**STEWART SCHOOL**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**QUESTION BANK (2020-21)**

**Class – X**

**(Solved)**

1. Q) Do as directed.
2. My father will send me to college.

He will also send my sister to college (Join the sentence)

Ans.) My father will send me as well as my sister to college.

1. They demanded to know what had happened. (use insist)

Ans.) They insisted on knowing what had happened.

1. “Don’t drive rashly” he said to her. (Begin: He warned)

Ans.) He warned her not to drive rashly.

1. The farmer had worked the hole day. He was exhausted.

(Join the sentence)

Ans.) As the famer had worked the hole day, he was exhausted.

1. You will succeed. You must work hard.(Use unless)

Ans.) Unless you work hard, you will not succeed.

1. He was hurt. He helps the victim. (Join the sentence)

Ans.) Although he was hurt, he helps the victim.

vii) Both the sons never help her in the morning. (Begin: Neither …)

Ans.) Neither of the sons help her in the morning.

viii) Although Joe is toll, he is not strong. (Begin: Tall as)

Ans.) Tall as Joe is, he is not strong.

ix) You should stay at home and complete your project.

(Begin: It would)

Ans.) It would be better if you stay at home and complete

your project.

x)Many people died in Chine due to floods. (Begin: Floods…)

Ans.) Flood caused death of many people in China.

1. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words.
2. Temperature fell \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ freezing.

Ans.) Below.

1. The man was charged \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ robbery.

Ans.) With.

iii) Most people are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their charges.

Ans.) Against.

iv) The boy dived \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the ball but missed it.

Ans.) for

v) She is never blind \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ my faults.

Ans.) To.

vi) This painting is costlier \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the two.

Ans.) Of

vii)The rebels were held \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the forests for many years.

Ans.) Up.

viii) The massacre was a crime \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ humanity.

Ans.) Against.

ix) He is adept \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ music.

Ans.) In.

x) I exchanged rupees \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ dollars.

Ans.) For.

1. In the following passage fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given the brackets.

I (0) \_\_\_\_\_\_ (go) into the Administrative Block and (1) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) then (2) \_\_\_\_ (lead) into the office of the Superintendent. He was (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (sit) there, reading the newspaper. The large desk in front of him was (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (pile) high with a great assortment of papers, most of which looked official and scientific, a heap of them partially (5) \_\_\_\_ (cover) the telephone. As the superintendent (6) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (stand) up, I (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (see) that he was an immensely tall man. He (8) \_\_\_\_\_\_ (come) towards me and (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (stare) at me, (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (breathe) heavily through his nose.

1. – Went, (1) – Was, (2) – Led, (3) – Sitting, (4) – Piled up, (5) – Covered, (6) – Stood, (7) – Saw, (8) – Came, (9) – Stared, (10) – Breathing.
2. Join the sentences to make one complete sentence without using “and”, “but” or “so”
3. He got married suddenly. This took everyone surprise.

[His sudden marriage took everyone by surprise.]

1. He completed the work on time. There were many obstacles.

[In spite of many obstacles, he completed the work on time.]

1. Ritu’s plan is perfect. She wants everyone to realise this.

[Ritu wants everyone to realise that her plan is perfect.]

1. Sophia is a quiet girl. She is an introvert.

[Being an introvert, Sophia is a quiet girl.]

1. I met Sheila’s mother. She works in a school nearby.

[I met Sheila’s mother who works in a school nearby.]

1. Write the following composition in 300 – 350 words
2. Describe a situation when you were deprived of a necessary.
3. Should Mobile Phones be banned for the school children?
4. Look before you leap.
5. Describe the joys, hardships of a farmer.
6. Write a short story which begins with “I don’t believe in ghost stories…..”
7. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of competition.
8. Our deeds determine us as much as we determine our deeds. Narrate an incident to support this statement.
9. Is Nuclear Family system better than the Joint family system?
10. Write the following letter.
11. Write a letter to the Principal of your School suggesting introduction of gardening as a hobby class.
12. There was power cut for 7 days. Write a letter to your friend describing your experience at this time.
13. Write a letter to the editor highlighting the problems caused due to Price rise.
14. Write a letter to the manager of a bank to sanction a study loan for you.
15. Notice / E-mail writing.
16. Write an email to the manager of the shopping mall seeking permission to organise the Painting competition.
17. Write a notice for school notice board inviting students to take part in the painting competition.
18. Your school organising an inter school cricket tournament. Write notice to be put up in your school informing the students about it.

**SAMPLE COMPOSITION TOPICS**

**(Unsolved)**

Write a composition (300 - 350 words) on any one of the following: [20]

(a) Write an original short story which clearly illustrates the friendship between a boy and his dog.

(b) You mistakenly went to your school on a day which was a holiday. Everything was closed and the school was empty. Write a description of what you saw and heard. What were your feelings at the end of the visit?

