O. P. JINDAL SCHOOL, SAVITRINAGAR

Half Yearly Examination (2026-27)

Class/ Section: VII **MM:50**

Subject: English **Time-2 Hrs.**

Name-..... **Roll No....**

Fifteen minutes extra time will be given for reading the question paper.

General Instructions:

1. This question paper is divided into three parts: A, B and C. All questions are compulsory.
2. Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them.
3. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION-A
READING SECTION-10 MARKS

Q1. Read the passage carefully. **(1x5=5 marks)**

Reading books is one of the best habits a student can develop. Books provide knowledge, improve language skills, and increase imagination. They help students understand different ideas, cultures, and experiences. Reading regularly also improves concentration and memory.

A good reading habit begins with choosing interesting books and setting aside some time every day for reading. Students who read regularly develop better vocabulary and writing skills. They also perform well in examinations because they understand subjects more clearly.

Reading books is not only useful for academic success but also for personal growth. It teaches values such as patience, empathy, and critical thinking. Instead of spending too much time on mobile phones or television, students can use their free time to read books that inspire and educate them.

Poor reading habits can limit knowledge and reduce confidence in communication. Students who rarely read may find it difficult to express their thoughts or understand complex topics. Developing a reading habit from an early age prepares students for lifelong learning and success.

In today's world, knowledge is one of the greatest strengths. Books are valuable companions that help people learn throughout their lives. Therefore, reading books regularly is a habit that leads to wisdom, confidence, and a brighter future.

On the basis of reading the above passage, answer the following questions.
I. Choose the most correct option. (Any three)

1. Reading books helps students to _____.
a) Waste time b) Gain knowledge c) Forget lessons d) Avoid studies

2. Which habit can reduce knowledge?
a) Reading daily b) Choosing good books
c) Poor reading habits d) Setting a reading schedule

3. Reading books teaches students _____.
a) Anger b) Patience and critical thinking c) Carelessness d) Fear

4. Reading books from an early age prepares students for_____.
a) Laziness b) Lifelong learning and success
c) Poor communication d) Failure

II. Answer the following questions in short.

1. Why are books important for students?
2. How does regular reading improve vocabulary?

Q2. Read the following passage carefully. **(1x5=5 marks)**

In the centre of a small village stood an old stone well. It had supplied fresh water to the villagers for many years and was considered an important part of their daily lives. Every morning, people gathered around the well to fill their pots, exchange greetings, and share news. Children often played nearby while their parents collected water.

The well was always clean because the villagers worked together to take care of it. Even during the hottest summers, it continued to provide cool water to everyone. Travelers passing through the village stopped there to quench their thirst, and farmers rested beside it after working in the fields. The well served all without expecting anything in return.

One year, a plan was made to cover the well and replace it with a parking area. When the villagers heard the new they became worried and upset. They understood that the well was not just a source of water but also a symbol of unity and tradition. They gathered together, signed petitions, and requested the authorities to protect it. Their efforts were successful, and the plan was cancelled.

To celebrate, the villagers decorated the well with flowers and cleaned the surrounding area. They promised to preserve it for future generations. The old well remained a place where people met, helped one another, and remembered the value of caring for their shared heritage.

On the basis of reading the above passage, answer the following questions.
I. Choose the most correct option. (Any three)

1. The old well stood in the _____.
a) Middle of the forest b) Centre of the village c) Top of a mountain d) Side of a river

2. The well was important because it _____.
a) Produced electricity b) Supplied fresh water c) Grew flowers d) Stored food

3. Why was the well in danger?
a) It had dried up. b) It was too old.
c) A parking area was planned. d) Animals damaged it.

4. The old well symbolizes_____.
a) Wealth and power b) Unity and tradition
c) Fear and loneliness d) Competition and success

II. Answer the following questions in short.

1. How did the villagers feel when they learned the well would be covered?
2. What lesson does the story of the old well teach us?

