

**SAMPLE PAPER-2**  
**CLASS-VIII (2024-25)**  
**ENGLISH (COURSE 'A')**

*Time allowed : 3 Hours*

*Maximum Marks : 80*

**General Instructions :**

1. *This paper consists of three sections : A, B and C.*
  2. *Attempt all the questions.*
  3. *Do not write anything on the question paper except your name, class / section and roll number*
  4. *All the answers must be correctly numbered in the answer sheet as per the numbering given in the question paper.*
  5. *Ensure that questions of each section are answered together.*
  6. *Read all the questions carefully and follow the instructions given with each question.*
  7. *Adhere strictly to the word limit given in the question paper.*
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**Section-A (Reading)**

**(20 Marks)**

1. Read the following factual passage carefully and answer the questions.  
(1×8=8)
  - (I) Having a good night's sleep allows your body to function at its best. It boosts the immune system, lowers stress, improves mental sharpness and may even lower the chances of overeating. There is no shortage of techniques that really work: sleep in a darkened, cool bedroom; avoid prolonged screen time before bed; get regular exercise; and aim to wake up and go to bed at the same time every day.
  - (II) Automatic foot spas are ubiquitous in Chinese households. Every night, people soak their feet in hot water; many machines have exfoliating and massage functions too. Putting feet in a warm basin and massaging them can stimulate blood circulation by dilating the vessels. Having warmer feet may lower the core body temperature, helping one fall asleep faster.

(III) Guatemala has a longstanding tradition of parents putting ‘worry dolls’ under their kids’ pillows to comfort them if they are afraid of the dark. Plus, children can tell the tiny dolls their worries before they go to sleep. The legend goes that the colourful fabric dolls can alleviate kids’ anxieties by morning. Up to two-thirds of pet owners in the U.S., Australia and the U.K. sleep with their furry friends. It makes sense that some people instinctively feel safer, and therefore sleep better, with a dog around.

(IV) The tradition of inemuri, or ‘sleeping while present’ even in the workplace is practised well in Japan as long as you don’t invade other people’s space. After all, the workday often extends well into the evening, when colleagues are expected to socialise. A 2021 French study found that naps improved cognitive performance and alertness.

(i) Choose the option that lists the technique that DOES NOT induce a good sleep.

- (a) Exercising regularly
- (b) Sleeping in a cool, dark room
- (c) Increased screen time
- (d) Regular sleep cycle

(ii) The following statements are marked Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option.

(A) The ritual of massaging feet is believed to help one fall asleep faster.  
(R) It exfoliates feet.

- (a) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- (b) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (c) (A) is true but (R) is false.
- (d) (A) is false but (R) is true.

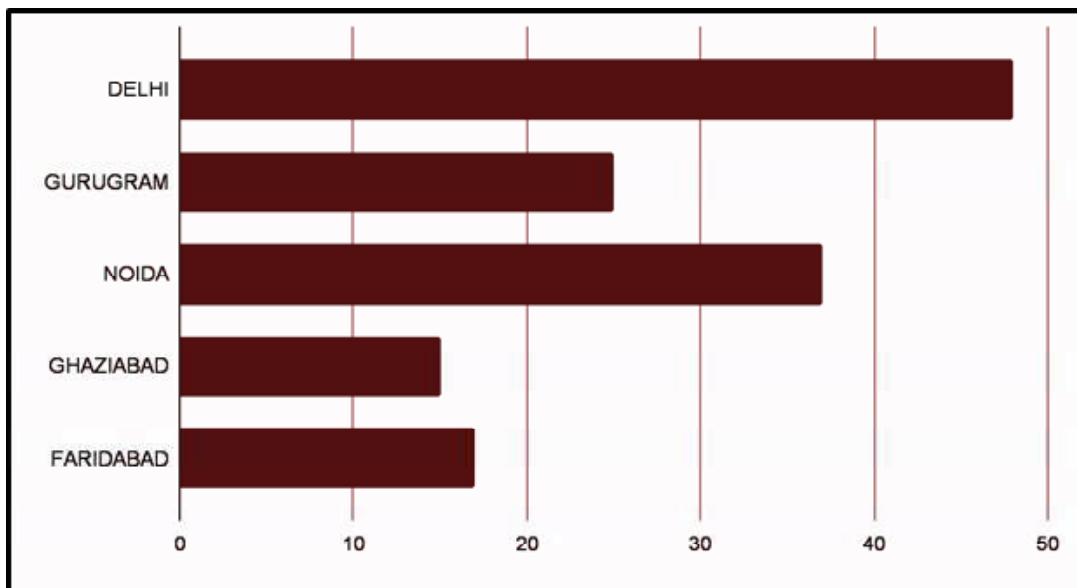
(iii) Parents in Guatemala rely on ‘worry dolls’ to help their children get rid of the fear of darkness at night because \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) children find colourful dolls fascinating
- (b) dolls are believed to be one of children’s favourite toys
- (c) children can talk to dolls more openly
- (d) expressing their fears to dolls before sleeping comforts them



