he wanted to go to the pump to meet his friends  
iii. Jim wanted to whitewash the fence



## CREATIVE WRITING AND STORIES

### STORY WRITING

A story is a narration of a set of events. It may or may not convey a moral message. Effective story writing is an artful task. Here are a few points to remember while writing a story.

- Beginning-use phrases like-'Once upon a time... Long long ago... or a subtle one like - Every evening I walk there but that day was different....
- Introduction of characters through dialogue/ narration
- Plot-description of an event/accident
- Climax-end of the story

Let us take a look at how a story can be developed from a given outline.

**Outline:** Mr. Joshi coming back from morning walk- worried - saw something odd - an old and dishevelled man sitting in front of his gate - mumbling to himself - the man said there was treasure in Mr. Joshi's garden - Mr. Joshi did not believe him and tried to get inside to get food - man rushed in - started digging - a pouch full of gold coins - gave them to Mr. Joshi - disappeared.

**Story:** One day while returning from his usual morning walk, Mr. Joshi was worried and sick about how he would gather enough money to pay for his wife's treatment. He was really worried when he saw that there was a man sitting in front of his gate, peeping inside and mumbling something.

Mr Joshi decided to approach the man and asked him, 'Hello there! Can I help you? Why are you sitting in front of my house?'

The man who clearly looked like he had not had a proper meal in days, stared back at Mr. Joshi and then whispered, 'I know there is treasure in your garden!'

Mr. Joshi was surprised. He did not know anything about a treasure! Then he thought that may be the man was delirious from hunger.

Mr. Joshi kindly said, 'I am sorry sir, but there is no treasure here. Wait for a few minutes. I will go inside and get you something to eat.'

The man continued to stare at him and said nothing. As soon as Mr. Joshi opened the gate to enter, the man rushed in with him.

Mr. Joshi was shocked. 'Hey what are you doing? Wait outside, I will get you something to eat.'

The man rushed to the corner of the garden and started digging with his own bare hands. And soon enough, he was holding something in his hands.

Intrigued Mr. Joshi rushed to the man's side. The man was holding a small pouch in his hands which contained a few gold coins!

Mr. Joshi was surprised beyond words. Now it was his turn to stare back at the man. The man returned a toothless smile back to Mr. Joshi and whispered, 'This used to be my house a long time ago.'

'How long ago?', Mr Joshi managed to ask.  
'Umm, say about 100 years ago. Here take this...'

The man handed over the pouch to him and before Mr. Joshi could say anything further, he disappeared in a wisp of smoke.

### WRITING BASED ON IMAGINATION

- 1) Imagine you have a time machine. Where and when would you like to go (past or future) and why? Write an account giving details about the place, the people, and anything else that you think is of interest.
- 2) Write a horror story beginning with the sentences given below. It was a dark winter night. A man was walking hurriedly down the street. His head was covered and no one could see his face...
- 3) Try your hand at writing an original detective story. Come up with a crime, make your story interesting with clues, and use those clues to come to a logical conclusion about who committed the crime and why.
- 4) Write a humorous story on a chance meeting with a friend who forgot to return the money she/he borrowed from you. There should be originality and wit

## Hindi -

1. यदि आपको अपने माता-पिता के प्रति कुछ कर्तव्य निभाने पड़े तो वे कौन-से कर्तव्य होंगे तथा आप उन्हें किस प्रकार निभाएँगे।
2. कभी न कभी आपको किसी न किसी कठिनाई का सामना अवश्य करना पड़ता होगा। आप उनसे कैसे बाहर निकले ? क्या उस समय आपको प्रभु की याद आई ? आपने उनसे क्या माँगा।  
(उपयुक्त प्रश्न हिन्दी-I की कॉपी में करें)
3. व्याकरण पुस्तिका के पेज नं. 174 पर दिए गए पत्र संख्या 3 को पढ़े, समझे तथा अपनी भा"ता में लिखें।
4. व्याकरण पुस्तिका के पेज नं. 169 पर दिए गए 'विद्यार्थी और अनुशासन' तथा पेज नं. 170 पर दिए गए 'त्योहारों का जीवन में महत्व' अनुच्छेद को लिखें।
5. व्याकरण पुस्तिका के अध्याय -27 संवाद लेखन के अनुसार  
अ) यात्री और बस परिचालक के बीच संवाद तथा  
ब) पेड़ों की कटाई के वि"क्य पर दो पेड़ों के मध्य संवाद लिखें।
6. व्याकरण पुस्तिका के पेज नं. 195 पर दी गई कहानी (सबक) कॉपी में करें।
7. व्याकरण पुस्तिका के अध्याय 33 'नारा लेखन' के अनुसार बाल मजदूरी से संबंधित नारा लिखिए।  
(उपयुक्त प्रश्न हिन्दी-II की कॉपी में करें)

## SCIENCE

Ques. Select the correct answer to these questions from the choices (a), (b), (c) and (d) given below.

