

Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi
Practice Paper – TERM I (2026– 2027)
Class – VIII
Subject: English

Time: 2 ½ hours

Maximum Marks: 60

General Instructions:

1. The Question Paper is divided into FOUR sections. Section A: READING: 14 Marks Section B: GRAMMAR: 14 Marks Section C: WRITING: 12 Marks Section D: LITERATURE: 20 Marks
2. Attempt questions based on specific instructions for each part.
3. Marks are indicated against each question.
4. Read the questions carefully before answering.

SECTION A- READING (14 Marks)

Q1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

7

The Bihu festival is the first thing that comes to the mind when we speak of Assamese culture. This colourful festival is celebrated thrice in a year, each having its own significance of agriculture. The three Bihu festivals namely ‘Bohaag Bihu’ are celebrated in the month of ‘Bohaag’ (mid-April), Magh Bihu celebrated in the month of ‘Magh’ (mid-January) and Kati Bihu celebrated in the month of ‘Kati’ (mid-October).

Bohaag Bihu, the spring festival, is the festival of merrymaking and it also marks the Assamese New Year. The Bihu songs and dances are integral part of this Bihu. Magh Bihu, on the other hand, is the harvest festival and is marked by feasting. Various types of delicacies are prepared on the occasion of this Bihu. Kati Bihu is a more somber and subdued occasion and it neither involves merrymaking nor feasting. It is marked by prayers for good harvest.

1. According to the passage which Bihu marks the Assamese New Year?

1

a) Magh Bihu

b) Kati Bihu

d) Harvest Bihu

1

- a) It is celebrated outside Assam
- b) It focuses on prayers for a good harvest
- c) It marks the Assamese New Year
- d) It includes grand feasting and dancing

1

- a) Once b) Twice
- c) Thrice d) Four times

1

- a) Bohaag Bihu b) Kati Bihu
- c) Magh Bihu d) Spring Bihu

2

1

Heat Waves: A Growing Concern



Heat waves have become more frequent in many parts of India due to rising temperatures and changing weather patterns. Prolonged exposure to extreme heat can cause dehydration, fatigue, muscle cramps, dizziness, and, in severe cases, heatstroke. Children, older adults, outdoor workers, and people with existing medical conditions are more vulnerable to heat-related illnesses.

Fortunately, most heat-related problems can be prevented by adopting simple precautions. Drinking enough water, wearing light-coloured cotton clothes, avoiding outdoor activities during the hottest hours of the day, and resting in cool or shaded places help reduce the risk of heat-related illnesses. Public awareness campaigns play an important role in educating people about

these safety measures. Posters, radio messages, and social media alerts encourage individuals to make informed decisions and protect themselves as well as others during periods of extreme heat.

1) Which of the following is the best way to prevent dehydration during extreme heat? 1

- a) Drinking soft drinks frequently
- b) Drinking water regularly to stay hydrated
- c) Skipping meals during the day
- d) Wearing dark woollen clothes

2) Which idea mentioned in the passage is reinforced through the instructions given in the poster? 1

- a) Simple preventive measures can protect people from heat-related illnesses.
- b) Heat waves occur only in northern India.
- c) Summer is the longest season in India.
- d) Weather conditions remain the same throughout the year.

3) Which group is likely to benefit the most from the awareness campaign presented in the passage and the poster?? 1

- a) People working indoors throughout the day
- b) People travelling during winter
- c) Outdoor workers who remain exposed to the sun for long hours
- d) Students attending online classes

4) A local school decides to organise its Annual Sports Meet during a week when a heat wave has been predicted. Which action would be most appropriate, based on the information given in the passage and the poster? 1

- a) Conduct all events in the afternoon to avoid morning traffic.
- b) Encourage participants to wear dark-coloured uniforms.
- c) Continue the event without any changes because heat waves affect only older people.
- d) Provide drinking water, schedule events during cooler hours, and ensure shaded rest areas.

5) The passage explains why people should take precautions during a heat wave, while the poster explains how they can do so. Using information from both sources, explain any two ways in which the passage and the poster complement each other. 2

6) How does the poster make the information given in the passage easier for readers to understand? Give one reason. 1

SECTION B: GRAMMAR (14 Marks)

Q3. Do as directed.

I. Attempt **any four** from the following questions by choosing the most appropriate options.

(4x1=4)

1) Rohan was feeling cold, so he _____ a sweater before going outside.

- a) took off
- b) put on
- c) gave up
- d) turned off

2) “I don’t know what to _____ his strange behaviour,” said Neha.

- a) make of
- b) take after
- c) put away
- d) look for

3) The teacher asked the students to _____ their mobile phones during the examination.

- a) turn off
- b) put on
- c) look after
- d) take off

4) Aarav’s grandparents were away, so his aunt came to _____ him for two days.

- a) look after
- b) put out
- c) take off
- d) make up

5) The cricket match was delayed because the players had to _____ the wet covers from the pitch.

- a) put on
- b) take off
- c) turn down
- d) look into

II. Attempt **any four** from the following questions as indicated against each one of them.

(4x1=4)

6) Identify the adjective in the sentence given below:

The hungry child ate quickly.