(c) Your room has been very untidy for a long time and your parents have been urging you to tidy it. Narrate your experience of cleaning and tidying your room. What did this experience teach you?

(d) Express your views either for or against the statement: “Life’s best lessons are learnt from friends.”

(e) Write an original short story entitled: “Lost and Found”.

(f) ‘Democracy cannot survive without education’. Express your views either for or against this statement.

(g) You are a regular traveller in your school bus. Describe what you see on your way home from school each afternoon. Give details of the familiar sights and sounds you experience each day.

(h) Imagine that you have changed your school recently. Narrate your experiences on your first day in the new school. How did you feel at the end of the day?

**SAMPLE OF LETTER, NOTICE AND EMAIL WRITING**

***Informal Letter***

Imagine that you are in a boarding school and have performed poorly in your terminal examination. Write a letter to your mother, explaining the reasons for your poor performance, and tell her how you plan to do better in the forthcoming examinations.

Jingle Bells Residential School

Igatpuri – 422 402

10th October, 2020

My Dear Mummy,

I know that you are very disappointed with my half yearly report that you must have received last week. I am truly sorry for a poor performance and I am feeling very depressed at having let you down so badly. I do not want to make excuses, but this last term I have been in and out of the infirmary several times. I had a bad attack of malaria and was unable to attend classes for about a week. Barely had I got over this when I broke out in a rash because of the medication and I had to go back into the infirmary. As result of this I missed many classes and I scored very poorly in three subjects. I have now picked up health and have requested my teachers to give me some extra assignments. I also plan to do group study with some of the other boarders of my class. I am sure that this will help me to catch up with my studies and I promise you I will score much better marks in the next unit tests.

Please do not be worried about my health, I am much better. I look forward to meeting you during the mid-term break.

Yours lovingly, / Yours affectionately, / Your loving son,

Sanjiv

***Formal Letter***

Write a letter to the Police Commissioner of your city drawing his / her attention to the menace of hawkers outside your school. Tell him / her what dangers they pose and offer solutions for their rehabilitation.

Flat 236, Block C,

Hill Crest View Apartments, Salem Street,

Coonoor-26.

23rd February, 2018.

The Police Commissioner,

Police Commissioner’s Office,

6, Cavalry Road,

Coonoor-3

Sir,

I like to draw your attention to the menace of hawkers outside St. Paul’s School in Nehru Nagar of our town. I am the Secretary, Swachh Bharat Club, St. Paul’s School. The hawkers openly sell food and cheap toys. A number of our school students cluster around them and the lane in front of our school is blocked, dirty and congested. I would request you to look into this problem and have the hawkers moved into the field behind our school. This is to ensure that they are not deprived of their livelihood and the area in front of our school is kept clean and congestion free. The hawkers must also be warned about the importance of cleanliness and necessary hygiene and the sale of hygienic food. This will ensure that students do not fall sick after having the food sold by the hawkers.

I trust that you will consider my suggestion and take the necessary steps as outlined in my letter to you to deal with the menace of hawkers outside the school.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully, / Yours truly,

Santosh Haldar

**Notice and Email writing sample**

Your school is conducting an inter-class talent search. Write out a notice to be put up in your school informing students about the event and inviting them to participate.

EVERYBODY’S GOT TALENT

Inter-class Talent Search

on Tuesday, 21st July 2020

from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

at Auditorium of Stewart School Bhubaneswar

Here's a great platform to showcase your talent. Interested students from Std - 8, 9 and 10 may register with the Vice Principal on or before 14th July 2020.

In case of further information contact the Cultural Secretary.

Write an e-mail to the Principal of a neighbouring school requesting him / her to send a team of teachers to judge the event

To:principal@stjoseph.org

Subject: Request to appoint judges for a talent search event.

Madam,

I am Maya Gilani, the Cultural Secretary of the Student Council, Stewart School, Bhubaneswar. We are conducting a talent search contest for the students of Std. 8, 9 and 10. This is scheduled on the 24th of July, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Music, Art, Dance, Magic, Acrobatics and Stand-up Comedy.

We request you to send a team of three teachers from your school to judge the talent search, Everybody’s Got Talent.

Anticipating a positive response,

Yours faithfully,

Maya Gilani

Cultural Secretary, Student Council

Stewart School Bhubaneswar

***SAMPLE GRAMMAR FORMAT***

(a) 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 correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. Example: (0) looked

Suraj (0) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (look) out of the door. He (1)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(catch) sight of the board (2) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (bear) the station’s name. He was so (3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (astonish) that he almost (4) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (fall) out of the compartment. He was back in his home town! After (5) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (travel) for forty or fifty kilometers, here he (6) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (is) home again. He (7) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (can) not understand it. He (8) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (climb) out of the compartment slowly.