diagnosis and treatment for smog related issues. Outdoor pollution levels are scary and the polluted air has also crept indoors and added to indoor air pollution. Indoor pollution is 2-5 times more than outdoors. Staying indoors for prolonged periods when fresh air outdoors is already laden with dust particles and toxic pollutants can also be unhealthy.

*Percentage of People suffering from  
AIR RELATED AILMENTS in Delhi-NCR!!!*



**HOW CAN SMOG HARM YOUR HEALTH ?**

<b>Particulate Matter</b>	It causes plaque in the arteries, which causes them to harden and eventually leads to a heart attack.
<b>Nitrogen Oxides</b>	It lowers resistance to infection, weakens immunity.
<b>Sulphur Dioxide</b>	It leads to irritation and itching, impaired lung functioning.
<b>Carbon Monoxide</b>	It reduces the ability to carry oxygen, weakens the immunity.
<b>Ozone</b>	It is an intense irritant, and can damage the eyes and nose.

(III) One can get rid of stale air and say goodbye to indoor air pollution with air purifying plants. Having green, air purifying plants is a long-term and environment-friendly option. Plants improve the indoor air quality. These plants include, Parlour Palm, Peace Lilies, Spider Plants, Syngoniums, Ferns, Philodendrons, Chinese Evergreens, Money Plants, Aloe vera, Rubber Plants and Areca Palms. NASA has recommended all these plants as best air purifying plants in their 'Clean Air Study' and other research.

(IV) Dust levels can be reduced by up to 20 per cent when plants are introduced in the surroundings. CO<sub>2</sub> levels can be reduced by 50%. Plants also help in reduction of dust, bacteria and mould, which would otherwise be inhaled by us. Plants reduce the toxic pollutants from plastics, paint, furniture, carpets, and certain cleaning products significantly. With correct placement of plants, the indoor air maintains higher humidity (up to 20%). By reducing the dry air caused by air conditioning and increasing humidity, illnesses such as asthma, tickly coughs can be completely avoided. Bring home a few plants, and get all their benefits. Breathe better and fresh indoors!

- (i) Identify the quote which matches the theme of the given passage.
- (a) Without assistance you are just another person with an opinion.
  - (b) Surveys are a mixture of science and art.
  - (c) Together we can make air breathable again.
  - (d) Smog and fog are easily separated by colour.
- (ii) It is possible to reduce the dust levels completely with plants in the surroundings. True/False
- (iii) Indoor pollution is more hazardous because \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1. Outdoor air is laden with dust particles and toxic pollutants.
  - 2. The smog decreases visibility in an area.
  - 3. The polluted air has also crept indoors.
  - 4. Air purifying plants help to get rid of stale air.

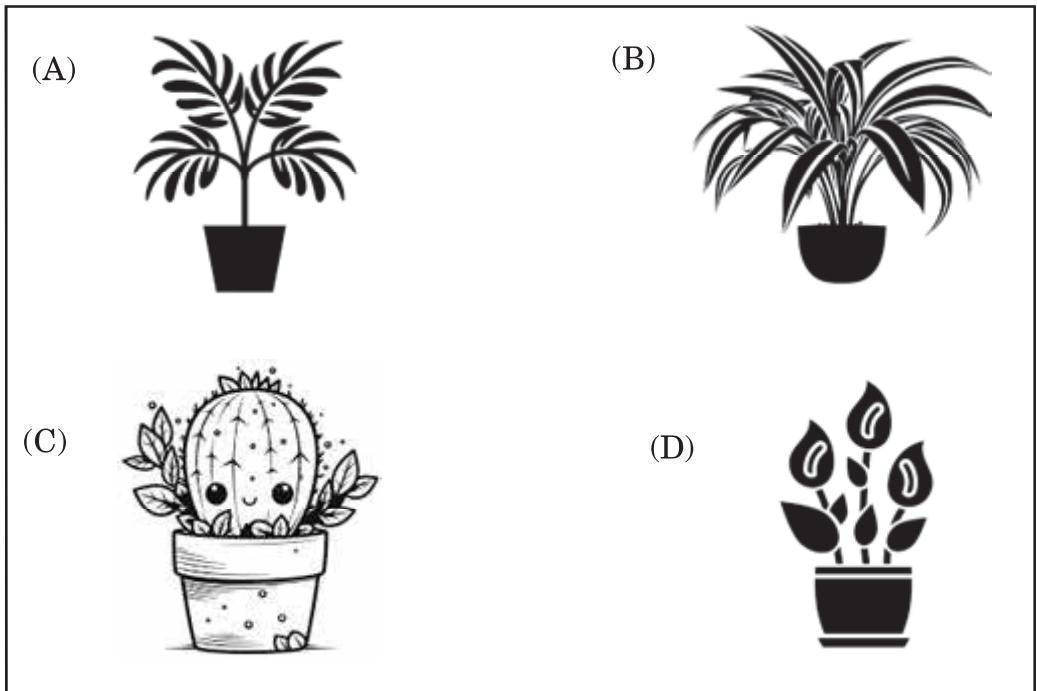
Choose the correct option from below:

