CBSE 2022 English (Term 2) — Set 1 — Answer Key

English Medium

Time Allowed: 3 Hours | Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. This question paper contains 45 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. Section A — Reading Skills (20 marks).
3. Section B — Creative Writing Skills (16 marks).
4. Section C — Grammar (8 marks).
5. Section D — Literature (36 marks).

Q.1(a) [1 mark]

(Passage 1) How is sand a 'treasure-trove'?

Answer: Sand is a 'treasure-trove' because it provides a mineral treasure-trove and a record of geology's earth-changing processes. When you step on beach sand, you're stepping on ancient mountains, skeletons of marine animals, and even tiny diamonds.

Explanation:

Paragraph 1 states that sand provides a mineral treasure-trove, a record of geology's earth-changing processes, containing ancient mountains, skeletons of marine animals, and even tiny diamonds.

Q.1(b) [1 mark]

(Passage 1) How is sand both a pain and a pleasure?

Answer: Sand is both a pain and a pleasure because as children we play on it and as adults we relax on it (pleasure), but it is something we complain about when it gets in our food (pain), and we praise it when it's moulded into castles (pleasure).

Explanation:

Paragraph 2 describes the dual nature of sand: we play on it, relax on it, and praise it as castles (pleasure), but complain when it gets in our food (pain).

Q.1(c) [1 mark]

(Passage 1) Name two man-made materials that contain sand.

Answer: The two man-made materials that contain sand are concrete (which is largely sand) and glass (which is made of little else but sand).

Explanation:

Paragraph 3 states that concrete is largely sand, and glass is made of little else besides sand.

Q.1(d) [1 mark]

(Passage 1) List the different shapes of sand.

Answer: Sand grains may have the shape of stars or spirals, with their edges being either jagged or smooth. Sand can also consist of tiny pebbles or porous granules.

Explanation:

Paragraph 4 describes sand grains as having the shape of stars or spirals, with edges that are jagged or smooth, and consisting of tiny pebbles or porous granules.

Q.1(e) [1 mark]

(Passage 1) What is the origin of white sand?

Answer: White sand grains may be derived from nearby coral outcrops, from crystalline quartz rocks, or from gypsum.

Explanation:

Paragraph 5 states that if sand is a dazzling white, its grains may be derived from nearby coral outcrops, from crystalline quartz rocks or from gypsum.

Q.1(f) [1 mark]

(Passage 1) In what ways are older granules different from recent granules?

Answer: Older granules are finer and have smoother edges compared to recent granules. The older the granules, the finer they are and the smoother the edges become over time.

Explanation:

Paragraph 6 states that usually, the older the granules, the finer they are and the smoother the edges, implying recent granules are coarser with rougher edges.

Q.2(a) [1 mark]

(Passage 2) Under what conditions does a natural spring emerge?

Answer: A natural spring emerges when the level of the water table is higher than the Earth's surface, as in cases with a valley or gully on a mountain.

Explanation:

Paragraph 1 states that in some cases, as with a valley or gully on a mountain, the level of the water table may be higher than the Earth's surface, and a natural spring can emerge.

Q.2(b) [1 mark]

(Passage 2) What is a confined aquifer?

Answer: A confined aquifer is a deep underground cavity of porous rock that holds water and bears pressure from a confining layer above it.

Explanation:

Paragraph 2 defines a confined aquifer as a deep underground cavity of porous rock that holds water and bears pressure from a confining layer above it.

Q.2(c) [1 mark]

(Passage 2) What forms a flowing artesian well?

Answer: When companies drill a vertical channel down into a confined aquifer, due to the pressurised nature of the aquifer, water often rises up from within it and forms a flowing artesian well, which appears as an explosive fountain at the Earth's surface. This only occurs when the surface is lower than the natural water table.

Explanation:

Paragraph 2 explains that the pressurised nature of the confined aquifer causes water to rise and form a flowing artesian well at the surface, but only when the surface is lower than the natural water table.

Q.2(d) [1 mark]

(Passage 2) Explain the term 'purified' water.