(b) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word: [4]

(i) Bobby waited in front \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the school.

(ii) The children were told to return home \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it became dark.

(iii) He wore an old muffler wrapped \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ his neck.

(iv) We saw the bird fly high \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the tower and disappear.

(v) Music therapy is a cure \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ many ills.

(vi) The thief ran \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the staircase and out into the yard.

(vii) Mr. Roy jumped into his car and drove \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as fast as he could.

(viii) Please do not get carried \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by these rumours.

(c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using and, but or so: [4]

(i) The teacher arrived. The class started.

(ii) The drive was so tedious. I fell asleep on the backseat.

(iii) He was found in possession of the stolen goods. He was punished.

(iv) Stop talking. Leave the classroom.

(d) Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. [8]

(i) “I saw a panther this morning”, he said modestly. (Rewrite using indirect speech.)

(ii) Kiran is the fastest runner in our school. (Begin: No other……………(iii) Susan hid her grandmother’s spectacles. (Begin: Her grandmother’s……)

(iv) Ali was too embarrassed to speak clearly.

(Begin: Ali was so…………………)

(v) As soon as the election results were out, the victory procession started. (Begin: No sooner…………………)

(vi) Ranji prefers reading a book to watching a movie.

(Begin: Ranji would rather……….)

(vii) Anu does not study enough, but she still stands first.

(Begin: Despite…………………)

(viii) If Aruna practices, she will win the competition. (Begin: Unless…………………)

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**QUESTION BANK-2**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

***Question 1.***

*(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question) [20]*

*Write a composition (300-350 words) on any one of the following:*

1. *Write an original story that highlights the truth of the proverb – ‘The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence.’*

Answer:

He wasn’t poor, Ravi told himself, just between jobs, for a long time now. Recession had hit him hard, like it had most others and brought with it an aftermath of collapsed finances, and a deluge of consequences. He was now left with nothing, but the charity of family, who took him in, pitying his condition. He handed in his application at a he could head home. The trees sheltered him from the sun, and other people’s view. A gentle breeze ruffled his hair. He breathed deep, and waited hopefully for his luck to turn. He gazed at the lovely house overlooking the park. It was every man’s dream house. Built on two levels, it looked beautiful and elegant, with the garden around it providing a perfect setting. How he wished he could live in such a house! How he wished owned that property!

Ruhi sat on the couch, in the patch of sunlight that streamed in through the window. The walls closed in on her, as she thought of the pressures of work, home and family. She went through the bills and wondered how she would be able to make all the payments on time. A couple of deals had not materialized and her commission wasn’t quite enough to cover everything. After all this, she had to pay the school fees, and fulfill the unceasing demands of the kids. Feeling oppressed, she clutched at the cold pearls around her neck, yearning to tug at them and see them scatter over the marbled floor. A tug was all that it would take, to dispel all notions of perfection, for things were far from perfect.

Ravi gazed at the perfect little house beyond the fence. He saw a beautifully dressed woman by the window. She was dressed elegantly, the pearls around her neck gleaming in the fading sunlight. It was picture perfect. He marveled at her perfect home and thought of her perfect life with envy. How he wished for it all!

A bee buzzed at the window, flinging itself at the glass. Ruhi drew the curtains close and thought she was just like a month fluttering at light, within reach. Was the light within reach, anyway? Futile movements, she thought to herself. She looked at the park and noticed people sitting peacefully n benches, relaxing. Would she ever have such freedom?

Ravi got up to leave. He had to get ‘home’. What must it be like, he wondered, to have it all? A home. A family to belong. He walked up the path to get.

Ruhi shut the door and got into her SUV. She had to meet a client to clinch a deal. She looked at Ravi saunter out of the park and stroll casually up the road. How does it feel, she asked herself, to walk away, like that? So very casually. Into the open spaces. Towards freedom. To be yourself completely!

Ravi looked at Ruhi drive away. ‘What a life!’ He said to himself, while he boarded his bus. He shut his eyes and continued to dream.

‘What is this life?’ thought Ruhi to herself and shut her eyes at the traffic signal. After a minute, the cars behind her honked and she opened her eyes to face reality.

Well, the reality is that the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence!

1. *‘Appreciation is one of the most neglected virtues of our daily existence’. Give your views either for or against the statement.*

**Answer:**

When has anyone said a nice thing to you about what you have achieved? When have you been thanked for doing a good turn? When has your effort last been recognized? When have you had the feeling that you were valued and that you mattered? The answer would probably be, not in a long time. If you can recall a single incident of being appreciated in the recent past, consider yourself lucky, for you are truly blessed. Appreciation is indeed, one of the most neglected virtues of our daily existence.