Option	Adjective
A	hungry
B	child
C	ate
D	quickly

7) Identify the sentence which uses the adjective correctly from the options given below.

- a) This is the most easier question.
- b) Rahul is taller than Aman.
- c) Swati is more smarter than Rinki.
- d) Mohan is the most strongest player in the team.

8) State whether the following statement is True or False.

Adjectives are words that describe nouns and pronouns.
--

9) Iron is _____ than wood. (heavier/ heaviest/ heavy)

10) Riya is the _____ girl in the choir group.

- a) talented b) more talented
c) most talented d) talent

III. Attempt **any three** from the following questions as indicated against each one of them.(3x1=3)

11) Fill in the blank with the correct form of verb.

My friends _____ football every Sunday.

12) State whether the following statement is True or False.

Verbs are words that show an action, a state of being, or possession in a sentence.

13) Choose the correct verb to complete the sentence:

The students _____ quietly during the test two days ago.

- a) Sits
b) Sit
c) Sat
d) sitting

14) Identify the verb in the sentence below:

The cheerful children danced gracefully on the stage.

Option	Verb
A	Gracefully
B	children
C	danced
D	cheerful

IV. Attempt **any three** from the following questions as indicated against each one of them. (3x1=3)

15) Choose the correct modal verb to complete the sentence:

You _____ wear your seatbelt while driving.

- a) may b) should
c) can d) might

16) Fill in the blank with the most suitable modal.

_____ I borrow your notebook for a day?

17) State whether the following statement is True or False.

Modal verbs are used to express ability, permission, possibility, advice, or necessity.

18) Choose the sentence with the correct use of a modal verb from the options given below:

- She can sings beautifully.
- Ajay may finishes his homework before playing.
- We should respect our teachers.
- I must goes to the market later.

SECTION-C WRITING (12 Marks)

Q4. Answer **any one** from A and B.

(A) Draft a notice for the school notice board in about 50 words informing the students of classes VI-IX about a Tree Plantation Drive organised by the Eco Club of your school. You are Sumit/Sumita of Class VIII. (1x6=6)

OR

(B) Narrate an incident when you helped someone and felt proud of yourself. Mention who needed help, what you did to support them, how they reacted, and how the experience changed your thinking in 100-120 words.

Q5. Answer **any one** from A and B.

(A) You are a resident of Shastri Park, Delhi. Write a letter to the Municipal Corporation of your city in 100-120 words, regarding the increasing mosquito menace in your locality. Describe the health risks caused by stagnant water and dirty surroundings and request regular fogging and cleanliness drives. (1x6=6)

OR

(B) You are passionate about cricket and wish to join a sports academy for professional training. Write a letter to the Manager of Star Sports Academy, Delhi enquiring about the admission procedure, coaching schedule, practice facilities, fees, and availability of experienced coaches. (word limit:100-120 words)

SECTION D: LITERATURE (20 Marks)

Q6. Read the following passage and answer **any four** out of the five questions that follow: (4x1=4)

Krishnadeva Raya's court was home to eight celebrated poets, collectively known as the Ashtadiggajas. These poets, including Allasani Peddana and Tenali Ramakrishna, enriched the literary tradition with their masterpieces. Tenali Ramakrishna, in particular, was known for his quick wit and humour, earning him a special place in the king's court as both a poet and a witty advisor. His clever solutions to seemingly insurmountable problems made him a beloved figure in the empire's history.

a) Fill in the blank:

Krishnadeva Raya's court had eight famous poets known as the _____.

b) Read the statement given below. State True or False:

Tenali Ramakrishna was known for his cleverness and humour

- c) What made Tenali Ramakrishna popular in the king's court?
 - i. His bravery in wars
 - ii. His quick wit and clever solutions
 - iii. His musical talent
 - iv. His painting skills
- d) Which king's court was home to the Ashtadiggajas?
 - i. Ashoka
 - ii. Akbar
 - iii. Krishnadeva Raya
 - iv. Chandragupta Maurya
- e) Why was Tenali Ramakrishna given a special place in Krishnadeva Raya's court?

Q7. Read the following extract and answer **any two** out of the three questions that follow:

(2x2=4)

“She stood at the crossing and waited long,
Alone, uncared for, amid the throng
Of human beings who passed her by
Nor heeded the glance of her anxious eyes.”

- a) Where was the old woman standing?
- b) How did the people behave towards her?
- c) Which word in the stanza means ‘worried’?

Q8. Answer **any four** out of the five questions given below.

(4x3=12)

- a) How does the story of Major Somnath continue to motivate both soldiers and ordinary citizens even today?
- b) What impact did the quarrel between the king and the queen have on the palace?
- c) Why did Davenport disappear immediately after the jewellery hold-up, and what do you think he might have planned if Nolan had survived?
- d) According to Verghese Kurien, how can individuals contribute to the ‘common good’ in their daily lives?

e) What does the dusty road to Ujjain suggest about the difficulties faced by the young men during their journey?
