

## ENGLISH

### COMPETENCY BASED QUESTIONS (CLASS 8<sup>TH</sup>)

#### THE BEST CHRISTMAS PRESENT IN THE WORLD

**1. How did the table most likely get scorch marks?**

**2. Which of these most clearly conveys the importance of the letter?**

A. Jim stopped writing further letters.

B. It was locked in a tin box.

C. Connie wished to be buried with it.

D. It was written on Christmas eve.

**3. Jim had been feeling upset before the Christmas eve of 1914. Give evidence to support your evidence.**

**4. *'But the truth, I'm ashamed to say, is that Fritz began it.'***

**What does the statement show?**

A. Jim was wary of the Germans.

B. Jim felt guilty about the whole incident

C. Jim admired the Germans' bold gesture.

D. Jim regretted interacting with the Fritz officer

**5. What do grey coats and khaki coats indicate?**

**6. Who are Batsheba, Gabriel Oak and Sergeant Troy?**

A. Characters from Hans's favourite book

B. Officers in the army

C. Jim's neighbours in Dorset

D. Hans's family

**7. What does Jim mainly do in the letter?**

A. Illustrate the struggles of soldiers during wartime

B. Describe his longing to be home for Christmas

C. Narrate an unlikely event of hope and compassion

D. Explain how his army planned to put an end to the war

**8. Based on the events in the text, which statement is true?**

A. Jim's optimism about returning home was misplaced.

- B. Jim did not believe he would survive the war
- C. Jim was proud of his achievements.
- D. Jim's army was being tricked by the Germans

**9. What was the best Christmas present, according to Connie?**

- A. The letter's safe return
- B. Jim's presence during Christmas
- C. The visitor reading the letter for her
- D. Sharing the marzipan cake with the visitor

**10. Which of these does the author do?**

- A. Starts the story with an exciting event
- C. Teaches a life lesson through the characters
- D. Narrates events from the past to set the context
- B. Ends with a revelation that changes the plot

### **THE ANT AND THE CRICKET**

**1. Why did the cricket complain?**

- A. His house was covered in snow.
- B. He did not have anything to eat.
- C. The ant refused to help him.
- D. He could not sing

**2. Which line from the poem most clearly shows that the cricket approached the ant only because he was forced to?**

**3. What belief did ants live by?**

**4. *'...Go then,' says the ant, 'and dance the winter away.'***

**Which of these best describes the ant's tone when it says this?**

- A. Furious
- B. Amused
- C. Encouraging
- D. Sarcastic

**5. Which of these best describes the ant?**

- A. Wicked

- B. Annoying
- C. Modest
- D. Righteous

**6. According to the poet, the incident in the poem**

- A. Illustrates the struggles faced by animals during winter.
- B. Shows how nature teaches us important lessons.
- C. Mirrors real-life experiences of some people.
- D. Explains why some creatures survive longer than others.

**7. What does the poem do?**

- A. Describe
- B. Explain
- C. Instruct
- D. Narrate

**8. Which of these is true about cricket?**

- A. He was not brave enough to face his struggles.
- B. He did not take responsibility for his actions.
- C. He trusted other creatures blindly.
- D. He learned from his life experiences.

**9. Which of these ideas does the poem mainly convey?**

- A. Never borrow food or money.
- B. Always live in the present and enjoy life.
- C. Think ahead and save for the future.
- D. A friend in need is a friend indeed.

**10. 'Some crickets have four legs, and some have two.'**

**According to the poet, who are the crickets with two legs**

## **THE TSUNAMI**

**1. Sanjeev's actions were more heroic than Almas' father's. Do you agree? Justify your answer.**

**2. How are the three sections of the text related to each other?**

- A. They analyse the cause of related incidents.
- B. They compare different but similar incidents.
- C. They place a series of incidents in proper sequence.
- D. They relate the same incident from different perspectives.

**3. Why is the television mentioned in the second paragraph?**

**4. How many people in Almas' family survived?**

**5. Penny Smith's initial reaction to the tsunami was**

- A. Anxiety
- B. Indifference
- C. Terror
- D. Confusion

**6. How did Tilly know what was happening?**

**7. What convinced Penny Smith to leave the beach?**

- A. Seeing how upset his daughter was
- B. The severity of the earthquake
- C. Seeing other people leave
- D. The size of the waves

**8. What is the main idea of the third section?**

- A. Animals in different places react differently to natural calamities
- B. Animals were not affected much by the tsunami

- C. Animals helped save many humans from the tsunami
- D. Animals seem to be able to sense natural calamities early

**9. The second paragraph of the third section begins with**

- A. A well-known fact.
- B. A commonly held opinion.
- C. An unsupported argument.
- D. A new discovery.