And this brings me to the next question. When have you shown appreciation for others? When did you last compliment your Mom on her efforts to make you a fabulous meal? When have you appreciated your Dad for getting you what you wanted? Did you ever thank the service staff at school, for working behind the scenes? Did you appreciate your teacher who put in so many efforts to ensure you understood the subject? The answer to this question would probably be in the negative, as well. This is why I am for the topic- Appreciation is one of the most neglected virtues of our daily existence.

If you have taken the time to be thoughtful and shown appreciation, you are truly blessed, as you have spread sunshine and brought a glimmer of joy into another person’s life. Appreciation is to the soul, what nourishment and care are to the body. It boosts self-esteem in people, making them think life is worth living. Kind words of appreciation linger long, even after years, even changing people’s lives, dramatically.

Unfortunately, people shy away from appreciation, mistaking it for flattery. They hesitate to say something nice for it being misunderstood for flattery. Flattery is shallow, selfish and insincere. Some people fall into the web of flattery, but the euphoria does not last. Appreciation is sincere and comes from the heart. It is unselfishly given without any expectations of gain. True appreciation happens when we stop thinking of ourselves and notice the efforts put in by the others.

You know how it feels when you have studied hard, and managed to score better than before. You know how it feels when your parents appreciate you. How would you feel, if they asked you instead, who the topper was, and then remark why you couldn’t score like that? You would feel unappreciated. Remember this feeling when others around you are putting in efforts to better themselves or trying to make a difference to your life. Take the time and the effort to notice and acknowledge their efforts. When a tired waiter tries hard to be courteous, acknowledge it. When your Mom wakes up early to make you your breakfast, appreciate her efforts by thanking her. If your busy father offers to drive you to the library, thank him for his efforts.

Try being genuinely warm and appreciative. Motivate others to do their best. Remember the old saying- ‘I shall pass this way but once; any good, therefore, that I can do or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again’.

Appreciation is one of the most neglected virtues of our daily existence. Let us do our best to change the way things are, and make a positive difference to the world.

1. *Describe, in detail, a traditional meal that you had recently.*

**Answer:**

The chanting went on for a long time. I secretly mused over what would be served for lunch. For the welcome sounds of cooks at work, and aromas wafting from the huge community kitchen, adjoining the hall, made me feel ravenously hungry.

After an interminable wait, it was time for lunch. Everybody sat in rows and banana leaves were spread in front of us. I sat next to Mother and sprinkled water on my leaf, perfunctorily cleaned it, and waited. Boys clad in ‘dhotis’, traditional attire, began serving. Salt was placed at the top left hand corner of the leaf. The next boy brought the pickle, which was finely sliced mango with a medley of green chillies and spices.

The next items to be served were the ‘Kosambaris’- fresh, delicious salads. Giving concession to the modern times, corn, carrot and coconut was the base for one, whereas sprouts, pomegranate and coconut made up the other.

The dry curries followed. Boiled and seasoned potatoes, and beans with cabbage, both heavily garnished with coconut. All my favourite vegetables!

The creamiest of ‘kheer’, with rice that had been simmered in milk for hours, sweetened with sugar, and flavoured with cardamom was ladled onto the leaf, at the bottom right. It was my favourite sweet, and my mouth watered!

‘Vangibath’, a spiced rice dish, made with capsicum and green peas was served next. The vegetables gleamed like precious jewels on a bed glistening rice. Fried ‘papads’, savoury crips, and rice crispies were balanced precariously on the ‘Vangibath’. Pineapple ‘Gojju’ – a spicy, sweet and sour curried dish was next, followed by hot steaming rice placed in a mound at the centre of the leaf. A little bland ‘dal’, cooked and tempered pulses, with green chilies and coriander was ladled onto the rice and a boy generously added dollops of ghee on the rice and ‘Kheer’. Everybody sprinkled water around the heavily laden banana leaves and muttered a prayer. It was time to partake of the sumptuous spread.

Hot, thick, steaming ‘Sambar’, a stew with a host of vegetables like gourds, beans, pumpkin and peanuts was followed by the light peppry ‘rasam’. I loved the ‘Rasam’! Coconut stuffed ‘Holige’, a traditional sweet, was next. Green chilly fritters were served to counter the sweetness. I crunched on the fritters and gulped down some water. My mouth was on fire! Mother had a little ‘Badam’ milk, almond flavoured milk, poured over her ‘Puran Poli’ and refused the ghee that was offered. I ate everything. ‘Laddoos’ were served next and I asked for two. Mother gave me a glare, but I pretended not to see. I bit into the sweet sweet laddos and was transported to sugary heaven!

It was finally time for rice and curd. The most perfect curd, fresh and thick, was lovingly spooned onto the rice and I mixed it with my fingers and slurped away. After the meal we were served ‘paan’, betel leaves with a sweet filling, and got up rather unsteadily and walked over to the taps to wash our hands.

