# CBSE 2022 English (Term 2) — Set 2 — 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(i) [1 mark]

What is Milkha Singh known as? What realization did Milkha Singh have when he was on the track during the Melbourne Olympics?

Answer: Milkha Singh is known as 'The Flying Sikh.' During the Melbourne Olympics, he realized how strong and professional the international competition was. His success in India had given him a false sense of pride, and on the track he saw how inexperienced his talents were when pitted against superbly fit and seasoned athletes.

Explanation:

Paragraph 1 gives his nickname 'The Flying Sikh.' Paragraph 4 describes his realization at Melbourne: he understood that competition was far stronger than he expected, and his Indian success had given him a false sense of pride.

Q.0 [0 mark]

List any two of Milkha Singh's achievements.

Answer: Any two: (1) He is the only athlete to win gold in 400 metres at both the Asian Games and the Commonwealth Games. (2) He won gold medals in the 1958 and 1962 Asian Games. (3) He represented India in three Summer Olympics (1956, 1960, 1964). (4) He was awarded the Padma Shri. (5) His 400m time of 45.73 seconds was the Indian national record for almost 40 years.

Explanation:

Paragraph 1 and 2 list multiple achievements including gold medals at Asian and Commonwealth Games, three Olympic representations, and the Padma Shri award.

Q.0 [0 mark]

What strict rules and regulations did Milkha Singh follow?

Answer: His life was governed by strict rules and regulations and a self-imposed penance. Every morning he would rise at the crack of dawn, get into his sports kit and dash off to the track, where he would run two or three miles cross-country in the company of his coach.

Explanation:

The passage directly states his strict routine: rising at dawn, getting into sports kit, and running two or three miles cross-country with his coach every morning.

Q.0 [0 mark]

State two consequences of his hard and strenuous practice.

Answer: Two consequences of his hard and strenuous practice were: (1) He would often be drained of all energy. (2) There were times when he would vomit blood or drop down unconscious through sheer exertion.

Explanation:

The last paragraph describes the physical toll: being drained of energy, vomiting blood, and dropping unconscious due to extreme exertion.

Q.1(v) [1 mark]

What motivated Milkha Singh to become the best athlete in the world?

Answer: Images of a packed stadium filled with cheering spectators, wildly applauding him as he crossed the finishing line, would flash across his mind and he would start again, encouraged by visions of victory. His determination was too strong to give up.

Explanation:

The last paragraph reveals his motivation: visions of a cheering, packed stadium applauding him at the finishing line encouraged him to keep going despite physical suffering.

Q.0 [0 mark]

Explain the phrase 'I would start again' in the last sentence.

Answer: The phrase 'I would start again' means that despite being physically drained, vomiting blood, or dropping unconscious, Milkha Singh would resume his rigorous training. It shows his indomitable spirit, perseverance, and refusal to give up on his dream of becoming the best athlete in the world.

Explanation:

The phrase conveys Milkha Singh's extraordinary determination and resilience.
Even when his body was pushed to its absolute limit, the vision of victory would inspire him to begin training again.

Q.2(i) [1 mark]

Explain J.K. Rowling's 'near magical rise to fame'.

Answer: J.K. Rowling's 'near magical rise to fame' refers to her extraordinary journey from poverty and obscurity to becoming one of the world's most successful authors. She went from being an impoverished single mother with unpublished novels to a globally famous writer whose Harry Potter series skyrocketed her to the top of the publishing world, with rows of zeroes appearing on her bank balance. The rise is called 'near magical' because it mirrors the magical world she created.

Explanation:

The passage traces Rowling's journey from humble beginnings with impoverished parents, through rejection by publishers, to enormous fame and wealth by her third book.
The word 'magical' connects to the magical world of Harry Potter she created.

Q.0 [0 mark]

What reason did the publishers give for rejecting Rowling's book?

Answer: The publishers rejected Rowling's book saying that the plot was too complex.

Explanation:

The passage states: 'At first nobody wanted to publish Harry Potter.
She was told that the plot was too complex.'

Q.0 [0 mark]

What was the drawback of achieving fame?

Answer: The drawback of achieving fame was that her life was turned upside

down. Day and night she had journalists knocking on the unanswered door of her flat, leaving her with no privacy.

