

STANDARDISED ASSESSMENT FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (SAFES): 2025 - 2026

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

CLASS VIII

Duration: 3 hours

Full Mark – 100

Pass Mark – 40

- A1.** In the lesson, "A Visit to Cambridge," you learned about the meeting between two great men: Stephen Hawking and Firdaus Kanga, a journalist. Express in about 100 words how the lesson made you feel about the two great men and their abilities. (10 marks)
- A2.** You are the secretary of the Eco Club of Shining Star School. On the occasion of World Environment Day, your school is organizing an article writing competition to create awareness about protecting the environment. Write a notice to be displayed on the school notice board. Include details such as the date, topic, last date of submission, and other necessary details. (10 marks)
- A3.** Your name is XYZ and you turned 15 years old on 1st February, 2026 (Sunday). Write a diary entry on how you celebrated your birthday. (10 marks)
- A4.** Read the sentences below these pictures and rewrite the story in proper sequence in one paragraph giving a suitable title. (10 marks)



Fox accidentally falls into a well



"How do i get out of here?"



"Hello! Is this water sweet?"



"Too sweet! I've had so much, i might faint."



"Let me taste it."



"Thanks for the help. Come out when you can."



"My mother used to say:
Be careful how you take the advice of people you don't know."

B1. Read the following poem and answer the questions given below. (2×2=4 marks)

*The poetry of earth is never dead:
When all the birds are faint with the hot sun,
And hide in cooling trees, a voice will run
From hedge to hedge about the new-mown mead,
That is the grasshopper's — he takes the lead
In summer luxury — he has never done
With his delights, for when tired out with fun
He rests at ease beneath some pleasant weed.*

- a) How does the grasshopper spend summer?
 - b) What does the line, "When all the birds are faint with the hot sun," mean?
- B2.** In the story, "A visit to Cambridge" why did the writer find the first glimpse of Stephen Hawking shocking? (2 marks)
- B3.** (a) Write in two sentences some unfortunate things that can happen due to endless rain for many days? (2 marks)
- (b) When does winter season begin in Mizoram? Write two sentences on why you like or dislike the winter season. (2 marks)
- B4.** Read the following poem and answer the questions given below. (3×2=6 marks)
- 'Good gracious! how you hop!
Over the fields and the water too,
As if you never would stop!
My life is a bore in this nasty pond,
And I long to go out in the world beyond!
I wish I could hop like you!'
Said the Duck to the Kangaroo.*

Please give me a ride on your back!
Said the Duck to the Kangaroo.
'I would sit quite still, and say nothing but "Quack,"
The whole of the long day through!
And we'd go to the Dee, and the Jelly Bo Lee,
Over the land, and over the sea; —
Please take me on a ride! O do!
Said the Duck to the Kangaroo.

- a) The duck says that its life is "A bore in this nasty pond". What does this tell you about the Duck's feelings?
- b) How does the Duck plan to go out in the world beyond?
- c) Why do you think the Duck chooses the Kangaroo to fulfill its wish to travel?
- B5.** a) In the story :This is Jody's fawn," why was Jody worried about the little fawn? Give your answer in one or two sentences. (2 marks)
- b) Put the following Direct Speech into Reported Speech. (3×2=6 marks)
- i) Sanga said, "Are you really happy mother"?
- ii) Kimi said, "Rema, do you really want the apple"?
- iii) Maya said, "I will do my homework tomorrow".
- C1.** Complete the sentences using the right form of adjectives or verbs given in the bracket. (5×1=5 marks)
- a) This is the _____ road in our village. (long)
- b) This is the _____ flower I have ever seen. (beautiful)
- c) She _____ to school everyday. (go)
- d) We _____ in the park when it started raining. (play)
- e) They _____ a movie last night. (watch)
- C2.** Match the following words with their correct meaning. (3×1=3 marks)
- | A | B |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| a) downpour | a) overflowing of water |
| b) floods | b) to fall in small drops |
| c) drip | c) a heavy fall of rain |
- C3.** Based on the story, "This is Jody's fawn", mark 'True' or 'False' for the following statements:- (3×1=3 marks)
- a) Jody's father uses a home remedy for a snake bite.
- b) Jody's inability to keep the image of the fawn out of his mind shows that he is emotionally affected by what has happened.
- c) Penny's statement, "I'm proud of you, boy," indicates that he appreciates Jody's anxious and thoughtless behaviour during the crisis.
- C4.** Arrange the following words in the order that they make complete sense :- (5×1=5 Marks)
- a) are my these toys
- b) like i hop i wish you could
- c) over weak all felt i

