STUDENT COPY · SET B

Class 8 · English Olympiad

Total questions	Total marks	Time	Negative marking
50	60	60 minutes	None

Name: _____ Class/Section: _____ Roll no: _____

Each question has four options, of which only one is correct. Mark your answer on the answer sheet. The Achievers Section carries higher marks per question. Your teacher has the answers.
This is original practice material written to the Level 1 pattern. It is not a past paper and is not affiliated with SOF or any official olympiad body.

Scan for the free weekly Olympiad test - 10 questions online, score and rank. Free.
syllabax.com/olympiad/class/8

Word and Structure Knowledge

30 questions · 1 mark each · 30 marks

Q1. Choose the word or phrase closest in meaning to ‘reluctant’.

(A) eager (B) joyful (C) careless (D) unwilling

Q2. Fill in the blank with the correct form of the verb:
He has ___ his lunch already.

(A) eating (B) eaten (C) ate (D) eat

Q3. Choose the correct article: Kavya found ___ one-rupee coin near the gate.

(A) the (B) no article (C) a (D) an

Q4. What is the plural of ‘tooth’?

(A) tooths (B) teeths (C) teeth (D) toothes

Q5. Fill in the blank with the correct preposition:
He has been ill ___ Monday.

(A) by (B) since (C) from (D) for

Q6. Choose the passive form: The monitor will collect the notebooks after lunch.

(A) The notebooks will have been collected after lunch.

(B) The notebooks will be collected by the monitor after lunch.

(C) After lunch, the monitor will collect the notebooks.

(D) The notebooks are collected by the monitor after lunch.

Q7. Neither the guide nor the tourists ___ sure about the shorter path.

(A) has been (B) were (C) is (D) was

Q8. Choose the OPPOSITE of ‘expand’.

(A) inflate (B) stretch (C) contract (D) enlarge

Q9. Choose the word or phrase closest in meaning to ‘ancient’.

(A) valuable (B) modern (C) foreign (D) very old

Q10. Fill in the blank with the correct form of the verb:
They ___ playing in the garden now.

(A) are (B) be (C) was (D) is

Q11. A ___ of fish.

(A) herd (B) school (C) flock (D) litter

Q12. Fill in the blank with the correct preposition:
The cat jumped ___ the wall.

(A) over (B) of (C) among (D) during

Q13. Which word is NOT a homophone of the other three?

(A) sight (B) side (C) site (D) cite

Q14. After missing two rehearsals, Kabir knew he was on thin ice. The phrase means he was ___.

(A) in a relaxed position (B) in a confused position

(C) in a risky position (D) in a cautious position

Q15. What is the plural of ‘child’?

(A) childs (B) childes (C) children (D) childrens

Q16. Choose the word or phrase closest in meaning to ‘courageous’.

(A) careless (B) brave (C) cheerful (D) curious

Q17. Fill in the blank with the correct form of the verb:
We ___ to Delhi last summer.

(A) travels (B) travelled (C) travelling (D) travel

Q18. A ___ of stars.

(A) herd (B) flock (C) cluster (D) swarm

Q19. In 'Meera gave a concise reply to the question', which word best replaces concise?

(A) precise (B) polite (C) complete (D) brief

Q20. What is the plural of ‘baby’?

(A) babys (B) babyes (C) babies (D) babie

Q21. Choose the OPPOSITE of ‘artificial’.

(A) plastic (B) imitation (C) natural (D) costly

Q22. A ___ of bees.

(A) fleet (B) herd (C) bunch (D) swarm

Q23. Though the route looked feasible on the map, the flooded road made it ___.

(A) practical (B) workable (C) suitable (D) impractical

Q24. A ___ of grapes.

(A) flock (B) fleet (C) bunch (D) herd

Q25. Fill in the blank with the correct preposition:
We waited ___ two hours.

(A) for (B) since (C) at (D) from

Q26. The new timetable will ___ the bus timings from Monday.

(A) accept (B) effect (C) except (D) affect

Q27. In 'The feasible route avoided the flooded lane,' feasible means closest to ___.

(A) familiar (B) practicable (C) profitable (D) impressive

Q28. What is the plural of ‘goose’?

(A) goosen (B) gooses (C) geese (D) geeses

Q29. Choose the OPPOSITE of ‘ancient’.

(A) modern (B) ruined (C) historic (D) famous

Q30. Fill in the blank with the correct preposition:
She is afraid ___ the dark.

(A) of (B) from (C) with (D) by

Reading

10 questions · 1 mark each · 10 marks

Q31. Read the passage and answer the question.

When the eco-club decided to grow spinach for the school kitchen, everyone liked the empty corner near the tap. It looked convenient, and Ravi said watering would be easy. Anaya, however, asked the group to wait for one rainy afternoon before digging. The next day she came early with chalk and a notebook. A puddle still shone beside the tap, though the rest of the ground had dried. She stepped gingerly around it and drew circles around thin cracks in the cement path. Muddy lines led from those cracks to the playground drain. “If we put beds here, the soil will travel away,” she said. Ravi frowned, but he agreed to mark the cracks for repair. Then Anaya pointed to the east wall. It was warm in the morning and shaded by noon. The group placed seed trays there first, so the young plants would not be drowned. By assembly time, their plan had changed completely, but no one felt they had wasted a morning.

Which sentence best gives the main idea of the story?