Explanation:

The passage states that after becoming famous, 'her life was turned upside down. Day and night she had journalists knocking on the unanswered door of her flat,' indicating loss of privacy as the major drawback.

Q.0 [0 mark]

Why was Rowling outraged with the Italian dust jacket?

Answer: Rowling was outraged with the Italian dust jacket because it showed Harry without his glasses. She believed the glasses were the clue to his vulnerability and an essential part of his character.

Explanation:

The passage states she was 'outraged that an Italian dust jacket showed Harry minus his glasses' and quoted her saying 'Don't they understand that the glasses are the clue to his vulnerability.'

Q.2(v) [1 mark]

Find a word in the last para that means the same as 'unexcelled/supreme'.

Answer: Legendary

Explanation:

In the last paragraph, 'legendary' means 'unexcelled/supreme' — something so remarkable it has become the stuff of legend.

The passage says 'Rowling's quality control has become legendary.'

Q.0 [0 mark]

According to the graph, how many years did it take Rowling to become very successful?

Answer: According to the graph, it took Rowling about 5-6 years (from 2010 to 2015/16) for her earnings to jump dramatically from around $10 million to $90

million, showing her massive success.

Explanation:

The bar graph shows earnings starting at about $10M in 2010/11 and rising sharply to about $90M in 2015/16, indicating it took approximately 5-6 years for her earnings to reach their peak level.

Q.0 [0 mark]

(For Visually Impaired Candidates) What has become legendary about Rowling?

Answer: Rowling's quality control has become legendary, as well as her obsession with accuracy.

Explanation:

The passage directly states: 'Rowling's quality control has become legendary, as her obsession with accuracy.'

Q.3(a) [1 mark]

A survey was conducted in the National Capital in over twenty schools about the different activities that interest the children in the age group of 13 years to 15 years. Write a paragraph in not more than 120 words, analyzing the following information.

[Bar graph showing Number of Children vs Activities: Dance: 30, Cricket: 50, Music: 25, Art: 10, Theatre: 15]

Answer: The bar graph presents data from a survey conducted across over twenty schools in the National Capital, showing the activities that interest children aged 13 to 15 years. Cricket emerges as the most popular activity, attracting 50 children. Dance comes second with 30 children showing interest, followed closely by Music at 25 children. Theatre draws 15 children, while Art is the least popular activity with only 10 children interested. The data clearly indicates that sports, particularly cricket, dominate the preferences of teenagers in the capital. Creative

activities like dance and music also hold significant appeal. However, art and theatre need more promotion to attract greater participation among this age group.

Explanation:

This is a data interpretation paragraph based on a bar graph.

The answer should describe the trends shown, compare the activities, and draw a brief conclusion.

Q.3(b) [1 mark]

You are Niharika, Incharge of the Neighbourhood Library for children. Write a letter to Mansarovar Publishers placing an order for books (2 sets each of Panchatantra and Amar Chitra Katha) in about 120 words. Mention mode of payment, library discount and date of delivery.

Answer: Neighbourhood Library for Children
Sector 15, New Delhi
Date: _____

The Manager
Mansarovar Publishers
New Delhi

Subject: Order for Children's Books

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing on behalf of the Neighbourhood Library for Children to place an order for the following books:

1. Panchatantra (Complete Collection) — 2 sets
2. Amar Chitra Katha (Complete Collection) — 2 sets

Kindly note that as a registered library, we are entitled to the standard library discount of 20% on the listed price. We request you to confirm the same.

The payment will be made through a demand draft/online transfer upon receipt of the invoice. We would appreciate it if the books could be delivered within two weeks from the date of order.

Please confirm the order and share the total amount payable after discount.

Yours faithfully,
Niharika
Incharge, Neighbourhood Library

Explanation:

This is a formal/business letter placing an order.
It must include: sender's address, date, receiver's address, subject line, details of order (2 sets each of Panchatantra and Amar Chitra Katha), mode of payment, library discount request, and expected delivery date.

## Section A — Reading Skills

### Comprehension (1-2 marks each)

Q.4 [1 mark]

The following paragraph has an error in each line with a blank. Write the correct and the incorrect word in the blanks provided. The first one has been done for you.