**10. In the third section, the writer mainly**

- A. Makes an argument.
- B. Describes new findings
- C. Recounts some incidents
- D. Provides information

## **GEOGRAPHY LESSON**

**1. Where was the poet?**

**2. What was the poet's opinion about the city before he saw it from above?**

- A. He thought it was too crowded.
- B. He thought it developed naturally
- C. He thought it was disorganised.
- D. He thought it was too far from the river

**3. Scaled six inches to the mile**

**What does the phrase mean?**

**4. What is the logic of geography?**

**5. Why is the poem titled geography lesson?**

**6. What phrase best describes the poet?**

- A. Unpredictable
- B. Observant
- C. Meticulous
- D. Ignorant

**7. From that height, it was not clear why.**

**What is 'not clear why'?**

**8. The poem ends on a note of**

- A. Despair
- B. Contemplation
- C. Grief
- D. Uncertainty

**9. What is the main point the poet is making in the poem?**

- A. Geography limits the potential of human development
- B. Geography is a primary factor in the course of human development
- C. Geography highlights human ingenuity and achievement
- D. Geography is a significant factor in harmful human behaviour

**10. In the poem, the poet mainly**

- A. Expresses his frustration
- B. Argues a position
- C. Narrates an incident
- D. Describes new insights

**GLIMPSES OF THE PAST**

**1. How were the Indian princes short-sighted?**

- A. They did not respect far-sighted rulers like Tipu.
- B. They gave the British opportunities to gain power.
- C. They overlooked the superiority of British weapons.
- D. They were inefficient rulers.

**2. Identify two ways in which the British earned profits from India?**

**3. What does the panel 'How did Indians react to these conquests?' convey?**

- A. It reveals the hypocrisy of Indians.
- B. It contrasts the attitudes of the princes and common men.
- C. It highlights the patriotism of Indians.
- D. It shows that Indians were unhappy with the British rulers

**4. According to Ram Mohan Roy, what was the solution to India's problems?**

- A. Absolute faith in religion
- B. Pride in one's own heritage
- C. Putting an end to internal fights
- D. Respecting religious differences.

**5. Why did Indian industries begin to die?**

**6. What is the main idea of the section 'Sparks'?**

- A. The origins of the revolt
- B. The impacts of the rise in taxes
- C. The response of the British to the revolt
- D. The ways in which the British tortured the Indians

**7. What led the Indian soldiers to revolt?**

- A. They were disrespected by the emperor.
- B. They lost their land.
- C. They had to face discrimination.

D. Gopal had a habit of indulging in practical jokes.

**8. Governor-General Bentick's words show that the British were \_\_\_\_\_.**

A. Condescending

B. Sly

C. Indifferent

D. Wrathful

**9. What do the sections 'Revolt' and 'The Fight for Freedom' together mainly convey?**

A. Demonstrate the damage caused by the revolt

B. Show the impact of the revolt on British rule in India

C. Highlight the extent of the revolt

D. Identify the leaders of the revolt

**10. What is the main purpose of the text?**

A. To give information about the impacts of the revolt

B. To describe the role of various sections of society in the revolt

C. To narrate the events that caused the revolt

D. To persuade the readers to honour freedom

### **BEPIN CHOUDHURY'S LAPSE OF MEMORY**

**1. What can be said about Bepin Choudhury from the first paragraph?**

A. He was a hard worker.

B. He was a man of routine.

C. He had an active lifestyle.

D. He was a keen judge of character.

**2. Do you think Bepin Choudhury was well-known? Support your answer with evidence from the story.**

**3. Why did Bepin Choudhury start doubting himself?**



- A. The man narrated his story with conviction.
- B. The man was familiar with the places in Ranchi.
- C. The man remembered who Bepin lived with in Ranchi.
- D. The man had information about Bepin that few people knew

**4. Why did Bepin hesitate to contact Dinesh Mukerji?**

**5. What did Bepin Choudhury most likely feel after the conversation with Dinesh?**

- A. Exhaustion
- B. Disgust
- C. Panic
- D. Resentment

**6. Which of the following best describes Bepin's attitude towards Chuni?**

- A. Insincere
- B. Malicious
- C. Dismissive
- D. Patronising

**7. 'I know that old friendships don't mean much to you, but at least you had a good memory.'**

**What would most likely have been Chuni's attitude when he said the above line?**

- A. Bitter
- B. Accusatory
- C. Amused
- D. Defensive

**8. What did Chuni's letter to Bepin prove?**

- A. Bepin was losing his memory.
- B. Bepin was not good at his job
- C. Bepin had never been to Ranchi.
- D. Bepin's visit to Ranchi had upset Chuni.