Answer: 'Purified' water is bottled water that has been subjected to a variety of cleansing processes such as reverse osmosis, UV light treatment, or chlorination to remove contaminants and pathogens.

Explanation:

Paragraph 3 defines 'purified' water as water that has been subjected to a variety of cleansing processes.

The passage then goes on to describe processes like reverse osmosis, UV treatment and chlorination.

Q.2(e) [1 mark]

(Passage 2) How are pathogens treated?

Answer: Pathogens are treated using ultraviolet (UV) light. Powerful UV light has natural antibacterial qualities. Water is subjected to a sufficient strength of UV light as it passes through a treatment chamber. The light neutralises harmful germs by removing their DNA, thereby impeding their ability to replicate.

Explanation:

Paragraph 4 describes UV light treatment for pathogens: UV light neutralises harmful germs by removing their DNA, impeding their ability to replicate.

Q.2(f) [1 mark]

(Passage 2) Why is municipal water treated by chlorination?

Answer: Municipal water is treated by chlorination because the overall effects of UV light treatment are variable. Chlorination has a powerful and comprehensive antimicrobial effect, is extremely inexpensive, and remains the only antimicrobial treatment capable of ensuring water remains contamination-free all the way through the pipes and to the taps of domestic homes.

Explanation:

Paragraph 5 explains that chlorination is used because UV light effects are variable, while chlorination is powerful, comprehensive, inexpensive, and the only treatment that keeps water contamination-free through the entire pipe system to homes.

Q.3(a) [1 mark]

(Section B - Writing) You are Rita/Rahul and you came across the following information on your local club notice-board:

Better Living
How to tackle stress, build concentration and remain fit and healthy — Yoga, a way of life — Join free yoga camp for students.

You wish to enrol but require more information. Write a letter to the Yoga Institute, M.G. Road, Pune, enquiring details of timing, batch size, eligibility, etc. for joining the course. (5 marks)

Answer: Model Answer:

[Your Address]
[Date]

The Director
Yoga Institute
M.G. Road, Pune

Subject: Enquiry regarding Free Yoga Camp for Students

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to enquire about the free yoga camp for students that was advertised on our local club notice-board under 'Better Living'. The notice mentioned that the camp aims to help students tackle stress, build concentration, and remain fit and healthy.

I am a student of Class X and am very interested in enrolling for this course. I would be grateful if you could provide me with the following details:

1. What are the timings of the yoga sessions?

2. What is the batch size for each session?
3. What is the eligibility criteria for joining the course?
4. What is the duration of the entire course?
5. Are there any registration formalities to be completed?

I believe that yoga will greatly help me manage exam stress and improve my concentration. I look forward to hearing from you at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,
Rita/Rahul

Explanation:
This is a formal letter of enquiry.
It should follow the formal letter format with sender's address, date, receiver's address, subject line, salutation, body with specific enquiries about timing/batch size/eligibility, and formal closing.

Q.3(b) [1 mark]

(Section B - Writing) Internet provides every information one seeks at the click of a button. As a result children today are living in a comfort zone. According to research, this will result in long-term consequences which will affect their brain. Based on the following chart, write an analytical paragraph in not more than 120 words on activities to improve brain power:

Activities to stimulate Brain Power (pie chart):
- Reading the newspaper: 13%
- Social interaction: 15%
- Jigsaw puzzles, crosswords, sudoku, games: 20%
- Writing, not typing: 20%
- Regular exercise: 12%
- Listening to music: 6%
- Discussing current affairs: 14%

(5 marks)

Answer: Model Answer:

Activities to Stimulate Brain Power

The pie chart presents data on various activities that can stimulate brain power. The most effective activities are jigsaw puzzles, crosswords, sudoku and games, and writing (not typing), each contributing 20% to brain stimulation. Social interaction accounts for 15%, closely followed by discussing current affairs at 14%. Reading the newspaper contributes 13%, while regular exercise accounts for 12%. Listening to music has the least impact at 6%. It is evident that cognitive activities like puzzles and handwriting are most beneficial for brain development. In today's digital age, where children rely heavily on the internet, these activities should be encouraged to counter the long-term consequences of living in a comfort zone and to strengthen brain function.