(A) Spinach grows only near school taps (B) Observation can improve a gardening plan

(C) Repairs should always begin after assembly (D) Seed trays need shade throughout the day

Q32. In the passage, what does 'gingerly' mean?

(A) With careful steps (B) With heavy steps

(C) With angry steps (D) With quick steps

Q33. Which detail made Anaya reject the corner near the tap?

(A) The wall stayed shaded all morning (B) The drain was blocked with dry leaves

(C) The seed trays had already been filled (D) A puddle stayed there after sunshine

Q34. Why did Ravi agree to mark the cracks for repair?

(A) The tap could not be opened (B) The seeds were drying too quickly

(C) The wall was too warm at noon (D) The soil was being washed away

Q35. Why did the east wall suit the seed trays better?

(A) It had cracks that carried extra water
(B) It remained wet after every shower
(C) It was closest to the playground drain
(D) It had warmth without harsh noon sun

Q36. Read the passage and answer the question.

On Wednesday, Aditi found a blue steel tiffin under the neem tree after games period. It was heavier than an empty box, and the lid was tied with a red ribbon. Her friends urged her to open it, saying the owner would not mind if they only looked. Aditi hesitated. On the top, a small paper read, "For the science room, before lunch." She remembered that Class VIII B was collecting soil samples for an experiment and that the science room was kept locked after the bell. Instead of carrying the tiffin to the playground teacher, she took it to the office, where the clerk checked the timetable and rang the laboratory assistant. Ten minutes later, Manoj from VIII B arrived, breathless. The box held wet soil from his grandmother's garden, not food. He had left it under the tree while tying his shoelace. The assistant smiled and said the sample had stayed useful because Aditi had not opened the lid. During assembly the next day, the principal praised her, not for finding the box, but for thinking before acting.

What does "hesitated" mean as used in the passage?

(A) hurried without thought
(B) forgot the matter
(C) refused with anger
(D) paused before deciding

Q37. Which clue most strongly showed that the tiffin was meant for the lab?

(A) The box was heavier than empty
(B) The note said "For the science room"
(C) It lay below the neem tree
(D) The lid was tied with a red ribbon

Q38. Which statement best gives the main idea of the story?

(A) Opening lost items is harmless curiosity
(B) Ribbons are better labels than paper notes
(C) School offices should store all soil
(D) Thinking before acting can protect others' work

Q39. What can be inferred from the principal's reason for praising Aditi?

(A) She wanted students to avoid the lab
(B) She disliked games-period confusion
(C) She valued Aditi's judgement more than the find
(D) She thought the clerk had found the box

Q40. Why did Aditi take the tiffin to the office instead of opening it?

(A) Manoj was waiting in the office.
(B) The office could contact the right person.
(C) The teacher had ordered her to go.
(D) The lid had already been broken.

Spoken and Written Expression

5 questions · 1 mark each · 5 marks

Q41. Several girls made models together. Which sentence has the correct apostrophe?

(A) The girls's science models won prizes.
(B) The girls science models won prizes.
(C) The girl's science models won prizes.
(D) The girls' science models won prizes.

Q42. Your teacher says, 'Please submit the chart by Friday.' You reply: ___

(A) Certainly, ma'am. I will submit it by Friday.
(B) Certainly, ma'am. I will submit it till Friday.
(C) Certainly, ma'am. I will submit it from Friday.
(D) Certainly, ma'am. I will submit it within Friday.

Q43. Rearrange the words to form a statement: rarely / does / Neha / miss / her music practice

(A) Rarely Neha does miss her music practice.
(B) Rarely does Neha miss her music practice.
(C) Neha does miss rarely her music practice.
(D) Does Neha rarely miss her music practice.

Q44. Words: because / the floor / wet / walk / is / carefully. Choose the clearest order.

(A) Walk careful because the floor is wet.
(B) Walk carefully because the floor is wet.
(C) Walk carefully because the floor has wet.
(D) Walk because the floor is wet carefully.

Q45. Teacher: Why were you absent yesterday? Student: ___

(A) I was unwell, ma'am, so I may miss school.
(B) I was unwell ma'am, so I missed school.
(C) I was unwell, ma'am, so I missed school.
(D) I am unwell yesterday, ma'am, so I missed school.

Achievers Section

5 questions · 3 marks each · 15 marks

Q46. When I reached the gate, Tara was tired because she ___ there since noon.

(A) waits
(B) had been waiting
(C) is waiting
(D) has been waiting

Q47. Nikhil said, 'The shortcut saved us ten minutes, but cost us half an hour cleaning our shoes.' What does he imply?

(A) They reached before everyone.
(B) The shortcut was clearly marked.
(C) The shortcut was not worthwhile.
(D) Cleaning their shoes was quick.

Q48. What does the idiom ‘to let the cat out of the bag’ mean?

(A) to reveal a secret
(B) to lose something
(C) to buy a pet
(D) to make a mistake

Q49. Choose the sentence without a dangling modifier.

(A) Entering the quiet library, Ananya lowered her voice.
(B) Entering the quiet library, the desk was near the door.
(C) Entering the quiet library, silence greeted Ananya.
(D) Entering the quiet library, the shelves seemed taller.

Q50. If Sameer had labelled the jars, he ___ salt for sugar.

(A) would not have mistaken
(B) will not mistake
(C) had not mistaken
(D) would not mistake

Free practice paper from syllabax.com · not affiliated with SOF or any official olympiad body.