TEACHER’S PAPER

Instructions for the conduct of the Listening Comprehension Examination

The teacher should instruct the candidates to answer the questions on the paper provided. The following procedure for reading the Listening Comprehension passage is to be explained to the candidates immediately before proceeding with the examination.

You have been given a sheet containing the listening comprehension questions. You will be given three minutes to read the questions based on the passage. The passage will be read at normal reading speed. You may take notes during the reading. After this reading there will be a pause of another three minutes to allow you to answer some of the questions. I shall read the passage a second time and you may take further notes and answer the rest of the questions. After this second reading you will be given a further three minutes for a final revision of the answers.

a. 3 minutes – Students read questions.
b. 3 minutes – Teacher reads passage aloud for the first time while students take notes.
c. 3 minutes – Students answer questions.
d. 3 minutes – Teacher reads passage for the second time. Students may answer more questions.
e. 3 minutes – Students revise final answers.
You are going to listen to the news on Radio Gandhi.

And now for the latest item in the news today.

At least 19 people have been killed in a fire that swept through an illegal market in the eastern Indian city of Calcutta. The Surya Market was housed in an old multi-storey building in the crowded Sen area of the city.

Several people were also seriously injured, and officials say the death toll could rise as others are thought to be trapped inside the building. The blaze was contained in three hours and rescue operations are ongoing. The fire in the paper and plastic market broke out early on Wednesday morning, while some people were sleeping inside the complex.

The head of the fire services Gopal Padman said that they found dozens of people lying unconscious with severe burns and that most of the victims had suffocated in their sleep. Toxic gases were also released from the flammable materials present in the building, which hampered the rescue operations.

State Fire Services Minister Javed Khan told reporters: “The market has only one exit point and those who stayed in the market at night were trapped after the fire broke out.” Mr Khan also said the market was illegal and action would be taken against the authorities for not having any fire safety arrangements.

West Bengal Chief Minister Banerjee, visiting the scene, promised a full investigation. She said there were many other illegal or unplanned buildings in the city and that no-one follows any safety norms. She announced compensation amounts of 200,000 rupees which is close to £2,500 for the families of those who died and 50,000 rupees which is about £610 for the injured. 25 fire engines were sent to the scene and the injured were taken to nearby hospitals.

The reason for the fire remains unknown, but some local officials said a short circuit due to faulty electrical wiring could be to blame. There have been several major fires in Calcutta in recent years. In December 2011, 90 people died in a blaze at a hospital. A year before that, 43 people died in a fire at the historic St Stephen's Court building on the city's Park Street. In 2008 a huge fire at one of the city's largest markets destroyed 2,500 shops.

That was the last item of the news. Please join us again this evening at 11 pm for the last news bulletin of the evening.
LISTENING COMPREHENSION

1. Tick (✔) whether these statements are TRUE or FALSE. (4 Marks)

| a. The fire broke out in the western Indian city of Calcutta. | TRUE | FALSE |
| b. The fire broke out in an old building. | |
| c. Some people were trapped inside the building. | |
| d. The fire broke out on Wednesday afternoon. | |
| e. Poisonous gases made the rescue operation more difficult. | |
| f. The injured people were given 50,000 rupees. | |
| g. A short circuit could have started the fire. | |
| h. It is the only fire in the last years. | |

2. Fill in with numbers. (4 marks)

| a. The number of hours needed to control the fire. | |
| b. The number of exit points. | |
| c. The amount of rupees given to the families of the dead. | |
| d. The number of fire engines sent to control the fire. | |

3. Match the two columns by writing the correct letter in the box. (2 marks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. State Fire Services Minister</td>
<td>St. Stephen’s Court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. December 2011</td>
<td>2,500 shops were destroyed in a fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Historic building</td>
<td>A fire in a hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. 2008</td>
<td>Javed Khan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10 Marks
Section B - Reading Comprehension

Text 1 – Read the following text and then answer the questions on the Language Paper.

The Circus
All the family enjoys going to the circus. Philip Astley is considered the father of the modern circus. Astley performed on horseback in a large ring. He improved his show by including music, clowns, acrobats, and a tightrope walker. His shows were so successful that in 1772 he was invited to perform in front of Queen Marie-Antoinette and the French royal family.