I groaned all the way home, because I had eaten to my fill, more than my fill in fact. I told Mother I couldn’t ever eat again in my entire life and she grinned, saying, ‘Tell me this in a couple of hours!’

1. *You regret something that you did. Nature the incident, the reasons for your action and your feelings.*

**Answer:**

I sat on the high chair at Blue Heaven, a beauty salon, my hair like a cloud around me. Amelie set to work with her scissors and, after ten minutes, my hair lay on the floor and I felt like a shorn sheep. My head felt lighter and I looked up to encounter a stranger in the looking glass, in front of me. I could barely recognize myself! The only thought that echoed in my mind was – What would Mother say? You see, I had done the unthinkable, for I had dared to cut my hair.

Hair has always been considered to be the crowing glory for most girls, and I was no exception. However, I felt overwhelmed with the process of taking care of my locks. Saturday was the busiest day of the week for my mother, since the women of my family are blessed with luxuriant tresses. I would let down my well- oiled hair and sit in the backyard waiting for Mother to get the soap nut concoction that would be simmering on the stove, since the crack of drawn. I would have three buckets of hot water waiting, my mother would pour scalding hot water on my head, wetting my hair, and scrub every strand using the soap nut solution. I would shut my eyes tight as even a single drop would cause an unbearable burning in my eyes and I would have to walk around with red eyes for a couple of days.

My hair took at least four hours to dry. My mother would place some burning coal in an urn and sprinkle some powder, on it. The ensuring fumes would permeate every strand, leaving it smelling divine, like the scent of increase burning in dark corners of old temples.

I would sit in front of the TV on Sunday mornings and watch wistfully the shampoo advertisements on TV. The models made washing your hair look so easy and the whole rituals was joyful. But no, I was told that shampoo would make my hair turn reddish brown and even worse, lead to hairfall. My hair made everything complicated. I couldn’t tuck my strands into my cap when I went swimming. I couldn’t get ready in a jiffy, unlike my friends. Combing my hair made me crazy, for it took twenty minutes at least, while my friends would run a comb through their hair and get ready.

After a long ordeal one Saturday morning, I decided to take matters in my hand. I visited Blue Heaven and said goodbye to my curls.

When I returned home, my mother took one horrified look at me and refused to speak to me for a month. I regretted my decision then. I wanted freedom, but not at the cost of hurting her. I tried to make amends, by helping her more in the house. I studied hard, in order to compensate, but I knew I had broken her heart. I regret that. Even now. However I was relieved I never had to endure the Saturday morning ordeal anymore. And I used shampoo. Finally.

1. *Study the picture given below. Write a short story or 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.*

**Answer:**

She watched and waited as a school of fish swam by. A shoal waltzed away, but didn’t invite her, for she didn’t belong. She hovered, quiet, immobile, fins moving gently. Her eyes loomed large and unblinking, and blowing a bubble, she puffed up. The ripple in the water pushed her ever so lightly, and she rolled away into the safety of the rushes.

From behind the rushes she watched the world. She was glad of the distance between her and the rest. She kept her rudder stable, and moved her fins ever so lightly, just to stay in place, all the time, behind the rushes. She was talented but didn’t want anybody to notice her.

The other fish would not leave her alone. They tried to gnaw on her spines, causing her pain. She puffed up in anguish, a bubble escaped her mouth and rose to the surface. Her wail of agony became a song of joy on hitting the surface.

A man on the boat above, in a really different world, had never heard anything like that, he waited, and waited, and waited some more, soon his patience was rewarded.

In a sea of torment, for the others wouldn’t leave her alone, she blew the most beautiful bubbles reflecting the colours of the rainbow that popped into a thousand songs, on reaching the surface.

The boats, now in a circle, waited in wonder, and were treated to the most beautiful orchestra they had ever heard.

Underwater, the others gathered ominously around her, shaking their heads in disapproval. They looked at the rushes and, aghast, watched the bubbles rise. ‘it must be the rushes,’ they said, ‘ they are special’.

A foolish one was quickly silenced when she said,’ it was wait, and didn’t you see?’ the bubble maker withdrew deeper into the rushes and waited for the commotion to end.

Then they called out her, but the bubble maker said nothing. She could say nothing and just continued making bubbles. By accident, the rushes moved and they glimpsed an ordinary puffer fish, desperately trying to below out a bubble.

‘No! it cannot be you! Not you! Not somebody like you! You are too ugly’ they clamored.

The bubble maker moved away deeper into the rushes.

So they got a new bubble maker, just to teach her a lesson.

A swanky new nest of rushes, an unlimited air supply, gallons of fresh water and a palette full of rainbow tints for the new one. The old bubble maker’s air supply was cut off. The reeds withered and rotted away, the water was rendered stagnant.

She who chose to be unseen, became invisible, immersed in clouded waters, she was disillusioned, for she had only been minding her business, doing what she had always done, only making bubbles.