SECTION-B
GRAMMAR & WRITING (22 MARKS)

Q3. Do as directed. (Any ten) **(1x10=10 marks)**

1. We celebrate Independence Day ___ 15th August.
a) at b) in c) on d) for

2. He answered the question ___.
a) correct b) correctly c) correctness d) correcting

3. Which verb is correctly matched?
a) Sing – Sang – Sung b) Sing – Singed – Singing
c) Sing – Sung – Sang d) Sing – Singing – Sang

4. She ___ her homework already.
a) completed b) has completed c) have completed d) completes

5. They ___ football when I called them.
a) play b) were playing c) played d) have played

6. You ___ obey your parents.
a) can b) should c) may d) might

7. She walked ___ the bridge carefully.
a) across b) between c) among d) behind

8. The children played ___ in the garden.
a) happy b) happily c) happiness d) happier

9. The third-person singular form of **go** is:
a) go b) gone c) goes d) going

10. She ___ dinner now.
a) cooks b) cooked c) is cooking d) has cooked

11. Please _____ the lights before leaving the room.
a) turn on b) turn off c) turn up d) turn into

Q4. You are Riya Sharma, the Cultural Secretary of Green Valley Public School. Your school is organizing an Inter-House Debate Competition on 20 August 2026 in the school auditorium at 10:00 a.m. Students of Classes VI–VIII who wish to participate should register with the English teacher by 15 August 2026. Write a notice in 40–50 words. **(5 Marks)**

OR

You are Aman Verma, the Eco Club Secretary of Sunrise Public School. Your school is organizing a Tree Plantation Drive on 5 September 2026 at 8:00 a.m. in the school playground. Students are requested to bring one sapling each and participate actively. Write a notice in 40–50 words.

Q5. Write a letter to your grandmother thanking her for the birthday gift. (80-90 words) **(7 Marks)**

OR

Write a letter advising your friend to reduce screen time and stay healthy. (80-90 words)

SECTION-C
LITERATURE (18 Marks)

Q6. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow. **(1x4=4 marks)**

"I should divide the period into three parts. On the first day, I should want to see the people whose kindness and companionship have made my life worth living."

1. How many parts does the speaker want to divide the period into?
a. Two parts b. Three parts c. Four parts d. Five parts

2. Which qualities of people are mentioned in the extract?
a. Wealth and power b. Kindness and companionship
c. Strength and courage d. Intelligence and knowledge

3. The word "companionship" means_____.
a. Friendship and being with someone b. Competition
c. Anger d. Loneliness

4. Why does the speaker want to see these people?
a. They have made life meaningful and valuable
b. They are famous
c. They can give advice
d. They are wealthy

OR

"My brother practises shooting when he has the time, and he rides his horse when he can. He sold his house in London and bought a house here because he wanted to ride and practise shooting."

1. What does the speaker's brother practise?
a. Swimming b. Shooting c. Painting d. Singing

2. Where was the brother's old house?
a. Paris b. London c. Delhi d. New York

3. Why did the brother buy a new house?
a. To start a business b. To meet new people
c. To ride and practise shooting d. To travel around the world

4. The word "practises" in the extract means:
a. Avoids doing something b. Does something regularly to improve
c. Stops an activity d. Watches others

Q7. Read the given extract and answer the questions that follow. **(1x4=4 marks)**

"My friend, why do you wear two hats
Upon you feet?" I said.
He turned the other way about,
And hopped home on his head.

1. What unusual action does the friend take with his hats?
a) He wears them on his hands
b) He wears two hats upon his feet
c) He carries them in a bag
d) He wears them on his elbows

2. How does the speaker address the person in the poem?
a) "Dear sir" b) "My friend" c) "Young man" d) "Stranger"

3. What does the friend do after the speaker questions him?
a) He runs away quickly. b) He takes off the hats.
c) He turns the other way about. d) He begins to cry.

4. What is the overall tone of the poem?
a) Serious and tragic b) Humorous and nonsensical
c) Educational and historical d) Fearful and dark

OR

"And Bruce of Scotland braced his mind,
And gossips tell the tale,
That he tried once more as he tried before,
And that time did not fail."

1. What did Bruce do again?
a. He went home. b. He tried once more.
c. He gave up. d. He changed his plan.

2. The phrase "braced his mind" means:
a. Became prepared and determined b. Felt sleepy
c. Became confused d. Lost hope

3.Who is the poet of the poem from which this extract is taken?
a. William Edward Hickson b. Eliza Cook
c. Robert Burns d. William Wordsworth

4. What happened when Bruce tried again?
a. He failed again. b. He did not try. c. He succeeded. d. He ran away.

Q8. Answer the following questions . (30 to 40 words) (Any two) (2x3=6 marks)

a. How can our words influence people around us?

b. Why does the poet encourage people to try again?

c. What lesson do we learn from the chapter "Say the Right Thing"?

Q9. Answer the following questions. (90 to 100 words) (Any one) (1x4=4 Marks)

a. What lesson do we learn from "Three Days to See"?

b. What message does the poet give through the poem "Try Again"?