Today, performances on horseback are still an important part of the modern circus. Horses are carefully chosen for their beautiful colour, shape and graceful movements. When we watch horses and other animals in circuses, like dogs, chimpanzees, ferocious lions, tigers and bears, it is their intelligence and skill that amaze us.

All circus performers need to practise hard to perform in public. We do not know how many times they have failed while practising. Turning a somersault and landing on top of a human pyramid three people high is not learnt overnight. Nor is juggling with several hoops, balls or plates.

The drum-roll that announces the flying trapeze increases the audience’s tension; no one can watch their amazing leaps without feeling afraid for the acrobats. The trapeze, which requires exact timing, courage and skill, was invented by a Frenchman, called Leotard, who designed the one-piece costume named after him. One day, Leotard saw cords hanging from the roof of his father’s swimming pool and he experimented by tying bars of wood to the cords. Failure, of course, meant getting wet!

After the excitement and fear of the flying trapeze, it is the clown who makes us laugh. Barnum, the famous circus owner, once said when talking about the importance of clowns, "Clowns are pegs used to hang circuses on." The clown provides comedy and fills in when the stage is being changed. His most important job is to relieve tension between the dangerous acts of lion tamers, horse riders and trapeze artists.

Barnum was the first American to become a world famous circus owner. Barnum attracted people’s interest by using exaggerated language. Everything was the biggest, or the greatest. As a result, his show was extremely popular. Everyone wanted to work with him, and in the 1880's, with James A. Bailey, he set up the 'Barnum and Bailey Circus, The Greatest Show on Earth' which became world-famous for its fantastic attractions. In fact, Bailey, who started his life as a farmer, was the first to introduce an elephant in a circus act. "Old Bet", the elephant, became so popular that from that time onwards, every circus needed to have one in it to be called a true circus.
Text 2 – This old poster is advertising a street parade that was going to take place before the first circus performance in a town. Answer the questions on your language paper.
Section A – Language (15 marks)

1. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of ‘make’ or ‘do’. The first one has been done for you.

Ruth (0) was not doing her homework well. Her teacher sent a note home saying that Ruth (1)_____________ a lot of mistakes. Mrs Abela, Ruth’s mother, asked her daughter to (2)_____________ an effort to improve her work. Mrs Abela noticed that Ruth was spending too much time (3)_____________ her hair. She (4)_____________ a decision to try and help Ruth. She told her, “I am ready to (5)_____________ a deal with you.” Mrs Abela explained that she was ready to (6)_____________ an appointment for her to have her hair (7)_____________ at the hairdresser’s if she (8)_____________ a promise to work harder on her homework. Her mother’s offer (9)_____________ the trick. Ruth is now much more careful when (10)_____________ her homework.
2. Fill in each blank with ONE word. The first one has been done for you.

We are all storytellers. We tell stories about our dreams, our fears and our successes. As we grow (0) **older**, we talk about things that happened to us a long time in the (1)______________. We may add bits and (2)______________ here and (3)______________ to make the stories more interesting. Anyone who enjoys telling stories soon learns how to make them really enjoyable – both for the teller and the (4)______________. It’s always easiest to tell a story which you yourself (5)______________. Of course, you have to know all the (6)______________ of the story so that you can make clear pictures for your listeners. Getting to know a story you want to tell is not simply a matter of learning it off by (7)______________. You have to pay attention to the way things happen. You have to be sure how one character (8)______________ to another, just as in a play or film. You have to choose the words you use to tell your story (9)______________. You have to use words which will make the story come (10)______________ for whoever is listening to you.

(5 marks)  

3. Fill in each blank with the correct form of the verb. The first one has been done for you.

Last night Maria (0) **was walking** her dog Trixie across the park when she noticed Julia and her friend Paul, (1)______________ (run) to the pond and (2)______________ (lean) on the ice around it as they (3)______________ (try) to reach a ball. Suddenly, the ice started to crack and Julia (4)______________ (fall) into the freezing water. Maria grabbed a broken branch and tried to pull Julia out but the girl was too far into the pond. So Maria started to wade into the icy water. While Maria (5)______________ (struggle) to pull Julia to safety, more people (6)______________ (come) to give a helping hand. Julia’s mother, Mrs Sarah Wilson, said last night, “I (7)______________ always______________ (warn) Julia about the danger of playing near the water but she’s mad about that ball. If she (8)______________ (not listen) to my warning, I (9)______________ (stop) her from going to the park.” The local council (10)______________ just______________ (put) a notice near the pond saying that children cannot play there.