- A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of the (A).  
B) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is not the correct explanation of the (A).  
C) A is true, but (R) is false.  
D) A is false but (R) is true.

Q.1 Assertion - Kerosene and petrol should be stored carefully.

Reason - They are in flammable substances and even a minor spark can cause an accidental fire.

Q.2 Assertion - Dam walls are built wider at the top than at the bottom.

Reason - The pressure exerted by a liquid increases with depth and wider walls help to withstand higher pressure.

### **HOTS:**

Q.3 If all objects attract one another then why don't we see them moving towards each other ?

Q.4 Why are fountain pens likely to leak while traveling in an airplane?

Q.5 Throwing sand on fire puts it out why?

Q.6 Green leaves do not burn easily while dry leaves catch fire easily Explain.

### **VALUE BASED :**

Q.7 Pranav was traveling with his father in the car His father stopped at the red light but did not turn off the engine. It took 90 seconds for traffic signal to turn green - He requested his father to turn off the engine of the car.

- 1) Why do you think pranav asked his father to turn off the engine?
- 2) What values are displayed by pranav?

**Case Study :1**

Ritu runs a small juice stall. One morning, she prepares a fresh fruit punch by mixing the following quantities:

- Apple juice:  $\frac{3}{4}$  litre
- Mango juice:  $\frac{5}{6}$  litre
- Pineapple juice:  $\frac{2}{3}$  litre
- Water:  $\frac{1}{2}$  litre

She plans to answer some questions about her mixture before serving.

**Questions****1. Total Volume**

What is the total volume of the fruit punch she has prepared?

**2. Adjusting Water**

To improve the taste, Ritu adds another  $\frac{1}{3}$  litre of water.

- a) What is the new volume of water in the mixture?
- b) What is the new total volume of the mixture?

**3. Bottling**

She pours the final mixture into bottles, each holding  $\frac{1}{4}$  litre.

How many full bottles can she fill?  
Will there be any leftover? If so, how much?

#### 4. Fruit vs. Water

Calculate the difference between the total amount of fruit juices (apple + mango + pineapple) and the total amount of water (original + added).

Here are five simple, Grade 8–level case-study questions on rational numbers. Each presents a real-life scenario and asks you to apply rational-number concepts:

##### 1. Mountain Temperatures

On a trek, the temperature at the base camp is  $+6\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}\text{C}$ . At the summit, it drops by  $12\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

- What is the temperature at the summit?
- If the temperature then rises by  $4\frac{2}{5}^{\circ}\text{C}$  during the day, what is it now?

##### 2. Sharing a Bill

Four friends go out for pizza. The total bill is  $\$48\frac{3}{8}$ . They agree to split it equally.

- How much does each friend pay?
- If one friend pays  $\$13\frac{1}{2}$  and another  $\$10\frac{3}{8}$ , how much must the third and fourth friends pay together?



### 3. Mixing Juices

A juice shop mixes orange juice and apple juice in the ratio 3 : 5. They want to prepare  $12\frac{1}{4}$  L of the mixture.

- How many litres of orange juice and apple juice are needed?
- If the cost per litre is  $\$2\frac{1}{2}$  for orange and  $\$3\frac{1}{4}$  for apple, what is the total cost of the juices?

### 4. Elevation Changes

A submarine is at  $-250$  m below sea level. It ascends  $75\frac{2}{3}$  m, then descends another  $40\frac{1}{5}$  m.

- What is its depth after ascending?
- What is its final depth after the subsequent descent?

### 5. Earnings Over Days

Ravi earns  $\$8\frac{2}{3}$  per hour tutoring. One day, he tutors for  $3\frac{3}{4}$  hours in the morning and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours in the evening.

- How much does he earn that day in total?
- If he spends  $\$7\frac{5}{6}$  on materials, what fraction of his earnings does he save?