A first Indian woman physician
Anandibai Joshi graduated at 1886.
About 125 years later, Indian women had start
to outnumber men on
admissions of medical colleges.

Fill in: (2) _____ (3) _____ (4) _____

Answer: (2) Incorrect: 'at', Correct: 'in' (graduated in 1886)

(3) Incorrect: 'had', Correct: 'have' (women have start/started)

(4) Incorrect: 'of', Correct: 'to' (admissions to medical colleges)

Explanation:

Line by line corrections: 'graduated at' should be 'graduated in' (preposition of time);
'had start' should be 'have started' (present perfect tense for continuing trend);
'admissions of' should be 'admissions to' (correct preposition collocation).

Q.5 [1 mark]

Read the conversation and complete the passage that follows:

Ritika: Can I borrow your Math book for a couple of days?
Mohit: Yes certainly, I have already studied for the test tomorrow.

Ritika asked Mohit (1) _____ for a couple of days. Mohit agreed and said that (2) _____.

Answer: (1) if she could borrow his Math book

(2) he had already studied for the test the next day

Explanation:

This tests reported speech.
Direct to indirect: 'Can I borrow' becomes 'if she could borrow';
'your' becomes 'his';
'I have already studied' becomes 'he had already studied';
'tomorrow' becomes 'the next day'.

Q.6(i) [1 mark]

Why is Coorg called the land of the rolling hills? (Glimpses of India)

Answer: Coorg (Kodagu) is called the land of rolling hills because of its beautiful

landscape of lush green hills that roll across the region. It is a place of dense forests, spice plantations, and coffee estates, with hills that seem to roll endlessly, creating a picturesque and serene landscape.

Explanation:

From 'Glimpses of India' (First Flight, Ch. 5): Coorg is described as having a landscape dominated by rolling hills covered with coffee plantations, spice gardens, and thick forests.

Q.0 [0 mark]

What was the objective of Lencho's visit to Chubukov's house? (The Proposal)

Answer: Lomov visited Chubukov's house to propose to his daughter, Natalya. He wanted to ask for Natalya's hand in marriage.

Explanation:

In 'The Proposal' by Anton Chekhov, Lomov (not Lencho) visits Chubukov's house with the objective of proposing marriage to his daughter Natalya Stepanovna.

Q.0 [0 mark]

Amanda was blamed for a number of things. Mention any two.

Answer: Amanda was blamed for: (1) biting her nails, and (2) hunching her shoulders / not sitting up straight / not finishing her homework / having a messy room. (Any two from the poem are acceptable.)

Explanation:

In the poem 'Amanda!' by Robin Klein, Amanda is constantly nagged by her parent for various things including biting her nails, slouching/hunching shoulders, not cleaning her room, not doing homework, and eating chocolate.

Q.0 [0 mark]

Walt Whitman speaks of the human race with a tinge of sarcasm. Which are the two reasons that you agree with? (Animals)

Answer: Two reasons to agree with Whitman's sarcasm about humans: (1) Humans are always complaining about their condition and discussing their duty to God, unlike animals who are placid and self-contained. (2) Humans lie awake in the dark and weep for their sins, and feel sick discussing their duty to God, while animals do not sweat and whine about their condition.

Explanation:

In 'Animals' by Walt Whitman, the poet contrasts humans negatively with animals. Humans whine, weep for sins, are dissatisfied, obsessed with possessions, and discuss duty to God — none of which animals do.

Q.6(v) [1 mark]

How did Custard prove 'the cowardly dragon' tag to be untrue?

Answer: Custard proved the 'cowardly dragon' tag untrue by bravely confronting and defeating the pirate who attacked Belinda's house. While all the other pets (Ink the kitten, Blink the mouse, and Mustard the dog) who had boasted of their bravery ran away and hid, Custard jumped at the pirate, attacked him fiercely, and gobbled him up.

Explanation:

In 'The Tale of Custard the Dragon' by Ogden Nash, Custard was mocked as cowardly, but when a real pirate appeared, Custard was the only one who fought bravely and ate the pirate, while the 'brave' pets fled.