Explanation:

This is an analytical paragraph based on a pie chart.
Students should describe the data, compare the percentages, and draw conclusions about which activities most effectively stimulate brain power.

Q.0 [0 mark]

(Section B - Writing, Visually Impaired Candidates) Read the following report and write an analytical paragraph based on it in 100-120 words:

According to a study, playing all sorts of brain games at home for fun boosts memory, thinking speed, and other cognitive skills. A research suggests that using paper and pencil especially for older people engages the brain and enhances memory in many more ways than using a keyboard. (5 marks)

Answer: Model Answer:

Brain Games and Cognitive Development

Research has shown that playing brain games at home for fun significantly boosts memory, thinking speed, and other cognitive skills. These games, which include puzzles, word games, and strategy-based activities, provide mental stimulation that keeps the brain active and healthy. Furthermore, studies suggest that using traditional paper and pencil methods, rather than keyboards, engages the brain more effectively and enhances memory, especially for older people. The physical act of writing by hand activates multiple areas of the brain simultaneously, strengthening neural pathways. In an age dominated by digital devices, it is crucial to incorporate such activities into daily routines to maintain and improve cognitive function across all age groups.

Explanation:

This question is for visually impaired candidates as an alternative to the pie chart question.

Students must write an analytical paragraph based on the given report about brain games and cognitive development.

Q.4(a) [1 mark]

(Section B - Grammar) The following paragraph has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Identify the error and write its correction against the correct blank number. Remember to underline the correction.

While the worst for COVID-19 in India (e.g.) for → of
seems to be over, one may remain (a) _____ → _____
vigilant and response quickly to (b) _____ → _____
any future spike of cases. (c) _____ → _____ (3 marks)

Answer: (a) may → must
(b) response → respond

(c) of → in

Explanation:

(a) 'may' should be 'must' because the sentence requires a stronger modal verb indicating necessity/obligation for remaining vigilant.

(b) 'response' (noun) should be 'respond' (verb) as it follows 'quickly to' which requires a verb.

(c) 'of cases' should be 'in cases' as the correct preposition with 'spike' is 'in'.

Section A — Reading Skills

Comprehension (1-2 marks each)

Q.5 [1 mark]

(Section B - Grammar) Read the conversation below and complete the passage that follows:

Rahul: It is difficult to fight against peer pressure. Youth easily gets influenced by the lifestyle of its peers.

Radhika: Peer pressure has its benefits as well. Our peers also motivate and inspire us to do better and work hard.

Rahul said that it was difficult to fight against peer pressure as (a) _____.

Radhika replied that peer pressure had its benefits as well it (b) _____.

(2 marks)

Answer: (a) youth easily got influenced by the lifestyle of its peers

(b) their peers also motivated and inspired them to do better and work hard

Explanation:

This is a reported speech transformation.

Direct speech must be converted to indirect speech with appropriate changes in tense (gets →

got, easily gets influenced →

easily got influenced) and pronouns (our →

their, us →
them).

Q.6(a) [1 mark]

(Section C - Literature) How, according to Buddha, can one obtain peace of mind? (The Sermon at Benares) (2 marks)

Answer: According to Buddha, one can obtain peace of mind by not mourning, not lamenting, and not grieving. He who has overcome sorrow and grief obtains peace of mind. A person who seeks peace should draw out the arrow of lamentation, complaint, and grief. The one who has become composed will obtain peace of mind, and one who has overcome sorrow will be free from sorrow and be blessed.

Explanation:

In 'The Sermon at Benares', Buddha teaches that peace of mind comes from overcoming sorrow, lamentation and grief.

One must accept the inevitability of death and not grieve, as all earthly things are impermanent.

Q.6(b) [1 mark]

(Section C - Literature) "Don't bite your nails Amanda!
Don't hunch your shoulders Amanda!"
What does this reflect about Amanda's mother and Amanda? (2 marks)

Answer: These lines reflect that Amanda's mother is a nagging, overcontrolling parent who constantly issues instructions and commands to Amanda. She is obsessed with correcting Amanda's habits and behaviour. Amanda, on the other hand, appears to be a child who has habits her mother disapproves of — biting nails and hunching shoulders — suggesting she may be a moody, withdrawn, or possibly anxious child who does not conform to her mother's expectations of proper behaviour.

