

**O.P. JINDAL SCHOOL, SAVITRINAGAR****Periodic Test – I (2023-2024)****Class/Section: VIII/ '\_\_\_'****MM: 20****Subject: English****Time: 1 Hour**

Name- \_\_\_\_\_

Roll No. \_\_\_\_\_

**General Instructions:**

1. The question paper contains THREE sections-(A)READING, (B)GRAMMAR and WRITING and (C)LITERATURE.
2. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each question.

**Section A:(Reading Skill)****Q1. Read the following passage carefully.**

(1) When you grow up in a place where it rains for five months a year, wise elders help you to get acquainted with the rain early. They teach you that it is ignorance to think that it is the same rain falling every day. Oh no! the rain is always doing different things at different times. There is rain that is gentle, and there is also rain that falls too hard and damages the crops. Hence, pray for the sweet rain that helps the crops to grow.

(2) The monsoon in the Naga Hills goes by the native name, Khuthotei (which means the rice-growing season). It lasts from May to early or mid-October. The local residents firmly believe that Durga Puja in October announces the end to rain. After that, one might expect a couple of short winter showers, and the spring showers in March and April. Finally, comes the 'big rain' in May; proper rainstorms accompanied by heart-stopping lightning and ear-splitting thunder. I have stood out in storms looking at lightning arc across the dark skies, a light-and-sound show that can go on for hours.

(3) This is the season when people use the word 'sezuo' and 'suzu' to refer to the week-long rains, when clothes don't dry and smell of mould, when fungus forms on the floor and you can't see the moon or the stars.

(4) The rains are also called after flowering plants and people believe that the blossoming of those plants draws out rain. Once the monsoon sets in, field work is carried out in earnest and the work of uprooting and transplanting paddy in flooded fields is done. The months of hard labour are June, July and August. In August, as the phrogo plant begins to bloom, a rain will fall. This August rain, also called phrogo, is a sign that the time for cultivation is over. If any new grain seeds are sown, they may not sprout; even if they do sprout, they are not likely to bear grain. The rain acts as a kind of farmer's almanac.

**Based on your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option: (1x4 =4 Marks)**

I. The rains are called after flowering plants because.....

- a) heavy rains kill plants.
- b) flowers grow in the rainy season.
- c) it is believed that the plants bring the rain.
- d) flowers grow all the year round.

II. What do elders want you to understand about rains?

- a) That rains are always welcomed.
- b) That the same rain falls every day.

- c) That the rain always damages the crops.
- d) That rain always does different things at different times.

III. What kind of rain is called 'sezuo' or 'suzu'?

- a) Winter monsoon.
- b) Summer rains.
- c) Week long rain.
- d) Short winter shower.

IV. What does Durga Puja mean to the farmers of the Naga hills?

### Section B: (Grammar and Writing)

**Q2. Choose the correct option to answer the following questions.**

**(1×3=3 Marks)**

I. Identify the noun in the given sentence.

The sky looks so clear and blue.

- a) looks
- b) sky
- c) the
- d) clear and blue

II. Pick the pronoun from the options to fill the blank in the given sentence.

Ria forgot \_\_\_\_\_ bag in the playground.

- a) she
- b) his
- c) her
- d) they

III. In the sentence given below state the kind of the underlined nouns.

Hari bought rice and pulse for himself.

- a) common noun
- b) proper noun
- c) material noun
- d) abstract noun

**Q3. Attempt any one of the following in about 100 to 120 words.**

**(5×1=5 Marks)**

You do not have the facility of learning computers in your school. Write a letter to the Principal of your school requesting him to provide the facility to the students of the school.

**OR**

Write an application to the Principal of your school requesting him to grant you two days' leave and give appropriate reason also.

### Section C: (Literature)

**Q4. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.**

**(1×2=2 Marks)**

Says the ant to the cricket, "I'm your servant and friend,  
But we ants never borrow, we ants never lend.  
But tell me, dear cricket, did you lay nothing by  
When the weather was warm?" Quoth the cricket, "Not I!  
My heart was so light.  
That I sang day and night,  
For all nature looked gay."  
"You sang, Sir, you say?"

Go then”, says the ant, “and dance the winter away.”

I. ‘I’m your servant and friend’ in this line whom does ‘I’ refer to?

- a) cricket
- b) ant
- c) rain
- d) poet

II. ‘Dance the winter away’, who said these words to whom?

- a) cricket to ant
- b) poet to cricket
- c) ant to cricket
- d) poet to ant

**Q5. Answer any two of the following in 40-50 words each.**

**(3×2=6 Marks)**

I. What is Connie’s Christmas present? Why is it ‘the best Christmas present in the world’?

II. How did the camel get the hump on his back?

III. Write the summary of the poem ‘The Ant and the Cricket’ with moral.