



Annual Examinations for Middle Schools 2023

YEAR 8 **ENGLISH** **TIME: 2 hours**

Name: _____ Class: _____

Speaking	Listening	Reading Section A	Literature Section B	Writing Section C	Total
/15	/15	/25	/20	/25	/100

SECTION A: READING

25 MARKS

Read the texts printed in the source booklet and then answer all of the following questions. You should spend around 30 minutes on this section.

Task A1: Questions on Source A

- Underline the correct answer. ½ mark []
Under which section would you find this article on a website?
 - Sport
 - TV & Showbiz
 - Leisure
 - Housework
- During lockdown, most people got tired of sitting at home doing nothing. Quote a part-sentence from lines 1-12 that shows this. 1 mark []

- In your own words, explain the following phrase: ‘...what was considered old is now new again.’ (line 9) 1 mark []

- List **THREE** things that made people forget about the importance of hobbies. 1 ½ marks []
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____

5. The subheadings in the article are missing. Tick (✓) the subheadings that are most fitting for paragraphs A, B, C and D. One of the subheadings is extra.

2 marks []

		A	B	C	D
a.	A needle and thread can come a long way				
b.	Where's the flour?				
c.	Fun inside a box				
d.	Video Game time!				
e.	Paper folding for a healthy mind				

6. Tick (✓) whether the following statements are **TRUE** or **FALSE**.

2 marks []

		TRUE	FALSE
a.	Cooking can improve children's life skills.		
b.	Sewing and knitting were the favourite pastime among the elderly only during lockdown.		
c.	There was a decrease in the sales of jigsaw puzzles during lockdown.		
d.	People became familiar with board and card games for the first time during the pandemic.		

7. Between lines 8 and 23, find individual words which mean the same as:

2 marks []

a.	traditional	
b.	gloomy	
c.	popular	
d.	pleasant smell	

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

2 marks []

a.	us (line 12)	
b.	it (line 20)	
c.	those (line 30)	
d.	that (line 44)	

9. In your own words, list **TWO** things that we should consider when choosing a hobby, as advised by Jeanine Parisi. 2 marks []

i. _____

ii. _____

10. In a paragraph of between **60-70** words, summarise how Origami can help one relax by referring to the text. You are reminded to use your own words as much as possible. 6 marks []

Task A2: Source B: Questions on Source B

Underline the correct answer. 1 mark []

1. The graph represents information on:
- i. how people kept physically active during the pandemic.
 - ii. how teenagers kept themselves busy during the pandemic.
 - iii. the hobbies taken up by people of all ages during the pandemic.
 - iv. the outdoor activities enjoyed by teenagers during the pandemic.

2. Tick (✓) whether the following statements are **TRUE** or **FALSE**. 2 marks []

		TRUE	FALSE
i.	This study is based on information collected over the span of a year.		
ii.	The online survey was based on a wide range of physical activities people enjoy.		
iii.	The graph shows the specific number of people who took up a particular hobby.		
iv.	The results of the survey were uploaded in the same year that the study took place.		
v.	The Healthy Heart Association can be contacted from Monday to Saturday.		

Question about Source A and Source B

2 marks []

1. Tick (✓) the source which:

		Source A	Source B	Both	Neither
a.	is found online.				
b.	includes contact details.				
c.	includes the main idea followed by supporting points.				
d.	is about the benefits of online gaming.				

Section B: LITERATURE**You should spend around 30 minutes on this section.****Task B: Unseen Poetry****20 MARKS****Read the poem labelled as Source C in the Source Booklet and then answer all the questions that follow.**

1. Underline the correct answer in questions a and b. 2 marks []

- a. The theme of the poem is about:
- i. how nature's beauty ends with the arrival of winter.
 - ii. how nature is only beautiful in summer.
 - iii. how the beauty of nature is everlasting.
 - iv. how the beauty of nature can be harmful.
- b. The mood of the poem is:
- i. gloomy and worrying.
 - ii. slow and boring.
 - iii. creepy and bleak.
 - iv. light and joyous.

Questions on lines 1 to 8

2. Write down the rhyme scheme of the first FOUR lines. 1 mark []

3. Underline the correct word in brackets. 1 mark []

The setting of the first eight lines of the poem is that of a (busy, blistering, breezy) summer scene.

4. Underline the best answer. 1 mark []

'...a voice will run/From hedge to hedge' (lines 3 – 4).

The effect of repetition in "From hedge to hedge" shows:

- i. there is someone running among the hedges
- ii. there are birds singing in all the hedges
- iii. the grasshopper's voice is heard across all the hedges
- iv. a person's voice is heard in all the hedges

5. a. What figure of speech is used to depict the Grasshopper? 1 mark []

- b. Quote a phrase to support your answer. 1 mark []

6. Quote an example of run-on lines (from lines 1-8) which show how the Grasshopper thoroughly enjoys summer. 1 mark []

7. Explain how the speaker describes the Grasshopper as being different to the birds in summer. 2 marks []

Questions on lines 9 to 14

8. Write down the rhyme scheme of the last SIX lines. 1 mark []

9. Comment on the change in setting between lines 1-8 and lines 9-14. 2 marks []

10. What does the speaker suggest about the person who is "...in drowsiness half lost" (line 13)? 2 marks []

Questions on the whole poem

11. Mention **TWO** things that the Grasshopper and the Cricket have in common according to the speaker. 2 marks []

i.

ii.

12. a. "The poetry of earth" introduces the first 8 lines and the last 6 lines. Explain what you think the speaker means by this phrase. 1 mark []

- b. Underline the correct answer. 1 mark []

The phrases 'The poetry of earth is never dead' (line 1) and 'The poetry of earth is ceasing never' (line 9) gives the reader a feeling of:

- i. grief
- ii. doubt
- iii. reassurance
- iv. bitterness

- c. In your own words give **ONE** reason for your answer. 1 mark []

SECTION C – WRITING

25 MARKS

In this section, you must answer Task C1 and choose ONE title from Task C2.

Please note that the word count given in both tasks is just a guideline to help you. You should spend around 40 minutes on this section.

Task C1 – Short Writing Task

5 marks []

Your school is putting up an activity to celebrate Culture Diversity. Create a **poster** to promote this activity and **persuade** people to join.

Use the points below to help you write your poster in the box given below. All of the following points **NEED** to be included:

- name of the event;
- the aim of the event and a brief description of it;
- details of venue, date, time, fee;
- a reason why people should join.

Task C2 - Long Writing Task

20 MARKS

As a guideline you may wish to write between 220-270 words on **ONE** of the following:

EITHER

1. A local children's magazine is looking for **MYSTERY STORIES** for next month's publication. Write your own mystery story which must involve a **valuable object** and a **secret passage**.

OR

2. Some people say that **sports** should not be given importance in schools. Write an **ARTICLE** for your school newsletter discussing this matter.

OR

3. Your friend, Sam, gave you free tickets to attend a concert that you really wanted to go to. Write an **EMAIL** to Sam **thanking** your friend for the tickets and describing how much you enjoyed this experience.
Use the following to start your email:

To:	sam25@bmail.com
Subject:	Thank you for the tickets!

Title Number: _____

[illegible]

[illegible]

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