

**SECONDARY SCHOOL EXAMINATION  
SECOND PERIODIC TEST: 2023-24  
CLASS- IX  
ENGLISH**

**Time: 1 Hour**

**MM:20 Marks**

**NOTE: ATTEMPT ALL QUESTIONS.**

**SECTION A – READING**

**05 Marks**

**Q1. Read the passage given below:**

- (i). In the heart of the Amazon rainforest, where towering trees and lush greenery stretch as far as the eye can see, lies a treasure trove of biodiversity. This dense jungle is home to countless species of plants, animals, and insects, many of which are found nowhere else on Earth. The Amazon rainforest, often referred to as the "lungs of the Earth," plays a crucial role in regulating the planet's climate and supporting life.
- (ii). One of the most remarkable features of the Amazon rainforest is its sheer size. Covering an area of approximately 5.5 million square kilometers, it spans across nine countries in South America. This immense expanse is not only a biological marvel but also a vital source of resources for local communities and the global population.
- (iii). The Amazon River, the second-longest river in the world, flows through this rainforest, giving life to the diverse ecosystems that thrive along its banks. The river serves as a highway for countless species of fish and other aquatic creatures. It also sustains the people who live in the region, providing water for drinking, bathing, and fishing.
- (iv). However, the Amazon rainforest faces numerous threats that endanger its delicate balance. Deforestation, primarily driven by logging, agriculture, and infrastructure development, has resulted in the loss of vast areas of the forest. When trees are cut down or burned, not only are habitats destroyed, but the stored carbon within them is released into the atmosphere, contributing to climate change.
- (v). Efforts to protect the Amazon rainforest are ongoing. Conservation organizations, governments, and local communities are working together to establish protected areas and implement sustainable practices. Indigenous peoples are playing a crucial role in these efforts, using their traditional knowledge to safeguard the forest.
- (vi). The importance of the Amazon rainforest extends far beyond its borders. Its vast vegetation acts as a carbon sink, absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and helping to mitigate global warming. Its rich biodiversity is a source of potential medicines and scientific discoveries. And its role in the water cycle affects weather patterns not only in South America but also around the world.
- (vii). In conclusion, the Amazon rainforest is a natural wonder of unparalleled significance. It is a source of life, a repository of biodiversity, and a critical player in global climate regulation. Preserving this irreplaceable ecosystem is not just a regional concern but a global imperative.

**On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions that follow:  
[1 x 5 = 5 Marks]**

- 1.1 Where is the Amazon rainforest located, and what is its significance?
- 1.2 How large is the Amazon rainforest, and through how many countries does it extend?
- 1.3 What role does the Amazon River play in the rainforest's ecosystem?
- 1.4 What efforts are being made to protect the Amazon rainforest?
- 1.5 Explain the global importance of the Amazon rainforest beyond its borders.

**P.T.O**

## SECTION B - WRITING AND GRAMMAR

05

Q2. You are Reema/ Raman. Recently, you came upon a news item about the lack of fitness. Write an article for the school magazine, highlighting the importance of yoga and exercise in daily life. (100-150 words)

[3x1=3marks]

Q3. Choose the correct option.

[1/2 x 4= 2marks]

3.1 It rang eleven o'clock and still he \_\_\_\_\_, I began to wonder if he \_\_\_\_\_ an accident.

- a. Didn't arrive / had
- b. hadn't arrived /had had
- c. won't arrive /had had
- d. didn't arrive /had had

3.2 It's reported that human beings' lives \_\_\_\_\_ prolonged by a new wonder drug.

- a. has been
- b. will have been
- c. is being
- d. will be

3.3 You \_\_\_\_\_ pleased to hear that your brother \_\_\_\_\_ to the committee.

- a. have been/ selected
- b. will be /has been selected
- c. are/ is selecting
- d. have been /was selected

3.4 Hardly \_\_\_\_\_ I \_\_\_\_\_ the phone down when it started ringing again.

- a. did/ put
- b. will have/put
- c. did/ to have put
- d. had/put

## SECTION C – LITERATURE

10 Marks

Q4. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

[1x3= 3 marks]

**And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow**

**Dropping from veils of the morning to where the cricket sings;**

**There midnight's all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow,**

**And evenings full of the linnets wings.**

4.1 Name the poem from which the above extract has been taken. Also write the name of the poet.

4.2 What picture do these words create in your mind, 'evenings full of linnets wings'.

4.3 Write two poetic devices present in this stanza.

Q5. Answer the following questions in short:

[1x4= 4 marks]

5.1 Why was Kezia afraid of her father?

5.2 In what ways did Kezia's grandmother encourage her to get to know her father better?

5.3 What did Einstein call his desk drawer at the patent office? Why?

5.4 Why does the world remember Einstein as a "World Citizen"?

Q6. Answer the following questions briefly:

[1x3=3marks]

6.1 Who is Iswaran in the story 'Iswaran the storyteller'? In what way is Iswaran an asset to Mahendra?

6.2 What are the Guru's words of wisdom? When does the disciple remember them?

6.3 What are the two strange things the Guru and his disciple find in the Kingdom of Fools?