

## SOUTHERN PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### MID YEAR TEST - 2019

### GRADE - 8

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE

**Time : 2 Hours**

(Written test - Time 01 hr. 50 minutes  
 Listening Test - 10 minutes)

Name/ Index No :- .....

Answer all the questions.

1) Underline the correct ends of the following words. The first one is done for you.

- a) Organiza..... (tion, sion, tian)
- b) Affectiona..... (tely, taly, tily)
- c) Experien..... (ce, se, ze)
- d) Arrange..... (mant, ment, munt)
- e) Instruc..... (sion, tian, tion)
- f) Incredi..... (bal, bel, ble)

(1x5=5 marks)

2) Put the jumbled words in correct order to form meaningful sentences.

First one is done for you.

a) schools / most / the / at / 7.30 a.m / of / start

Most of the schools start at 7.30 a.m

b) prepares / mother / meals / my / morning / early / the

.....

c) yesterday / was / the / here / teacher / not

.....

d) swept/ students / the / have / classroom / well

.....

e) prepare / Ranjan / has / a / to / speech

.....

f) he / avoided / could / easily / accident / have / the

.....

3) Fill in the blanks using the collective nouns given in the box. One is done for you.

(1x5=5 marks)

a. There is a ..... toothpaste in the bathroom.

b. My friend gave me a ..... bread to eat during the interval.

c. A very good ..... football players participated in the match.

d. I saw a ..... cows gazing in the playground.

e. My father asked me to buy a crate of soft drink bottles for the party.

f. It is beautiful to see the ..... ships sailing in the sea.

Fleet of, slice of, herd of, erate of, team of, tube of

(1x5=5 marks)

4) Complete the following sentences by writing the correct form of the word given in the brackets. The first one is done for you.

- a) Hiller lake in Australia is the only lake found with colourful (colour) water.
- b) The students waited.....(anxious) for the examination results to be released.
- c) Ruwan is the ..... (tall) boy in the class .
- d) Mars is..... (close) to Earth than Uranus.
- e) I met him.....(recent) at the super market.
- f) Our principal always tries to advise us and solve problems. He is very.....(understand)

(1X5=5 marks)

5) Read the following note and write a reply including the following.

- Say that you like to join
- Things you will bring
- Time and date you like to join

Dear Nilmini,

I need to prepare a book on birds. Can you please join me to go to the zoo to collect some information about birds and feathers? Please get permission from your parents and let me know your participation. If you are willing to join, please bring your camera too.

Janani

.....

.....

.....

(10 marks)

6) study the picture and complete the description of it. One is done for you.



This is a picture of a picnic made by..... six..... people. They have selected an open..... close to the sea where their children can ..... Some of them are going to eat while the children are playing with a..... There are some..... on a tray and some..... are in a basket. There is a..... shady tree in the background. A..... behind the tree is..... at others. A..... is flying towards the ..... This place seems to be very calm and quiet.

(1/2x 10=5 marks)

7) Fill in the blanks with the most suitable word given in the box below. One is done for you.

Dolphins are regarded as the friendliest creatures in the sea and stories of them helping drowning (1) sailors have been common since Roman (2)..... The more we learn about (3)..... the more we realize that (4)..... society is more complex than (5)..... previously imagined. They look after (6)..... dolphins when they are ill,(7)..... for pregnant mothers and protect (8)..... weakest in the community, as (9)..... do. Some scientists have suggested (10)..... dolphins have a language but it is much more probable that they communicate with each other without needing words.

It, other, the, dolphins, that, we, times, care, people , their, sailors

(1/2x10=5 marks)

08) Read the following paragraph and answer the question

Banana is a tropical tree with fleshy fruit suspended close together on a strong, short, stem like projections. The banana flower turns to finger shaped fruit and increase in size until they turn golden yellow when ripen. The banana flower is a good source of iron and the fruit is rich in vitamin C.

There are many varieties of bananas such as ash plantains, kolikuttu, Anamalu with thick, fleshy peel and red banana.

Abel Janson, a Dutch explorer found plantations of banana in Van Diemen's land in 1603. It was found that certain African tribes not only ate the fruit, but used the leaves as plates.

The Mexican and Indian women made sandals out of banana fiber obtained from the trunk of matured tree.

In our country. The villagers even use the banana leaf to shield themselves from a shower. They also heat the leaf and lay milk rice on it to give a special flavor to it.

1. What is the shape of banana fruit?.....(02)
2. Say whether the following statements are true or false by writing 'T' or 'F' in the blank.
  - a) The banana stem is a good source of iron. (.....)
  - b) The banana fruit is rich in Vitamin C. (.....) ( 1 x 2=2)
- 3.What is the colour of the fruit when ripen? .....(02)
- 4.Which variety has a fleshy peel? .....(02)
- 5.Who made sandals out of banana fiber?.....(02)

(10 marks)

09) Underline the correct form of the verb given in the brackets. One is done for you.

- a) Deepavali .....(celebrates/is celebrated) in November by Hindus.
- b) I .....(have/ had) a bad dream last night.
- c) English.....(is/was) an extraordinary language.
- d) Penicillin..... (discovered / was discovered) by Alexander Fleming.
- e) Rohini.....(writes/ write) a letter to her pen -friend every week.
- f) Don't disturb her. She.....(does / is doing) her home work.

(1x5=5 marks)

10) Fill the gaps with phrases from the box. The first one is done for you.