**9. What is the tone of Chuni's letter?**

- A. Formal
- B. Nostalgic
- C. Miserable
- D. Vindictive

**10. Chuni took a lot of effort to convince Bepin that he had been to Ranchi. Justify.**

### **THE LAST BARGAIN**

**1. What does the poet want at the beginning of the poem?**

- A. He wants to be offered work.
- B. He wants to impress the King.
- C. He wants someone to listen to his sorrows.
- D. He wants someone to join him on his journey.

**2. Which word best describes the poet's attitude towards the King's power?**

- A. Fearful
- B. Wishful
- C. Overwhelmed
- D. Dismissive

**3. What did the old man offer the poet?**

**4. He weighed his coins one by one, but I turned away. Why did the poet turn away?**

**5. *Her smile paled and melted into tears***

**What does the poet try to indicate in the line above?**

- A. The loneliness of the maid

- B. The maid's sadness at the poet's rejection
- C. The transient nature of beauty
- D. The insincerity of her smile

**6. How does the tone in the third stanza change?**

- A. Sympathetic to angry
- B. Excited to indifferent
- C. Hopeful to dismal
- D. Curious to be confused.

**7. What made the poet accept the child's offer?**

- A. He felt that it would give him liberty.
- B. He did not want to hurt the child.
- C. He already knew the child.
- D. He felt the child's innocence was trustworthy

**8. Why did the poet say that the bargain had made him a free man?**

- A. It ensured that he was not in anyone's debt.
- B. He had already fulfilled his obligations.
- C. He could go wherever he wanted to.
- D. It allowed him to look after the child as he wanted.

**9. What main idea is conveyed in the poem?**

- A. Freedom of the spirit is more important than worldly comforts.
- B. Pride in wealth, money and beauty will lead to downfall.
- C. It is important to balance material needs with spirituality
- D. Children possess the inner wisdom that adults lack.

**10. Which word best describes the style of the poet?**

- A. Formal
- B. Emphatic

C. Flowery

D. Simple

## **THE SUMMIT WITHIN**

### **1. What is the purpose of the first paragraph of the text?**

A. To highlight the conflicting reactions of the writer's mind and body.

B. To express the writer's fear of returning home after the journey.

C. To explain the reasons behind the writer's decision to climb Everest

D. To describe how the writer's emotional nature affected his Everest experience

### **2. What is the writer worried about at the beginning of the text?**

A. Whether his efforts to climb Everest would be recognised

B. Whether the success in scaling Everest was worth celebrating

C. Whether future events would be as inspiring as climbing Everest

D. Whether he would be able to go on other adventurous journeys in future.

### **3. According to the writer, why do people usually climb mountains?**

### **4. Which of these words best describes the writer's attitude towards mountains?**

A. Nostalgic

B. Inquisitive

C. Intimidated

D. Passionate

### **5. According to the writer, the appeal of climbing Everest is mainly related what?**

A. Its size

B. Its location

C. Its lack of inhabitants

D. The difficulty of return journey.

**6. *The man who has been to the mountain-top becomes conscious in a special manner of his own smallness in this large universe***

**In which line does the writer express a similar sentiment?**

A. Of all the emotions which surged through me as I stood on the summit of Everest, looking over miles of panorama below us, the dominant one I think was humility.

B. By climbing the summit of Everest you are overwhelmed by a deep sense of joy and thankfulness.

C. Their beauty and majesty pose a great challenge, and like many, I believe that mountains are a means of communion with God.

D. And then, when the summit is climbed, there is the exhilaration, the joy of having done something, the sense of a battle fought and won.

