

Markhor Junior Contest

PIONEER LEVEL (CLASS VII & VIII) ENGLISH LANGUAGE

There are 25 questions, each question carry 2 marks.

Time allowed: 60 minutes

Maximum Marks: 50

Total Questions: 25

Note: All Questions carry equal marks

(2×25=50)

Q-1 Which of the following is an example of an appositive phrase?

- a) Running late, he skipped breakfast.
- b) The tree, which had been planted last year, was already growing tall.
- c) She bought a book written by her favourite author.
- d) My friend, a talented artist, painted a portrait of me.

Q-2 Which of the following sentences uses parallel structure correctly?

- a) The company expanded its operations by opening new offices and they hired more employees.
- b) He likes to play tennis and jogging in the park.
- c) She enjoys reading books, watching movies, and to travel to new places.
- d) The project involved conducting research, analyzing data, and presenting findings.

Q-3 Which of the following is an example of an antithesis in literature?

- a) "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times."
- b) "To be or not to be, that is the question."
- c) "The sun smiled down on the happy couple."
- d) "The wind whispered through the trees."

Q-4 Which of the following is an example of an anagram?

- a) "listen" and "silent"
- b) "red" and "green"
- c) "cat" and "dog"
- d) "apple" and "banana"

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Q-5 What is the difference between a metaphor and a simile?

- a) A metaphor is a comparison using "like" or "as," while a simile is a direct comparison.
- b) A metaphor is a direct comparison, while a simile is an implied comparison.
- c) A metaphor is an implied comparison, while a simile is a direct comparison using "like" or "as."
- d) There is no difference between a metaphor and a simile.

Q-6 Choose the word that best completes the sentence:

The _____ of the opera singer was breathtaking.

- a) Timbre
- b) Rhythm
- c) Melody
- d) Harmony

Q-7 Which of the following literary devices involves the repetition of sounds at the beginning of words in a sentence or phrase?

- a) Alliteration
- b) Onomatopoeia
- c) Hyperbole
- d) Personification

Q-8 Which of the following is an example of an independent clause?

- a) Because I studied hard for the test.
- b) The movie was not very good, but we still enjoyed it.
- c) She decided to quit her job, which had become too stressful.
- d) I will go to the gym if I have time.

Q-9 Which of the following is a characteristic of a ballad?

- a) It usually tells a story
- b) It always has a happy ending
- c) It is always written in free verse

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d) It is usually a short poem

Q-10 which proverb suits this:

If a person goes early to bed and wakes up early in the morning is likely to have a better quality of sleep, be more productive, and can contribute to personal growth and wisdom.

a) The early bird catches the worm

b) Early to bed early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise

c) Early start makes the work light

d) Early ripe, early written

Read the text and answer the questions (11-20)

Samantha was a curious and adventurous girl. One summer day, while exploring her grandmother's attic, she came across an old and mysterious key. Samantha wondered what the key might unlock, but couldn't find anything in the attic that it fit.

Determined to discover the key's purpose, Samantha decided to explore her grandmother's sprawling garden. She searched high and low, looking for any clues as to where the key might lead her. After hours of searching, Samantha discovered an old, rusted lock hidden among the branches of a tree.

Excited by her discovery, Samantha carefully inserted the key into the lock and turned it. With a creaking sound, the lock opened, revealing a hidden treasure trove inside the hollow of the tree. Samantha couldn't believe her luck as she peered inside the treasure trove and saw a pile of sparkling jewels and gold coins.

But as she reached in to take a closer look, Samantha suddenly heard a loud snap. She looked down and realized with horror that the key had broken off inside the lock. Panicking, Samantha tried everything she could think of to remove the broken key, but nothing worked.

Feeling defeated, Samantha sat down and started to cry. But then, she remembered something her grandmother always said: "When one door closes, another opens." Taking this advice to heart, Samantha started to look around for another solution.

Finally, Samantha had an idea. She rushed back to her grandmother's attic and searched for a pair of pliers. Armed with the pliers, Samantha went back to the garden and used them to carefully extract the broken key from the lock.