- a) I wrote him a letter but he.....never answered.....
- b) Can you give some money? I need to buy.....
- c) It was my mother's birthday, so I ..... a present.
- d) Why don't you .....your photos? I'd love to see them.
- e) Waiter, we'd like some coffee, please. And.....bring some more water?
- f) The children come home by 2 o'clock. Can you give them.....?

give them , can you , something to eat , never answered , sent her , show me , some books, some books

(1x5=5marks)

11) Read the following poem and answer the given questions.

**The Wind and the Leaves**

“Come, little leaves,” said the wind one day,  
 “Come over the meadows with me and play.  
 Put on your dresses of red and gold;  
 For summer is gone, and the days grow cold.”

Soon as the leaves heard the wind’s loud call,  
 Down they came fluttering, one and all.  
 O'er the brown field then they danced and flew  
 Singing the soft little songs, they knew.

Dancing and whirling, the little leaves went,  
 Winter had called them, and they were content.  
 Soon, fast asleep on their earthy beds,  
 The snow laid a coverlet over their heads.

- (1) Who said “Come Little Leaves”?..... (1 mark)
- (2) What are the two colours mentioned in the first stanza?  
 1) ..... 2) ..... (2 marks)
- (3) What do these colours describe? ..... (1 mark)
- (4) What do the leaves do as soon as they hear the wind’s call?  
 ..... (1 mark)
- (5) where do the leaves sleep?..... (1 mark)

(6) Write the two seasons mention in the poem.

1)..... 2)..... (2 marks)

7) Select the words from the poem that rhyme with the given words.

a) cold - ..... b) day - .....  
c) call - ..... d) beds- ..... (1/2 x4 = 2) ( 10 marks)

12) Write a paragraph on 'Peradeniya Botanical Garden' using the given information. Use about 100 words.

- Situated in Peradeniya in Kandy district.
- Total area 147 acres.
- Includes more than 4000 species of plants.
- Plants like orchids, spices, medical plants and palm tree.
- Annual rainfall is 200mm.
- Attracts over 2 million visitors annually.
- Managed by the Divisional Botanical Gardens of the Department of Agriculture

(10 marks)

13. Testing Listening

**Listening test**

**Grade 8**

**Task sheet**

Listen to the weather report and answer the questions.

(A) Underline the correct answer.

1. This is the weather forecast for .....

(a) the day after tomorrow (b) tomorrow (c) next Monday

2. Tomorrow's weather will be

(a) sunny (b) windy (c) rainy

3. The temperature will range from

(a) 20-25°C (b) 25-27°C (c) 23-25°C

(B) Match A and B. Write the correct letter in the bracket.

A

4. scattered showers ( )  
5. thunder showers ( )  
6. windy weather ( )

B

(a) eastern coast  
(b) Kandy district  
(c) southern province

(C) Write short answers.

7. Which province is likely to experience gloomy weather? .....

8. When will be scattered showers in Kandy? .....

(1 x 8=8 marks)

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### ENGLISH LANGUAGE Answer Key

#### Answer Key

#### Test one

Uses affixes to change the word class and the meaning of the word.

1. tion	2. tely	3. ce	
4. ment	5. tion	6. ble	( 5 marks)

#### Test Two

Assess the ability to construct simple sentences.

1. Most of the schools start at 7.30 a.m
2. My mother prepares meals early in the morning.
3. The teacher was not here yesterday.
4. The students have swept the class room well.
5. Ranjan has to prepare a speech.
6. He could have easily avoided the accident.

( 5 marks)

#### Test Three

Use collective nouns and compound nouns

1. tube of	2. loaf of	3. team of	
4. herd of	5. crate of	6. fleet of	( 5 marks)

#### Test four

Uses nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs appropriately

a. colorful	b. anxiously	c. tallest	
d. closer	e. recently	f. understanding	( 5 marks)

#### Test five

Write for personal purposes

Content -3  
Language -5  
Organization -2

(10 marks)

#### Test six

Use visual and contextual clues to derive meaning of the text

1. six	7. big/huge (any similar word)
2. area/ place	8. boy
3. play	9. looking/peeping
4. ball	10. bird
5. Sandwiches	11. Tree
6. Apples	

( 5 marks)

**Test seven**Assess the ability to use appropriate words to complete a text

1. Sailors      2. Times      3. Dolphins      4. Their  
 5. We      6. Other      7. Care      8. The  
 9. People      10. That      11. It

( 5 marks)

**Test eight**Read and understand directly stated information

1. finger shaped  
 2. (a) F  
 (b) T  
 3. golden yellow  
 4. anamalu and red banana  
 5. Mexican and Indian women

( 10 marks)

**Test nine**Assess the ability to use the correct form of the verb.

a. is-elebrated      b. had      c. is  
 d. was discovered      e. writes      f. is doing

( 5 marks)

**Test ten**

a. Assess ability to understand short exchanges in different situations  
 b. some books      c. sent her      d. show me  
 e. can you      f. something to eat

( 5 marks)

**Test eleven**Read and respond to a simple poem

1. The wind  
 2. 1. red      2. gold  
 3. dresses /dresses of the leaves  
 4. On the earth/ on the earthy beds/ on the ground  
 5. They came down fluttering/danced  
 6. 1. summer      2. winter  
 7) a) gold      b) play      c) all      d) head

( 10 marks)

**Test twelve**Ability to write an essay on given topic and guide lines.

Content - 3

Language - 5

Organization - 2

( 10 marks)

**Test thirteen****Answers (listening)**

(A) 1.b      2.c      3.b  
 (B) 4.b      5.c      6.a  
 (C) 7.Northern province      8.In the evening

( 8 marks)