- (a) 1 and 2
- (b) 1 and 3
- (c) 2 and 4
- (d) 3 and 2

- (iv) The following options are marked Assertion (A) and Reason (R).  
Read the statements and choose the correct option.





- (A)  $\text{CO}_2$  levels can be reduced by 50%.  
(R) Plants reduce the toxic pollutants from plastics, paint, furniture, carpets, and certain cleaning products significantly.

- (a) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).  
(b) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).  
(c) Both (A) and (R) are true.  
(d) Both (A) and (R) are false.
- (v) Which of the following IS NOT an air purifying plant ?



- (vi) Name any two plants favourable in reducing toxins from the environment.
- (vii) Increase in humidity indoors due to correct placement of plants benefits in \_\_\_\_\_.

(viii) Pair the components of smog with their harmful effects.

Column A	Column B
(1) Carbon Monoxide	(A) 
(2) Particulate Matter	(B) 
(3) Sulphur Dioxide	(C) 
(4) Ozone	(D) 

Choose the correct option :

- (a) 1-C, 2-D, 4-A, 3-B
- (b) 1-D, 2-C, 3-A, 4-B
- (c) 1-A, 2-B, 3-C, 4-D
- (d) 1-D, 2-C, 3-B, 4-A

- (ix) Choose the word which DOES NOT mean the same as ‘threatening’.
- (a) dangerous (b) hazardous  
(c) harmless (d) vicious
- (x) As per the bar graph given related to the percentage of people in different cities suffering from air related ailments, write the names of all the cities in ascending order.
- (xi) Find a synonym of the phrase ‘sneak in’ from paragraph-2 of the given passage.
- (xii) The passage advocates \_\_\_\_\_.

**SECTION-B (WRITING AND GRAMMAR) (30 Marks)**

3. Complete the dialogue between Tapan, the president of Eco club, and Tulsi Gowda, an environmentalist who was awarded Padma Shri, the country’s fourth highest civilian award.

**Tapan:** Ma’am, I feel honoured to get the privilege to talk to you today. For how long have you been working as an environment crusader ?

**Tulsi Gowda: (a)** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Tapan :** 60 years of service at Karnataka Forest Department ? It’s commendable, ma’am. Undoubtedly, you have contributed immensely to afforestation and wasteland development. How do you feel after being awarded Padam Shri ?

**Tulsi Gowda : (b)** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Tapan :** That’s why it’s so well desrved, ma’am.

**(c)** \_\_\_\_\_ ?

**Tulsi Gowda :** I can’t describe how I gathered knowledge about forests. I just feel as if I can speak the language of the forest.

**Tapan :** You are rightly called the “Encyclopedia of the Forest.”

**(d)** \_\_\_\_\_.

**Tulsi Gowda :** I just want the youth to do their bit to conserve our mother nature as there is no substitute.

**OR**

**(4 Marks)**



Write an **email** to the principal of a neighbouring school about an inter-school debate competition being hosted by your school, requesting him/her to send entries for participation. (Word Limit:50 words)

4. Peer pressure is a part and parcel of growing up and can be daunting to deal with. The desire to ‘fit in’, feel accepted and valued by their friends makes teenagers try things they wouldn’t otherwise do like smoking, drinking, substance abuse, bunking classes and behaving in antisocial ways. Write a letter to the editor of a national newspaper expressing your concern about negative peer pressure. Also, highlight the role played by parents and schools to help children cope with peer pressure. Take ideas from the unit ‘Changing Times’ of ‘My English Reader’. (Word Limit: 100- 120 words)