6. Pen: Write :: Axe : ?

- a) Cut                      b) Chop                      c) Hit                      d) Hammer

7. Clock: Time :: Thermometer : ?

- a) Temperature              b) Weather              c) Degrees              d) Mercury

8. Fish Swim :: Bird: ?

- a) Nest                      b) Fly                      c) Egg                      d) Air

9. Keyboard: Typing :: Brush: ?

- a) Paint                      b) Canvas                      c) Colour                      d) Pencil

10. Glacier: Ice :: Volcano : ?

- a) Lava                      b) Earthquake                      c) Mountain                      d) Fire Answer:

11. Wisdom: Experience :: Knowledge: ?

- a) Study                      b) Memory                      c) Book                      d) Intelligence

12. Battery: Power :: Brain : ?

- a) Knowledge              b) Think                      c) Control                      d) Body

13. Antonym: Opposite :: Synonym: ?

- a) Meaning                      b) Similar                      c) Word                      d) Different

14. Nose: Smell :: Tongue: ?

- a) Taste                      b) Food                      c) Talk                      d) Saliva

15. Architect: Building :: Composer: ?

- a) Song                      b) Orchestra                      c) Music                      d) Symphony

## G.K.

1. Who was the first woman Prime Minister of India?

Why do you think her role was significant in Indian political history?

2. What is the currency used in Japan?

How does understanding different currencies help in global awareness and travel?

3. The Great Barrier Reef is one of the world's most famous natural sites. In which country is it located, and what environmental concerns are affecting it today?

4. What is the capital of Canada?

Why is it important to know the capitals of different countries, especially in a globalized world?

5. Who composed India's national anthem "Jana Gana Mana"?

How do national symbols like anthems help build a country's identity and unity?

6. Which planet is called the "Red Planet" and why is it given this name?

What have scientists discovered about this planet that makes it important for future space exploration?

7. Which gas is essential for human survival through the process of respiration?

Explain how this gas helps the body function and what might happen if the air we breathe lacks it.

8. Who is credited with discovering gravity after observing a falling apple?

Describe how this discovery changed the way humans understand motion and the universe.

9. In which year did India gain independence from British rule?

Why is this event so important in Indian history, and how is it remembered today?

10. What is the smallest continent in the world in terms of land area?

How does the size of a continent affect its population, resources, or role in global affairs?

## COMPUTER

1. Your school has 50 computers connected to one server. Which type of network is this?  
a) WAN                      b) MAN                      c) LAN                      d) PAN
2. Which of the following best explains why we need networking in computers?  
a) To increase monitor size  
b) To reduce keyboard usage  
c) To share files, printers, and internet among devices  
d) To upgrade software
3. Your home has a smart TV, mobile phone, and laptop connected wirelessly. What kind of network is this?  
a) LAN                      b) WAN                      c) MAN                      d) PAN
4. Why is a switch used in computer networking?  
a) To connect keyboards                      b) To control computer speed  
c) To connect multiple computers and manage data flow  
d) To store documents
5. A friend sends you a photo through a chat app using the same Wi-Fi. Where does the file transfer actually occur?  
a) Through the printer  
b) Through the internet outside the home  
c) Through the local network  
d) Through USB cable
6. You are connected to a network but cannot open websites. What could be the problem?  
a) Mouse is not working                      b) Screen is off  
c) Network has no internet access                      d) Too many icons on desktop
7. Which of the following is NOT a benefit of a computer network?  
a) Resource sharing                      b) Data sharing  
c) Independent systems with no communication  
d) Centralized software installation
8. What does an IP address do in networking?  
a) Adds memory to a computer  
b) Assigns a unique identity to each device in a network  
c) Controls volume  
d) Increases battery backup
9. Which one of these is a wireless communication method in networking?  
a) Ethernet cable                      b) Optical fiber                      c) Wi-Fi                      d) USB
10. What would happen if all computers in a network had the same IP address?  
a) Internet speed would increase                      b) Files would download faster  
c) Network conflicts would occur and devices won't communicate properly  
d) System would automatically restart

## SANSKRIT

1. संस्कृत के पाँच नीतिपरक ग्रंथों का नाम लिखिए ।
2. लता शब्द रूप लिखिए ।
3. कथ धातु रूप (लटलकार, लृटलकार) लिखिए ।
4. (पेज नं. 10) पाँच पर्यायवाची शब्द व दस विलोम शब्द लिखिए ।  
समस्त कार्य संस्कृत की लेखन पुस्तिका में लिखेंगे ।