

**GREEN LAWNS HIGH SCHOOL
FINAL EXAMINATION YEAR 2020**

**SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE
TIME: 2 HOURS**

**CLASS: VIII
MARKS: 80**

SECTION – I

Q.1. Write an interesting composition of about 300-350 words on any one of the [20]
following topics.

- 1) Write an original story, beginning with the following line: The water was cold, I took a deep breath and jumped ...
- 2) A vegetarian diet is good for health. Express your views either for or against this statement.
- 3) Corruption in our country is an increasing menace. Mention some of the causes, effects and solutions to this problem.
- 4) Describe the first time you rode a bicycle all by yourself. Bring out the thrills, the fear and the sense of achievement you felt.
- 5) Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it, however there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



SECTION - II

Q.II. Select one of the following:

[10]

1) A friend of yours has been out of station for a month and there was an important event held in the school while he/she was away. Write to him/ her a letter describing the event, and your role in it, and why your friend was missed.

2) Municipal workers came to your street two days ago, and dug up the street for underground sewage work and have left a deep pit uncovered, causing great inconvenience and danger to vehicular movement. Write a letter to the Municipal Commissioner of your city highlighting the problems and seeking immediate action.

Q.III. Read carefully the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: [20]

Local residents have got fed up offering me lifts on the load to our hilltop bank and post office. As they drive up the steep road to Landour in third (or is it fourth?) gear, they see me plodding along on foot and out of the goodness of their hearts stop and open the door for me. Although I hate to disappoint them, I close the door, thank them profusely, and insist that I am enjoying my walk. They don't believe me, naturally; but with a shrug, the driver gets into gear again and drives off, although sometimes they have difficulty getting started, the hill being very steep. As I don't wish to insult them by reaching the Bank first, I sit on the parapet wall and make encouraging sounds until they finally take off. Then I renew my leisurely walk up the hill, taking note of the fact that wild geraniums and periwinkles have begun to flower, and that the whistling thrushes are nesting under the culvert over which those very cars pass every day.

Most people, car drivers anyway, think I'm a little eccentric. So be it. I am probably eccentric. But having come to the Himalayan foothills over 25 years ago in order to enjoy walking among them, I am not about to stop now, just because everyone else has stopped walking. The hills are durable in their attractions, and my legs have proved durable too, so why should we not continue together as before?

The friends who walked besides me, like Ganesh who once took photographs, now have their shiny new cars or spacious vans, and seldom emerge from them unless it be to seek refreshment at some wayside teashop or café. When I invite them to walk a few metres with me, they complain of breathlessness or of twinges in their hinges and rents in their ligaments.

Now I'm no fitness freak. I don't jog either. If I did, I would almost certainly miss the latest wildflower to appear on the hillside and I would not be able to stop a while and talk to other people on the road... villagers with their milk and vegetables, all-weather postmen, cheeky school children, inquisitive tourists... or to exchange greetings with cats, stray cows and runaway mules. Runaway mules are friendly creatures except towards their owners. I chat to the owners too, when they come charging up the road. I try to put them in good humour so as to save the mules from a beating; but mule-owners are generally short-tempered and would have me mind my own business.

Most of the people I have mentioned are walkers from necessity. Those who walk for pleasure grow fewer by the day. I don't mean long-distance trekkers or high altitude climbers, who are almost professional in their approach to roads and mountains. I mean people such as myself who are no great athletes but who enjoy sauntering through woods on a frosty morning, or leaving the main road and slithering downhill into a bed of ferns, or following a mountain stream to reach the small spring where it begins... But no... everyone must have a destination in mind, for this is the age of destinations, be it the Taj Mahal, the casino at Cannes, or the polar ice-cap. I **glanced** into a bestselling book of records the other day and my eye alighted on an entry which stated that somebody's grandmother had knitted a scarf that was over 20 miles long. Where was it going, I wondered, and who would be wearing it? The book didn't say. It was just another destination another "first" to be recorded.

- a) Give the meaning of each of the following words as used in the passage. [3]
One word answers or short phrases will be accepted.
- i) plodding -
 - ii) inquisitive -
 - iii) glanced -
- b) Answer briefly the following questions in your own words.
- i) Why do the local residents stop and offer lifts to the author? (3)
 - ii) Why does the writer not stop walking, even though everyone else has? (3)
 - iii) What evidence is there that the writer is healthier than his car-owning friends? (3)
- c) In not more than 50 words, describe how the writer enjoyed nature and wildlife while walking for pleasure in the Himalayan foothills. (8)

SECTION - IV

GRAMMAR

[30]

Please note: Write your answers in the answer booklet:

- Q.1. Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage, but write in the correct serial order or phrase appropriate to the blank space. Example: (o) went [4]

My grandmother always (o) _____ (go) to school with me because the school (1) _____ (attach) to the temple. The priest (2) _____ (teach) us the alphabet and the morning prayer. While the children sat in rows on either side of the verandah (3) _____ (sing) the alphabet or the prayer in chorus, my grandmother sat inside (4) _____ (read) the scriptures. When we both (5) _____ (finish), we (6) _____ (walk) back together. This time the village dogs would meet us at the temple door. They (7) _____ (follow) us to our home (8) _____ (growl) and fighting with each other.

Q.2. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs given in the brackets. [2]

- i) My trousers _____ (is/are) getting tight around the waist.
- ii) The Woodlanders _____ (is/are) an interesting novel.
- iii) The audience _____ (was/were) large.
- iv) Here _____ (is/are) the news.

Q.3. Complete the following sentences by adding the noun form of the words given in the brackets. [2]

- i) He can eat anything. He has an excellent _____ (digest)
- ii) After the wedding, there was a _____ (receive) at the house of the bride.
- iii) He wore a disguise but the _____ (deceive) was not successful.
- iv) All the players in the team protest against the _____ (suspend) of their members.

Q.4. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words. [2]

- i) He was ~~stabbed~~ _____ an unknown assailant.
- ii) The hall began to fill _____ when the music began.
- iii) They congratulated her _____ her recovery from ^a serious illness.
- iv) She rules _____ a vast empire.

Q.5. Change the following sentences into the Passive Voice. [3]

- i) Do it at once.
- ii) We like people who are kind and considerate.
- iii) Our team has lifted the cup.

Q.6. Complete the following sentences, using question tags. [3]

- i) You won't repeat this behavior, _____?
- ii) Somebody revealed the secret, _____?
- iii) Let's open the new book, _____?

Q.7. Change the following sentences into Negative sentences. [2]

- i) He is sometimes lazy.
- ii) She admitted to stealing the ring.

Q.8. Change the following sentences into Exclamatory sentences. [2]

- i) The park is very lovely.
- ii) She tells very funny stories.

Q.9. Rewrite the following sentences according to the instruction given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. [10]

- i) You are too inexperienced to be given the job now. [Begin: You are so...]
- ii) There was never a more ambitious man than Napoleon in the History of the world. [Change to Interrogative sentence]
- iii) Terence said, "My wife is away from home at this moment, but she will certainly return tomorrow." [Change to Indirect Speech]
- iv) The office permitted us to go [Use: 'permission']
- v) The taxi left as soon as she got off. [Begin : No sooner]
- vi) He treats his subordinates with care. [Begin: His subordinates.....]
- vii) For the housewife it was a relief when the maid arrived. [Use : 'relieved']
- viii) Few poets write as well as John. [Begin: 'John.....']
- ix) The teacher told the student to meet her the next day. [Change to Direct speech]
- x) We had not even walked one kilometre, when they stopped us. [Begin: Hardly -----]