**OR**

(8 Marks)

“Keep your face always towards the sunshine and shadows will fall behind you.” We see youth getting disheartened and frustrated after failing in an exam. Some suffer from ‘atychiphobia’, an unhealthy fear of failure. Success is tasted by those who work hard consistently and have an undeterred faith in their abilities. Write a speech highlighting the ingredients of a successful life; the need to develop an indomitable spirit, a sound value system and an enterprising personality brimming with self confidence. Take ideas from the unit ‘Enterprise’ of ‘My English Reader’. (Word Limit: 100-120 words)

5. The following passage has not been edited. There is a missing word in each line. Write the missing word along-with the word before and after. ( $\frac{1}{2} \times 8 = 4$ )

		<i>Before</i>	<i>Missing Word</i>	<i>After</i>
Designing custom posters can an	(a)	_____	_____	_____
effective way to get message	(b)	_____	_____	_____
you need out there and the	(c)	_____	_____	_____
hands your target audience.	(d)	_____	_____	_____

6. Reorder the following sentences in the correct sequence. (1×4=4)

**HOW TO WRITE AN AD JINGLE!**

- (a) The best jingles are simple and easy to remember.
- (b) Know your audience’s response to create a message that resonates with them.
- (c) To write a great jingle, you need to know what your product is and what makes it unique.
- (d) Another thing you’ll want to do before writing is to study your competitors.

7. Read the given conversation between a caterpillar sibling and then report it by completing the sentences that follow using appropriate expressions. (1×4=4)

*Caterpillar: I am bored. I want to change everything.*

*Caterpillar's Sister: Oh! It is a part of every caterpillar's life. They get bored.*

*Caterpillar: What?*

*Caterpillar's sister: Wait and watch yourself!*

- The caterpillar told his sister (a) \_\_\_\_\_ and wanted to change everything. The sister exclaimed that (b) \_\_\_\_\_. She further added that (c) \_\_\_\_\_. The puzzled caterpillar questioned about it to which she advised him (d) \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Choose the correct word from the options given below to complete the following passage. (1×3=3)
- As Mary Elizabeth Brown (a) \_\_\_\_\_ (draws/is drawing/drew) the bow across the violin's strings, a dark and mellow sound emanates through the room. Brown (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (is playing/has played/has been playing) the violin for more than 35 years, but never one like this. 3-D printed in polymer plastic for less than \$50 this violin is part of a project to improve access to music education. A traditional violin (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (is constructed/constructed/constructs) from wood can be prohibitively expensive!
9. Do as directed. (1×3=3)
- (a) They stopped when the sun set.  
(Identify the independent clause in the given statement)
- (b) I did not attend the school yesterday \_\_\_\_\_ I had to attend a family function. (Fill with a suitable linker)
- (c) My mother decided to buy the dress!  
(Identify whether the underlined word/phrase is a Gerund/Participle/Infinitive)

**SECTION-C (LITERATURE)**

**(30 Marks)**

10. Attempt **ANY ONE** extract out of the two given below. (1×4=4)
- With kneeling and bowing five times  
For the Grace of the Almighty only, My Mother.  
Your strong piety is your children's strength,  
You always shared your best with whoever needed the most,  
You always gave, and gave with faith in Him.

- (a) 'With kneeling and bowing five times' refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) Pick an example of repetition from the given stanza.
- (c) What was the foundation of mother's faith?
- (d) Find the antonym of the word 'ungodliness' from the given lines.

**OR**

Who will buy these delicate, bright  
 Rainbow tinted circles of light?  
 Lustrous tokens of radiant lives,  
 For happy daughters and happy wives.

- (a) 'Circles of light' refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) What does 'lustrous tokens of radiant lives' mean?
- (c) For whom will the 'rainbow tinted circles of light' be bought?
- (d) Identify the poetic device used in line-2 of the given stanza.