(5 marks)  
Section B - Reading Comprehension (20 marks)

Read Text 1 “The Circus”, which is on a separate sheet, and then answer the following questions.

1. Put a tick (✓) in the correct box according to whether the statement is TRUE (T) or FALSE (F).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>T</th>
<th>F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. There were horses in Astley’s show.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Astley had an elephant in his show.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. It is easy for a circus performer to learn to juggle many hoops.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Clowns help the audience to relax after watching a dangerous performance.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. What does the writer mean by the words ‘Philip Astley is considered the father of the modern circus’ (lines 1 – 2)? Pay particular attention to the underlined words.

___________________________________________

3. What three things are considered when choosing a circus horse?

a._________________________________

b._________________________________

c._________________________________

4. What sound is used in a circus to prepare the audience for a dangerous act?

___________________________________________

5. List four acts / performers mentioned in the text that do not use animals in their performance.

a.___________________________________________

b.__________________________________________________________________________

c.__________________________________________________________________________

d.__________________________________________________________________________

6. What two things did Leotard invent?

a.___________________________________________

b.__________________________________________________________________________
7. ‘Clowns are pegs used to hang circuses on.’ (line 22) 
Tick (✓) the correct statement.

With these words, Barnum meant that:

a. Clowns use pegs in their act.
b. There cannot be a circus without clowns.
c. Clowns are funny.
d. Clowns are important to relieve tension.

8. Give two reasons why the Barnum and Bailey Circus was extremely popular. 

a.________________________________________________________
   _________________________________________________________________________

b.________________________________________________________
   _________________________________________________________________________

9. What do the following words refer to in the text? 

a. their (line 9) ______________________________________________________

b. us (line 9) ______________________________________________________

c. they (line 11) ______________________________________________________

d. one (line 32) ______________________________________________________

10. Between lines 1 – 24, find a word in the text that means:

a. a round area where a circus performance takes place _________________

b. an acrobatic movement where a person turns head over heels _________________

c. tossing in the air and catching a number of objects _________________

d. another word for performances _________________

Look at Text 2 – the circus poster – and answer the following questions.

11. In Text 1 we read ‘Barnum attracted people’s interest by using exaggerated language.’ (line 25 - 26) Quote two examples of this use of exaggerated language from the poster (Text 2). You do not need to write a complete sentence. 

a._____________________________________________________________________

b._____________________________________________________________________

12. In the poster the word ‘free’ is repeated twice. Why do you think this was done? 

__________________________________________________________________________

(20 marks)
Section C – Literature  (20 marks)

Prose – Unprepared Text – Answer all the questions.  (10 marks)

The night had begun to fall as I got close; and in three of the lower windows, which were very high up and narrow, and well barred, the changing light of a little fire began to glimmer. Was this the place I had been coming to? Was it within these walls that I was to seek new friends and begin great fortunes?

The door, as well as I could see it in the dim light, was a great piece of wood all studded with nails; and I lifted my hand with a faint heart under my jacket, and knocked once. Then I stood and waited. The house had fallen into a dead silence; a whole minute passed away, and nothing stirred but the bats overhead. I knocked again, and 1hearkened again. By this time my ears had grown so accustomed to the quiet, that I could hear the ticking of the clock inside as it slowly counted out the seconds; but whoever was in that house kept deadly still, and must have held his breath.

I was in two minds whether to run away; but anger got the upper hand, and I began instead to rain kicks on the door, and to shout out aloud for Mr Balfour. I was in full career, when I heard the cough right overhead, and jumping back and looking up, 2beheld a man’s head in a tall nightcap, and the bell mouth of a 3blunderbuss, at one of the first-storey windows.