- d) a beautiful hills with the sky golden and light suffused are
- e) earth the is dead poetry of never

Choose the correct answer :- (20×1=20 marks)

- D1.** In the context of the poem, “On the grasshopper and Cricket” the word ‘Luxury’ means – (1 marks)
- i) Something that is pleasant
 - ii) A simple and basic way of living
 - iii) Something needed for daily survival
 - iv) A rule or law people must follow
- D2.** In the context of the poem, “On the grasshopper and Cricket,” the Grasshopper when tired out with fun rests –
- i) Pile of stones
 - ii) Under the grasses
 - iii) Bed of flowers
 - iv) On the sand
- D3.** A flowerless plant with feathery green leaves is called a _____
- i) herb
 - ii) shrub
 - iii) climber
 - iv) fern
- D4.** The opposite of the word “disconsolately” would be – (1 marks)
- i) comfortably
 - ii) happily
 - iii) fearfully
 - iv) peacefully
- D5.** The Duck’s promise to, “Sit quite still and say nothing but ‘Quack,’” shows that–
- i) He is careless and noisy
 - ii) He is bossy and demanding
 - iii) He is considerate and willing to adjust
 - iv) He is shy and afraid
- D6.** The line “Good gracious! How you hop!” shows that –
- a) The Duck is surprised and impressed by the Kangaroo
 - b) The Duck is mocking the Kangaroo
 - c) The Duck is angry with the Kangaroo
 - d) The Duck is warning the Kangaroo to be careful
- D7.** Choose the correct option that identifies the tense used in the line “I wish I could hop like you”.
- a) Simple present
 - b) Simple past
 - c) Simple future
 - d) Present perfect
- D8.** In the sentence, “My life is a bore in this nasty pond,” the word “Nasty” is a/an ____
- a) Noun
 - b) Verb
 - c) Adjective
 - d) Adverb
- D9.** Choose the correct meaning of the phrase “long day through” as used in the poem “The Duck and the Kangaroo”.
- a) For a short time
 - b) All day long
 - c) Only in the morning
 - d) All night

D10. Identify the type of sentence: "Please give me a ride on your back!"

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| a) Declaration | c) Imperative |
| b) Interrogative | d) Exclamatory |

D11. Choose the correct option to fill in the blanks:-

"I wish you ____ come with me"

- | | |
|---------|----------|
| a) can | c) could |
| b) will | d) must |

D12. A baby of doe is called –

- | | |
|-----------|---------|
| c) puppy | c) fawn |
| d) kitten | d) baby |

D13. A person who treats sick animals is called a –

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| a) pharmacist | c) dermatologist |
| b) veterinarian | d) veteran |

D14. A duck is a –

- | | |
|-----------|--------------|
| a) mammal | c) reptile |
| b) bird | d) amphibian |

D15. A grasshopper –

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| a) chirps | c) meows |
| b) roars | d) bellows |

D16. He has two brothers. _____ are lawyers.

- | | |
|---------|----------|
| a) both | c) their |
| b) all | d) which |

D17. What you are doing now is _____ than what you did yesterday.

- | | |
|-----------|--------------|
| a) softer | c) easier |
| b) easy | d) more easy |

D18. A journal is a _____.

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| a) personal writing | c) dramatic script |
| b) fictional story | d) scientific formula |

D19. Monsoon is a _____ season.

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| a) sunny | c) rainy |
| b) cold | d) dry |

D20. Choose the correct form of the verbs to fill in the blank.

She _____ a letter when her friend called.

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| a) is writing | c) has been writing |
| b) writes | d) was writing |