With a deep sigh of relief, Samantha took a moment to look around her and realized just how beautiful the garden was. She decided to spend the rest of the day exploring, and eventually stumbled upon a hidden pond where she spent the afternoon skipping stones and watching the dragonflies dance.

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As the sun began to set, Samantha realized that she had discovered something far more valuable than just a pile of treasure. She had found the joy of exploration, the thrill of adventure, and the satisfaction of overcoming obstacles.

Q-11 What was the significance of the key that Samantha found in her grandmother's attic?

- a) It unlocked a secret door in the garden
- b) It belonged to a famous explorer
- c) It was used to unlock a treasure chest in the attic
- d) Its purpose was unknown

Q-12 What was the lesson that Samantha learned from her experience with the broken key?

- a) To always have a spare key
- b) To never give up when faced with obstacles
- c) To avoid exploring dangerous areas
- d) To always listen to her grandmother's advice

Q-13 What did Samantha learn from her experience with the broken key?

- a) To give up when things don't go as planned
- b) To always carry a spare key
- c) To seek advice from others when faced with a problem
- d) To look for alternative solutions when faced with obstacles

Q-14 What was the main reason Samantha decided to explore her grandmother's garden?

- a) She had exhausted all other options
- b) She wanted to spend time outdoors
- c) She hoped to find a place to use the key
- d) She was curious and adventurous

Q-15 What is the significance of the quote "When one door closes, another opens" in Samantha's story?

- a) It is a metaphor for the passage of time

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- b) It foreshadows Samantha's discovery of the treasure trove
- c) It represents Samantha's grandmother's wisdom and guidance
- d) It signifies the unlocking of the rusted lock

Q-16 What is the difference between "imply" and "infer"?

- a) There is no difference between the two words
- b) "Imply" means to suggest or state indirectly, while "infer" means to conclude or deduce from the evidence
- c) "Imply" means to conclude or deduce from evidence, while "infer" means to suggest or state indirectly
- d) "Imply" and "infer" are synonyms

Q-17 What is the meaning of the phrase "to kick the bucket"?

- a) To knock over a bucket
- b) To clean a bucket
- c) To die
- d) To jump over a bucket

Q-18 Which of the following is an example of a malapropism?

- a) "I'm not a vegetarian, I eat fish and chicken."
- b) "I'm sorry, I didn't mean to be so ostentatious."
- c) "I have a photographic memory, I never forget a face."
- d) "The police chased the criminal through the desert."

Q-19 What is the meaning of the term "portmanteau word"?

- a) A word with two or more meanings
- b) A word that sounds like the thing it describes
- c) A word made by combining two or more existing words
- d) A word that is spelt the same backwards as forwards

Q-20 Which of the following sentences uses parallel structure correctly?

- a) He likes to run, swimming, and biking.

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- b) She not only plays the guitar but also sings in a band.
- c) The teacher explained the lesson carefully, gave examples, and to answer questions.
- d) They enjoy hiking, to go camping, and taking nature walks.

Read the poem and answer the questions (21-25)

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel to both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim, Because
it was grassy and wanted wear; Though as for
that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves, no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

Q-21 In which season is the setting of the poem?

- a) winter
- b) spring
- c) summer
- d) autumn

Q-22 Why does the speaker choose the second road?

- a) It was more beautiful than the first road.
- b) It was less travelled and therefore seemed more interesting.

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- c) It led to his desired destination.
- d) It was the shorter of the two roads.

Q-23 What is the significance of the phrase "that has made all the difference" in the last line of the poem?

- a) It suggests that the speaker regrets his choice of road.
- b) It implies that the speaker is satisfied with the path he chose.
- c) It suggests that the speaker is still unsure whether he made the right decision.
- d) It implies that the speaker wishes he had taken the other road.

Q-24 What does the speaker mean when he says "I doubted if I should ever come back" in the third stanza?

- a) He is unsure if he will ever return to the fork in the road.
- b) He is unsure if he will ever be able to travel down the other road.
- c) He is unsure if he will ever reach his desired destination.
- d) He is unsure if he will ever find another fork in the road.

Q-25 What is the main theme of the poem?

- a) The importance of making difficult decisions.
- b) The beauty of nature in autumn.
- c) The regret that comes with missed opportunities.
- d) The unpredictability of life's journey.