Explanation:

The poem 'Amanda' by Robin Klein portrays the conflict between a nagging mother who constantly instructs/restricts Amanda's behaviour and Amanda who yearns for freedom.

The mother's commands reflect her controlling nature, while Amanda's habits suggest her discomfort or withdrawal.

Q.6(c) [1 mark]

(Section C - Literature) Walt Whitman in 'Animals' shows his preference for living with animals. Justify. (2 marks)

Answer: Walt Whitman shows his preference for living with animals because animals are placid and self-contained. They do not sweat and whine about their condition. They do not lie awake in the dark and weep for their sins. They do not make the poet sick discussing their duty to God. Not one is dissatisfied, not one is demented with the mania of owning things. Not one kneels to another, nor to his kind that lived thousands of years ago. Unlike humans, animals are content, honest and free from greed.

Explanation:

In 'Animals', Whitman contrasts the simple, content nature of animals with the complex, dissatisfied nature of humans.

Animals don't complain, don't worship, don't accumulate possessions, and are self-contained — qualities Whitman admires.

Q.6(d) [1 mark]

(Section C - Literature) Write a brief character sketch of Lomov. (The Proposal) (2 marks)

Answer: Lomov is a 35-year-old, unmarried landowner and neighbour of Chubukov. He is a quarrelsome, excitable, and hypochondriac person who suffers from palpitations and insomnia. He is nervous and indecisive. Though he comes to propose to Natalya, he gets into petty arguments about Oxen Meadows and the superiority of dogs. He is easily provoked and loses sight of his main purpose.

Despite his faults, he is a well-meaning gentleman who genuinely wishes to marry Natalya.

Explanation:

Lomov from Chekhov's 'The Proposal' is characterised as a hypochondriac, quarrelsome, nervous landowner who comes to propose but ends up arguing about trivial matters, showing his inability to stay focused on his purpose.

Q.6(e) [1 mark]

(Section C - Literature) What are the essential qualities for becoming a scientist, according to Ebright's teacher? (The Making of a Scientist) (2 marks)

Answer: According to Ebright's teacher, the essential qualities for becoming a scientist are: first, a first-rate mind; second, curiosity — the desire to know what's going on and to learn about new things; and third, the will to win for the right reasons, i.e., not just for winning itself but for the satisfaction of doing something well and contributing to knowledge.

Explanation:

In 'The Making of a Scientist', Ebright's teacher identifies three essential qualities: a first-rate mind, curiosity (wanting to know and learn new things), and the will to win for the right reasons.

Q.6(f) [1 mark]

(Section C - Literature) Describe the feelings of the young lawyer when he came to know the reality of the hack driver. (2 marks)

Answer: When the young lawyer discovered that the hack driver (Oliver Lutkins/the delivery man) was actually the man he had been looking for all along, he felt extremely foolish, embarrassed, and humiliated. He realized he had been deceived and taken for a ride — both literally and figuratively. Lutkins had driven him all over the village pretending to help him find Lutkins, while he himself was Lutkins. The lawyer felt angry at being duped and ashamed of his own gullibility.

Explanation:

In 'The Hack Driver' (from Footprints Without Feet), the young lawyer feels foolish, embarrassed and humiliated when he discovers that the friendly hack driver who had been driving him around New Mullion was actually Oliver Lutkins himself — the very person he was supposed to serve the summons to.

Q.6(g) [1 mark]

(Section C - Literature) What attracts visitors to Coorg? (Glimpses of India) (2 marks)

Answer: Visitors are attracted to Coorg by its natural beauty, coffee plantations, and rainforests. The place is known for its evergreen rainforests, spices, and coffee plantations. The rolling hills with coffee plantations, the wildlife (elephants, langurs, squirrels, etc.), the river Kaveri with its water sports (rafting, canoeing, rappelling, rock climbing), the Brahmagiri hills, and the Nisargadhama island are major attractions. The martial traditions and hospitality of the Kodavu people also draw visitors.