Q.0 [0 mark]

What role did Ebright's mother play in his success? (The Making of a Scientist)

Answer: Ebright's mother played a crucial role in his success. She encouraged his interest in learning and science. She took him on trips, bought him things like telescopes and microscopes, and helped him in many ways. She was his companion and got him books from the library. She also arranged for him to meet Dr. Frederick A. Urquhart, whose book on monarch butterflies inspired his

research.

Explanation:

From 'The Making of a Scientist' (Footprints Without Feet, Ch. 6): Ebright's mother was his sole companion and greatest encourager, fuelling his curiosity by providing books, equipment, and taking him on educational trips.

Q.0 [0 mark]

How was the hack driver recognized?

Answer: The hack driver was recognized when the narrator went back to New Mullion with a companion who had worked with Lutkins' mother. The companion identified the hack driver as Oliver Lutkins himself — the very man the narrator had been sent to serve the summons on.

Explanation:

In 'The Hack Driver' (Footprints Without Feet), the narrator discovers the hack driver's true identity on his second visit to New Mullion when a colleague recognizes the friendly driver as Oliver Lutkins, whom they had been searching for all along.

Q.7(a) [1 mark]

How does Buddha bring about a different perspective in Kisa Gotami's understanding of life? (The Sermon at Benares)

Answer: Buddha brings about a different perspective in Kisa Gotami's understanding of life by asking her to bring mustard seeds from a house where no one had died. When she goes from house to house and fails to find such a home, she realizes that death is universal and inevitable. Buddha then teaches her that life is troubled and brief, that all living things must die, and that the wise do not grieve — for grieving only brings more pain and suffering. He explains that those who overcome sorrow find peace and are blessed. This transforms Kisa Gotami's understanding from despair over her son's death to acceptance of the impermanence of life.

Explanation:

In 'The Sermon at Benares,' Buddha uses the practical task of finding mustard seeds from a death-free household to make Kisa Gotami realize death is universal.
His sermon then teaches that grief brings no peace;
only acceptance of life's impermanence brings blessings.

Q.7(b) [1 mark]

As a reader do you sympathize with Matilda? Give reasons from the text to support your answer. (The Necklace)

Answer: Yes, one can sympathize with Matilda because she suffered greatly for a single mistake born of vanity. She was born into a modest family and longed for a life of luxury she could never have. When she borrowed a necklace from her friend Mme Forestier and lost it, she and her husband spent ten long years of grueling hard work repaying the debt for a replacement necklace. She aged prematurely, lost her beauty, and lived in poverty. The greatest irony is that the original necklace was merely paste (fake), worth only 500 francs. Her punishment far outweighed her fault, making her a sympathetic figure.

Alternatively, one may not fully sympathize as her vanity and dissatisfaction with her lot in life led to her downfall. She was not content with what she had and craved appearances over substance.

Explanation:

From 'The Necklace' by Guy de Maupassant: Matilda's story evokes sympathy because her punishment (10 years of poverty) vastly exceeds her crime (vanity).
The final twist — the necklace was fake — makes her suffering seem even more tragic and undeserved.

Q.7(c) [1 mark]

As Valli, make a diary entry about your experience of riding the bus alone for the first time. (Madam Rides the Bus)

Answer: Dear Diary,

Today was the most exciting day of my life! I finally rode the bus to the town all by myself. I have been planning this for months — saving every coin, resisting the temptation of peppermints and toys.

The bus ride was wonderful. I sat on a seat and peered out of the window, watching the beautiful scenery — the canal, the palm trees, the grasslands, and the mountains. Everything looked so beautiful from the bus window. The conductor was amused by my confidence and called me 'madam.' I felt so proud and grown-up!

But then, on the way back, I saw something that shook me deeply — the same cow that had been happily crossing the road earlier was now lying dead, hit by some vehicle. It was a horrible sight that reminded me how fragile life is.

I came home quietly after that. Amma doesn't know about my adventure yet. It was thrilling, but the sight of the dead cow left me thoughtful.

Valli

Explanation:

From 'Madam Rides the Bus' (First Flight, Ch. 7): Valli, an 8-year-old girl, plans and saves money to take a solo bus ride. The diary should capture her excitement, the scenic beauty, the conductor's amusement, and the sobering sight of the dead cow on the return journey.