The rejection made the bubbles grow rare, but, like every rare work of sweat and tears, grew more beautiful.

Time was not on her side. After puffing up in one last effort, she froze, thinking of the vast ocean beyond this murky little lake.

On more bubble, she thought. A dark cloud of ink ejected by a helpful little cuttlefish ensured they didn’t have to see her anymore.

She let go and floated above the rushes, belly up and bloated.

She floated to the surface, becoming the bubble, she had spent all her life, perfecting.

The world up there knew her, and had been waiting for her.

‘If only we had found her alive,’ they said,’ of course, even while dead she is beautiful! Have you seen spines such as these?’

So they mounted her in a tank, in the museum where she fixed her big, beautiful eyes, gazing in wonder, at the world. Everybody who was fortune to see her wondered how so much beauty was possible in the world.

**Question 2.**

*(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)*

1. *You were at a fair; one evening, when you saw a child crying. Write a letter to your friend narrating the efforts you made to locate the child’s parents. Describe the reaction of the parents and the child when your efforts met with success. How were you rewarded? What did you feel?*

**Answer :**

34, falcon heights

Crescent road,

Mumbai.

5 th September, 2018

Dear Mabel,

I hope you are doing well now, after the bout of flu you had. We are all fine here, preparing for the festival around the corner.

You know how much I love photography, and how I never miss an opportunity to take pictures that highlight the local culture and traditions. What better setting could I have, than at a fair? So, when a fair was happening in one of the oldest areas of Mumbai, I set off with my camera, in the evening, my mind filled with excitement at all the wonderful sights that I would capture in my camera.

While I was walking by an old banyan tree, I saw a child, sitting on the platform around the tree, a little away from the crowd. I thought the silhouette of the child was sobbing and his face was tear-stained. He must have been only three years old. I spoke to the child in all the languages I knew, nut could get no response. I didn’t know to do, so I thought I would comfort the child by showing him the picture on my camera. The child looked at the camera and looked away. I gave the child a chocolate I had with me, but the child refused. I zoomed in on an interesting face in one of the photographs when the child’s wailing increased. The child pointed to the camera screen and wailed loudly, ’Baba!’

I understood that the child had wandered away from his father and had recognized him on the screen of my camera. I saw the background and decided to take the child back there. It was about twenty minutes away. We walked through the crowd, the child back there. It hand. I looked for the father in a sea of faces, when suddenly, in he crowd, a worried face emerged. I held up the child in my arms and the child screamed ‘BABA!’ a dozen times. The man’s face lit up in joy. He hugged the child and rained kisses on him.

He thanked me profusely in a language I didn’t understand. I smiled and began to walk away when he clutched my hand and put a silver ring in my palm. I refused, but he shook his head and with tears in his eyes, held my hand put the ring on my finger. How could I accept a gift from a stranger? I was taken aback, tried to remove it, but when I looked up, he was gone. I felt happy that I could help a child reunite with his father. I shuddered to think what would have happened if I hadn’t been there. I thanked god for watching over us all. I continued to walk on the streets, capturing magic through my camera lens. I never thought my hobby would come to such use.

So what do you think about my little adventure? Let me know. I am sending you a photograph of the ring. It is beautiful. Do reply soon. Eager to hear from you.

Yours affectionately,

Maya.

1. *Write a letter to the manager of a store, complaining about the poor quality of goods you had recently purchased.*

**Answer:**

87, baker’s street,

T. Nagar,

Pondicherry.

5th September, 2020

Receiver's address

Dear sir,

I bought a suitcase from you last week, on 27th September, 2018. The bill number is 378. The suitcase is of the reputed brand ‘global tourist’ and it cost me seven thousand, five hundred rupees.

I took it on my trip. At the airport, I hoisted it off the luggage conveyer belt when the handle came off. I examined it closely and found that the handle had not been properly fixed. I am extremely annoyed at the inconvenience that was caused all through my trip, not to mention the embarrassment felt and the difficulty I had in handling the suitcase.

This is a brand new suitcase, very expensive and of a reputed brand. I am shocked that you can stock such faulty pieces at your reputed showroom.

I want you to either replace the suitcase with a brand new one, or refund my money. I am enclosing copies of the bill and warranty card. please instruct your team to process my request immediately. Expecting to hear from you promptly,

Yours truly,

Sanjay narayan.

**Question 3.**

1. *You are the President of the Dramatics Club at school. You want to stage a play. Make a notice giving details of the audition for roles.*

**Answer:**

**FACE THE FOOTLIGHTS**

(Audition for building Drama Enthusiasts)

Do you have the acting bug?

Does being on stage make you feel alive?

Do you love Drama?

Then…..

You would love being in the play that we, at the Dramatics Club are putting up.

Auditions on Friday, 30th March, 2018.