‘It’s loaded,’ said a voice.

1hearkened: listened
2beheld: saw
3a blunderbuss is a firearm or a kind of rifle

(Adapted from Kidnapped by Robert Louis Stevenson.)

1. Fill in the blanks. Choose the correct words from the box.   2½ marks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I</th>
<th>flashback</th>
<th>fiction</th>
<th>novel</th>
<th>character</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>monologue</td>
<td>effect</td>
<td>fun</td>
<td>ending</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kidnapped is the title of a a______________ written by Robert Louis Stevenson and it is not a real story so it is called b______________. This is a c______________ narrative because it is told from the narrator’s point of view and the pronoun d______________ is used. This kind of narrative helps the readers sympathise with the narrator’s e______________ more closely.

2. Underline TWO correct answers.  1 mark
In this passage the narrator feels
a. sad  b. delighted  c. scared  d. amazed  e. depressed  f. angry

3. Mention TWO things from the first paragraph which create a sense of danger.  2 marks
a. _____________________________  b. _____________________________

4. Quote a metaphor from the second paragraph which helps us understand how the boy was feeling.  ½ mark
5. List FOUR points mentioned in the second paragraph that help to emphasise the silence. 2 marks
a. ________________________________________________________________

b. ______________________________________________________________

c. ______________________________________________________________

d. ______________________________________________________________

6. Quote TWO short phrases that describe the boy’s shock and surprise. 1 mark
a. ___________________________ b. ___________________________

7. What is the effect at the end? 1 mark
______________________________________________________________

(10 marks) □

Poetry – Unprepared Text – Answer all the questions. (10 marks)

TREES
I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is ¹prest
Against the earth’s sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose ²bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

Joyce Kilmer

1. Underline the correct answer: 1½ marks
a. The theme of the poem is about
   i. a detailed description of a tree.
   ii. the beauty of trees, nature and the greatness of the Creator.
   iii. the way robins make a nest in the tree.
   iv. the way trees grow in the countryside with the soil and the rain.
b. This poem is
   i. written in iambic pentameter.
   ii. simple but effective.
   iii. a sonnet.
   iv. written in free verse.

c. The subject of the poem is
   i. a description of a tree that is being compared to a human.
   ii. about poets who are fools.
   iii. about the way trees grow.
   iv. God the Creator who looks at the trees growing in the fields.

2. Quote a simile from the poem.  
1 mark
___________________________________________________________________________

3. Give an example of a rhyming pair from this poem.  
½ mark
__________________________________________________________

4. The poet compares the tree to a woman. List the body parts that the poet imagines that the 
tree has. The first one has been done for you.  
1½ marks
Example: “mouth” (stanza 2)
a. ___________________  b. ___________________  c. ___________________

5. The tree “looks at God all day,” Answer the following:
a. What is this figure of speech called? ___________________________  
1 mark
b. Comment on the tree’s life and its actions.  
1 mark
___________________________________________  ______________________
___________________________________________  ______________________
___________________________________________  ______________________

6. Who are the tree’s close friends? List THREE.  
1½ marks
Example: “earth”
a. ___________________  b. ___________________  c. ___________________

7. In the last stanza what is the comparison being made? Complete the following statements:
a. The poet compares ____________ with _____________.  
1 mark
b. This comparison has an effect on the reader because ____________________________  
1 mark
(10 marks) [ ]
Section D – Composition

(25 marks)

Write between 150 and 200 words on ONE of the following.

1. Write a dialogue in which you try to persuade your friend to join a new sports club which has opened in your village.

2. Continue the story: The queue was very long, but we had been waiting for this so long. Nothing was going to stop us ...

3. Write an email to your friend describing a clean-up campaign in the village which was organised by the school. Your friend’s email address is: amangion@gmail.com. Fill in the grid below with the correct information and continue writing the email in the space provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To:</th>
<th>Subject:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:amangion@gmail.com">amangion@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Composition title number: ___________ (25 marks) ___________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Levels 7 – 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main Paper: Page 8 Section D – Composition – No 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The fullstop after <em>so long</em> should be a comma – to read ‘we had been waiting for this so long, nothing was going to stop us …’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>