Explanation:

In 'Glimpses of India' (Coorg section), the attractions include coffee plantations, rainforests, spices, wildlife, river Kaveri for water sports, Brahmagiri hills, Nisargadhama island, and the warm hospitality of Kodavu people.

Q.7(a) [1 mark]

(Section C - Literature, Long Answer) Matilda realised that one little act of negligence can lead to total ruin. What do you learn from this and how would you move on in life? (The Necklace) (4 marks)

Answer: From Matilda's story in 'The Necklace', we learn that one small act of negligence — losing the borrowed necklace — led to ten years of poverty, hardship, and suffering. Matilda and her husband had to borrow money, take loans, and work extremely hard to buy a replacement diamond necklace worth 36,000 francs, only to later discover the original was a fake worth only 500 francs.

The lessons we learn are:

1. We should be content with what we have rather than yearning for a lifestyle beyond our means.
2. One should be honest — had Matilda told Mme Forestier the truth about losing the necklace, she could have avoided years of suffering.
3. Appearances can be deceptive — the necklace appeared to be real diamonds but was fake.
4. We should be careful and responsible with borrowed items.

To move on in life, one should learn from mistakes, be truthful and transparent, live within one's means, and value inner qualities over material possessions.

Explanation:

This question requires value-based analysis of 'The Necklace' by Guy de Maupassant. Matilda's negligence in losing the necklace and dishonesty in not confessing led to 10 years of hardship, teaching lessons about honesty, contentment, and responsibility.

Q.7(b) [1 mark]

(Section C - Literature, Long Answer) Imagine you are Bholi and you have been invited to give a speech on the importance of girl education. Write the speech on 'Girl Education and Empowerment'. (4 marks)

Answer: Respected Principal, Teachers, and Dear Friends,

I, Bholi, stand before you today as a living example of how education can transform a life. I was born with no special beauty or intelligence. A childhood illness left me with pockmarks and a stammer. My family considered me a burden and thought no one would marry me. But my teacher changed my life.

Education gave me confidence, self-respect, and the courage to stand up for myself. When I was about to be married off to a greedy, old man who demanded dowry, I refused. I could say 'no' because education had empowered me.

Girl education is not just about reading books — it is about dignity, independence, and the power to make choices. An educated girl can support her family, contribute to society, and break the cycle of poverty and ignorance.

I urge every parent to educate their daughters. Do not consider them a burden. They are your strength.

Thank you.

Explanation:

This speech-writing question draws from 'Bholi' by K.A. Abbas, where Bholi transforms from a neglected, stammering girl to a confident woman through education.

The speech should highlight how education empowered Bholi to reject a marriage based on dowry and stand up for herself.

Q.7(c) [1 mark]

(Section C - Literature, Long Answer) Valli was a mature girl and ahead of her age. Justify the statement with evidence from the text. (Madam Rides the Bus) (4 marks)

Answer: Valli was indeed a mature girl ahead of her age, as evidenced by the following:

1. Planning and saving: At just eight years old, Valli carefully planned her bus journey to the town. She saved money over months by resisting the temptation to buy peppermints, toys, and balloons, showing remarkable self-discipline and financial planning.

2. Independent decision-making: She planned the entire trip independently without telling anyone, calculating the bus timings and fare (30 paise each way), showing maturity beyond her years.

3. Confident behaviour: On the bus, she conducted herself with dignity. When the conductor called her 'madam', she felt proud. She politely but firmly refused the conductor's offer to buy her a drink, saying she had her own money.

4. Emotional sensitivity: When she saw the dead cow on the return journey — the same cow she had joyfully watched on the way there — she was deeply affected, showing emotional depth and sensitivity to life and death.

5. Self-awareness: She maintained her composure throughout the journey and kept her adventure a secret from her mother, showing discretion and self-reliance unusual for her age.

Explanation:

In 'Madam Rides the Bus' by Vallikkannan, Valli demonstrates maturity through her careful planning, financial discipline, independent travel, confident behaviour on the bus, and emotional sensitivity — all remarkable for an eight-year-old child.