11. Attempt **ANY ONE** extract out of the two given below. (1×4=4)

***Speaker:1 By the way, dear. Have you spoken to Annie yet?***

***Speaker:2 No, not yet. Give me a chance. I have been busy. But I haven't forgotten. I'll tell her this evening.***

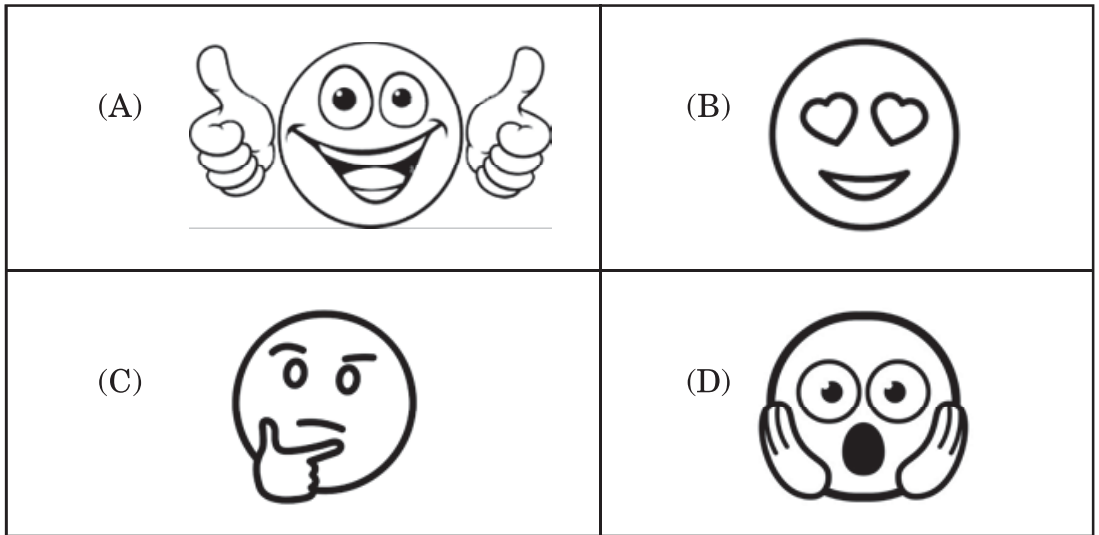
- (a) Speaker 1 refers to \_\_\_\_\_ and speaker 2 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) How was Annie associated with both the speakers?
- (c) What did speaker 2 have to tell Annie about?
- (d) Speaker 2 did not speak to Annie immediately. Why?.

**OR**

***"What has he done, father? Well, there is a full account of everything he has done in the letter. Give it to your headmaster and go to your class. You must bring an acknowledgement from him in the evening."***

- (a) Father wrote a letter. Whom was that letter addressed to?
- (b) What was the purpose of writing the letter?

- (c) 'You must bring an acknowledgement from him in the evening.' State a reason for father's insistence to get the acknowledgement.
- (d) Identify Swami's expression when his father handed him the letter and asked to bring an acknowledgement.



12. Attempt **ANY SIX** short answer type questions out of the seven given below.  
 [Word Limit: 30-40] (2×6=12)
- (a) Granny's family sighed with relief after the doctor's visit. Why?  
 (Granny's Tree Climbing)
- (b) Give a pen-portrait of the American. (The Case of the Sharp-Eyed Jeweller)
- (c) Explain: "For forms of government let fools contest; whate'er is best administered is the best." (Couplets)
- (d) How have middle aged women been described in the poem 'Bangle Sellers'?
- (e) Being wise and experienced, the hermit did not answer the king's questions immediately. Give reasons. (Three Questions)
- (f) The poet's childhood days were replete with challenges. What kind of challenges did the poet face as a child? (My Mother)
- (g) Mrs Hill was an accommodating and considerate woman. Comment. (A Bad Dream)

13. ***“Prayer can move mountains!”*** Poem ‘The Children’s Song’ is a children’s prayer to God to enable them to serve the country. Children pray to God to bless them with virtues of compassion, sacrifice, brotherhood etc., that will help them serve their nation wholeheartedly. Elucidate the virtuous aspect of the poem. (Word Limit: 70-80)

**OR**

(4 Marks)

***“Inner conscience is the best guide!”*** After giving a false account of his teacher Samuel, Swami went to school feeling the worst perjurer on Earth. His inner conscience bothered him. Throw light on the character of Swami. (Father’s Help) (Word Limit: 70-80)

14. Observing people, their behaviour and actions is an art. As William Morris (The Case of the Sharp Eyed Jeweller), write a letter to your friend sharing about the eventful day when you caught a lady red handed, who had attempted to steal the flower ring. (Word Limit:100-120)

**OR**

(6 Marks)

Food is therapy for the soul. As the woman (The Luncheon), write a diary sharing the time you spent at Foyot’s and all the delicacies you relished eating with your friend, gaily talking about arts and literature. (Word Limit:100-120)