At the Aakash hall, In the Grand Auditorium,

On St. Andrew’s Convent Campus

From 10 a.m to 1 p.m

Voice, stage presence and emotive ability will be tested.

You will be given lines to read out loud, props to act with,

and imaginary situations will be provided on the spot.

If you can do all this and more,

the sky’s the limit!

Please register with me by 25th February, 2018.

Arvind Kulkarni

President,

Dramatics Club,

St. Andrew’s Convent,

Bhopal.

1. *Write an e-mail to the manager of a prominent auditorium in your city, seeking information about hiring the venue for a show.*

**Answer:**

To: sugartheatre.bhopal@gmail.com

Subject: Booking of Sagar Auditorium for show.

Dear Sir,

I Arvind Kulkarni, the President of the Dramatics Club of St. Andrew’s convent Bhopal, would like to book your auditorium for three days, in the last week of December or the first week of January, subject to availability of your auditorium.

Please confirm availability of the auditorium during the time indicated and send us the quotation with the charges to book the place for three days, parking fee included. Please indicate your discounts, if any, for educational institution bookings.

We are looking forward to a long and beneficial association with you, for our school committee has decided to put up shows every year at your venue.

Please send us all the relevant details as soon as possible, so that we can go ahead with the booking and other plans.

Looking forward to a positive response,

Thanking you,

Yours truly,

Arvind Kulkarni

President,

Dramatics Club,

St. Andrew’s Convent,

Bhopal.

**Question 4.**

*Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:*

One of the least disguised of the Master Teachers in Disguise is Mistake. Mistakes, obviously, show us what needs improving. Without mistakes, how would we know what we had to work on?

This seems an **invaluable** aid to learning, and yet many people avoid situations in which mistakes might take place. Many people also deny or defend the mistakes they’ve made or may be making.

There is a story told of Edison, who made, say, a thousand unsuccessful attempts before arriving at the light bulb. “How did it feel to fail a thousand times?” a reporter asked. “I didn’t fail a thousand times,” Edison replied. “The light bulb was an invention with a thousand and one steps”.

Why don’t most of us see our own lives in this way? We think it goes back to unworthiness. We assume a façade of perfection in a **futile** attempt to prove our worthiness. “An unworthy person couldn’t be this perfect,” the façade crumbles, a frantic attempt is made to hide the hideous thing (unworthiness) the façade was designed to hide – from ourselves as much as from others.

If we didn’t play this game of denial with ourselves, we would make mistakes and when we make them, admit them freely, and ask not, “Who’s to blame?” or “How can I hide this?” but “What’s the lesson here? How can I do this better?”

The goal becomes excellence, not perfection.

One of the best examples of how strong the taboo against making a mistake has become is the use of the word sin. In Roman times, sin was a term use in archery. It meant simply to miss the mark. At target practice, each shot was either a hit or a sin. If you sinned, you made corrections and tried again.

Today, of course, sin means, to quote the American Heritage, “A condition of estrangement from God as a result of breaking God’s law”. Whew. No wonder people avoid even “the near occasion” of sin. Some people treat mistakes with the same **reverence**. Mistakes are valuable if, for no other reason, they show us what not to do. As Joseph Ray told us, “The Athenians, alarmed at the internal decay of their Republic, asked De-mosthences what to do. His reply: “Do not do what you are doing now”.

In Hollywood, mis-takes are common. (“That was wonderful, darlings. Now let’s get ready for take two.”) Give yourself as many re-takes as you need. Stars do it. (I” didn’t feel quite right with that one, Mr. DeMille. Can we take it again?”) Why not you?

A Hollywood song (lyric by Dorothy Fields) sums it all up: “Pick yourself up, dues yourself off, start all over again.” Or, to quote an African proverb, “Do not look where you fell, but where you slipped”.

If you’re learning. Growing and trying new things- expect mistakes. They’re natural part of the leaning process. In fact, someone once said, “If you’re not making at least fifty mistakes a day, you’re not trying hard enough.” What the person meant, we think, is that growth, discovery and expansion have mistakes built into them.

To avoid situations in which you might make mistakes may be the biggest mistake or all.

1. *Give the meaning of each of the following words as used in the passage. One word answers or short phrases will be accepted.*
2. *Invaluable (ii) futile (iii) reverence*

***Answer:***

1. *Important (ii) useless (iii) respect*
2. *Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words.*
3. *What do mistakes show us? What is the greatest mistake of all?*

*[2]*

1. *What is the attitude of people towards mistakes? How would we benefit by not being in denial? [2]*
2. *What are the example of quotes, in the passage, about lessons learned from mistakes? [2]*
3. *How has the meaning of the word sin evolved? [2]*

**Answer:**

1. Mistakes show us the aspects that need improvement. They also show us what not to do.

The greatest mistake is to avoid situations in which you might make mistakes.