**7. The success of a climber is also dependent on their companions. Justify the statement using evidence from the text.**

**8. According to the writer, what is the summit within?**

A. The ability to face challenges fearlessly

B. The ability to conquer the temptations of the mind

C. The ability to develop an understanding about oneself

D. The ability to build physical strength to finishing tasks.

**9. Which of these words best describes the writer's tone?**

A. Factual

B. Detached

C. Reflective

D. Optimistic

**10. What does the writer mainly do through the text?**

A. Narrates the ways in which an external event changed his personality

B. Gives a detailed description of the various stages of a difficult journey.

- C. Provides instructions to aspiring climbers of Everest.
- D. Describes a significant personal experience.

## **THE SCHOOL BOY**

### **1. What does the poet mainly talk about in the first stanza?**

- A. The sights on his way to school
- B. The things that he loves about morning
- C. The desire to befriend the birds in his garden
- D. The things that makes staying at home enjoyable

### **2. How does the poet's tone change from the first stanza to the second stanza?**

- A. Happy to miserable
- B. Peaceful to anxious
- C. Excited to frightened
- D. Respectful to irreverent

### **3. *Under a cruel eye outworn***

#### **What does the line above indicate?**

- A. The poet spends all day in school crying.
- B. The poet feels that teachers don't allow students freedom.
- C. The poet is tired after studying hard.
- D. The poet tries hard to stay awake during lessons.

### **4. What is the main idea of the third stanza?**

- A. The poet's inability to read.
- B. The poet's fear of teachers
- C. The poet's restlessness in school
- D. The poet's dislike for rainy weather.

**5. What does the poet do in the fourth stanza?**

- A. Compares two dissimilar things
- B. Says one thing but means another
- C. Uses sarcasm to add drama to the situation
- D. Uses an interesting sound to convey pain

**6. Which lines clearly show the poet's lack of interest in classroom activities?**

**7. What is the main idea of the fourth stanza?**

- A. The beauty of a caged bird's song
- B. How fear suppresses the talent of students
- C. The loss of children's freedom in schools
- D. The gentleness of a new-born bird

**8. Which word best describes the poet's tone in the fifth stanza?**

- A. Fierce
- B. Pleading
- C. Complaining
- D. Defeated

**9. What are children compared to in the fifth stanza?**

**10. What is the main purpose of the poem?**

- A. To inspire readers to cherish their school days
- B. To reflect on the poet's fondest childhood memories
- C. To highlight how schooling deprives the joy of childhood.
- D. To describe the ways in which children try to escape school.

**THIS IS JODY'S FAWN**

**1. What does the first paragraph suggest?**

- A. Jody wondered whether he had done the right thing.
- B. Jody was afraid to discuss the fawn with his father.
- C. Jody felt relieved that his father was out of danger.
- D. Jody had been thinking about the fawn for a while.

**2. Which word best describes Pa's attitude towards the doe?**

- A. Indifferent
- B. Sympathetic
- C. Remorseful
- D. Thankful

**3. Why did Jodi want to bring the fawn home?**

- A. He wanted to own a pet.
- B. He felt responsible for its loss.
- C. He felt that the fawn was his friend.
- D. He wanted to show that he could be responsible.

**4. Which word best describes Ma's reaction to the idea of bringing the fawn home?**

- A. Desperate
- B. Angry
- C. Suspicious
- D. Hesitant

**5. How did Jody know that the fawn was male?**

**6. Jody knew his way around the forest. Justify the statement with evidence from the story.**

**7. Why did Jody want to search for the fawn on his own?**

- A. He feared that Mill-wheel would be bitten by a snake.
- B. He wanted to keep his emotions for the fawn from Mill-wheel.



- C. He wanted to prove to Mill-wheel that he was fearless.
- D. He feared that Mill-wheel might try to befriend the fawn.

**8. Why were the big cats not feeding on the doe?**

- A. The doe was already dead.
- B. They had eaten the doe and left the remains for the buzzards.
- C. The buzzards found the doe first.
- D. Jody's presence scared the big cats away.

**9. *The touch made him delirious.***

**What does the line above suggest?**

- A. Jody was relieved that the fawn was alive.
- B. Jody was scared that the fawn would run away.
- C. Jody was delighted to make contact with the fawn.
- D. Jody was thinking about how to take the fawn home safely.