1. Many people avoid situations in which mistakes might take place. They also deny or defend the mistakes they’ve made or may be making. If we didn’t play this game of denial with ourselves, we would make mistakes when we make them, admit them freely, and ask ourselves what lesson would we learn, and how we could better it. The goal would be excellence, not perfection.
2. A Hollywood song, lyrics by Dorothy Fields, sums up the lessons learned from mistakes: “Pick yourself up, dust yourself off, start all over again”. An African proverb says, “Do not look where you fell, but where you slipped.” These are examples of quotes, from the passage that highlight lessons learned from mistakes.
3. In Roman times, the word sin was a term used in archery. It meant simply to miss the mark. At target practice, each shot was either a hit or a sin. If you sinned, you made corrections and tried again. Today, sin means, to quote the American Heritage, “A condition of estrangement from God as a result of breaking God’s law”. This is how the meaning of this word evolved.
4. *In not more than 50 words narrate the story of Edison’s success that highlights his attitude to failure. [8]*

**Answer:**

Edison made about a thousand unsuccessful attempts before arriving at the light bulb.

A reporter asked him how it felt to fail a thousand times. Edison replied that he hadn’t failed a thousand times, and added that the light bulb was an invention with a thousand and one steps.

**Question 5.**

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 correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]*

Example: (0) Mercy \_\_\_\_0\_\_\_\_ (fall) like the gentle rain from heaven.

It \_\_\_\_\_\_ (1) (be) a double blessing, it \_\_\_\_\_\_ (2) (bless) the person who gives and the person who \_\_\_\_\_\_ (3) (take). It is the real strength of mighty and \_\_\_\_\_\_ (4) (power) people. Mercy \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (5) (enthrone) in the hearts of Kings and is an attribute to God himself. We pray to God \_\_\_\_\_\_ (6) (show) mercy to us, but that same \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (7) (pray) must teach us to be merciful to others. This is my attempt at \_\_\_\_\_ (8) (persuade) you to give up the case.

**Answer: 0-falls**

(1) is (2) blesses (3) takes (4) powerful

(5) is enthroned (6) to show (7) prayer (8) persuading

*(b) Fill in each blank with an appropriate word: [4]*

(i) I need to cut \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on salt, to control my escalating hypertension.

(ii) Get this spider \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ my blazer, or I’ll scream!

(iii) We are giving an unexpected party for her, so don’t give our surprise\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

(iv) Your bag may be Chanel, but it doesn’t go \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ your Reebok sneakers.

(v) Keep \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from the cookies, or you won’t be hungry for dinner.

(vi) I’m not well; I’m a little \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the weather.

(vii) I always mix my prepositions \_\_\_\_\_\_\_!

(viii) I was enthralled \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ all your speeches.

**Answer:**

(i) down (ii) off (iii) away (iv) with

(v) away (vi) under (vii) up (viii) with /by

*(c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using and, but or so. [4]*

(i) This is the English Language paper. We can’t predict its outcome accurately.

(ii) I don’t gossip. I don’t listen to gossip.

(iii) I hate finishing a good book. It is like saying goodbye to an old friend.

(iv)We have done many worksheets. Certain concepts still don’t make sense.

**Answer:**

1. This is the English Language paper, the outcome of which cannot be predicted accurately by us.
2. Neither do I gossip, nor listen to it.
3. I hate finishing a good book (as/ since/ because) it is like saying goodbye to an old friend.
4. (Though / Although / Even though) we have done many worksheets, certain concepts still don’t make sense. (In spite of / Despite) having done many worksheets, certain concepts still don’t make sense.

*(d) Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence. [8]*

(i) ‘Teachers are very lucky as they can have all the chalk they want,’ said the little boy to his friend.

(Use Reported Speech.)

(ii) It is important to be successful and happy.

(Begin: Not………)

(iii) You are going to be appreciated more for your confidence, than looks, in the long run.

(Begin: People………..)

(iv) In the end, all that matters is what we think of ourselves.

(v) If I had to choose between buying a book or a new dress, I would prefer the book. (Use: choice)

(vi) Over thinking is the root cause of all mental and emotional turmoil.

(Use: stems)

(vii) Understanding and empathy are qualities one must inculcate.

(Begin: Besides…………)

(viii) This score is better than any other score I’ve ever achieved in English Language.

**Answer:**

1. The little boy told his friend that teachers were very lucky as they could have all the chalk they wanted.
2. Not only is it important to be successful, but also happy.
3. People are going to appreciate you more for your confidence, than looks, in the long run.
4. In the end, nothing matters but what we think of ourselves.
5. If I had to make a choice between buying a book or a new dress, I would prefer the book.
6. All mental and emotional turmoil stems from over thinking.
7. Besides understanding, empathy is a quality one must inculcate.
8. This score is the best I’ve ever achieved in English Language.