**10. Which of these words best describes Jody?**

- A. Patient
- B. Optimistic
- C. Modest
- D. Compassionate

**A VISIT TO CAMBRIDGE**

**1. What was the writer's first reaction when he realised that Hawking lived in Cambridge?**

- A. Shock
- B. Surprise
- C. Nervousness

D. Excitement

**2. According to the writer, what gives courage to a disabled person?**

- A. The success of people with disabilities.
- B. Spending time with inspirational people
- C. Ignoring people who ask them to be brave
- D. Doing things others suggest they could not

**3. Does the writer agree with Hawking's opinion that he had no choice? Justify your answer.**

**4. *And sitting opposite him I could feel his anguish, the mind buoyant with thoughts that came out in frozen phrases and sentences stiff as corpses.***

**In the line above, the writer is trying to highlight how**

- A. He communicated with Hawking.
- B. The disability limited Hawking's expression.
- C. Hawking struggled to use the machine.
- D. Hawking's intelligence intimidated him.

**5. What was actually shocking about the first glimpse of Hawking?**

- A. The lack of movement
- B. The expression in his eyes
- C. The resemblance to photographs
- D. The uniqueness of his appearance

**6. *Before you, like a lantern whose walls are worn so thin you glimpse only the light inside, is the Incandescence of a man.***

**What does the lantern represent?**

**7. What did meeting Hawking help the writer realise?**

- A. The irrelevance of the accessories that aid disabled people
- B. The ways in which he judged himself for his disability

- C. The similarities between Hawking and himself
- D. The importance of spirit over body

**8. The limited time he spent with Hawking was precious to the writer. Support using evidence from the text.**

**9. Based on the interaction, what best describes Hawking?**

- A. Optimistic
- B. Generous
- C. Considerate
- D. Straightforward

**10. The ending of the text shows that for the writer, the meeting with Hawking was**

- A. Emotional
- B. Nostalgic
- C. Humbling
- D. Thrilling

### **A SHORT MONSOON DIARY**

**1. Why does the writer associate mist with sadness?**

- A. The birds stop singing.
- B. Mist envelopes the hills.
- C. Mist brings darkness.
- D. The weather becomes cold.

**2. Based on the text, the writer finds early monsoon rain to be**

- A. Inconvenient
- B. Unexpected

C. Energising

D. Pleasant

**3. What effect do the monsoon rains have on the writer's surroundings?**

A. Disease-causing insects become common.

B. The animals become ferocious.

C. A variety of wildlife emerges.

D. The flowers starts blooming.

**4. What makes the minivets different?**

A. They do not sing.

B. They are very common.

C. They hide amongst colourful plants.

D. They are easy to spot.

**5. What best describes the writer's feeling during pouring rain?**

A. Uneasy

B. Hopeful

C. Indifferent

D. Comfortable

**6. What reference does the writer use to show both the beginning and the ending of monsoons?**

**7. Which incident supported grandmother's belief?**

**8. What makes the entry on January 26 different?**

**9. The writer feels unsettled during winter rain. Which lines from the entry of January 26 most clearly shows this?**

**10. What is true about the writer's style?**

- A. He recounts personal events to add context.
- B. He reveals several endearing details about himself.
- C. He maintains a pessimistic attitude towards the world.
- D. He describes images vividly.

## **ON THE GRASSHOPPER AND THE CRICKET**

### **1. *The poetry of earth is never dead***

**What is the poet trying to convey in the line above?**

- A. There is always movement on earth.
- B. There is always sound on earth.
- C. There is always something to do on earth.
- D. The earth is always beautiful.

### **2. *Why do the birds hide?***

- A. It's too quiet.
- B. It's too hot.
- C. They are sick.
- D. They are scared

### **3. *And hide in cooling trees, a voice will run***

**Whose voice is the poet talking about?**

### **4. *According to the poet, the grasshopper finds the summer***

- A. Peaceful
- B. Tiring
- C. Beautiful
- D. Enjoyable

**5. What does the grasshopper do when he has finished his fun?**

**6. Why does the poet repeat a similar line at the beginning of both stanzas?**

**7. Why does the poet compare the cricket and the grasshopper?**

A. They make noise when other animals are quiet.

B. They make noises that sound similar.

C. They make noise in the same season.

D. Their noise disturbs people.

**8. Who thinks the cricket sounds like the grasshopper?**

**9. What is the poet mainly trying to do in the poem?**

A. Suggest that the earth is never silent

B. Convince people to listen to the sounds of nature

C. Highlight how nature is symmetrical

D. Convey his appreciation of the earth

**10. What is the tone of the poem?**

A. Nostalgic

B. Appreciative

C. Admiring

D. Passionate

PREETI BASNOTRA (TGT ENGLISH)

PMSHRI KV BHIND

CONTACT NO - 7889825856