



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

POST- MIDTERM QUESTION PAPER (2025-2026)

ENGLISH-ANSWER KEY

Date: 7.12.25

Class: VIII

M.M: 30

General Instructions:

- ✓ All questions are compulsory.
- ✓ The question paper consists of four sections:
Section A – Reading (10 marks), Section B- Writing (4 marks),
Section C- Grammar (5 marks) and Section D-Literature (11 marks)
- ✓ Attempt one section at a stretch and then move to the next section and number your questions correctly.
- ✓ Use of correcting fluid (whitener) is prohibited.

Note: This paper consists of 5 printed pages.

SECTION A-READING (6 Marks)		
Q.1.	<p>Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Shadows of the Forgotten Manor</p> <p>1. For decades, the old manor on the outskirts of town had been avoided by everyone. Locals whispered about strange occurrences—flickering lights in empty rooms, distant footsteps echoing through hallways, and shadows moving against the natural flow of light. Despite these tales, Sophia felt an irresistible pull toward the manor, driven by an unspoken connection she could not explain.</p> <p>2. One autumn evening, she entered the manor alone. As she wandered through its dusty corridors, whispers seemed to ripple through the air, speaking in tongues she couldn't understand but somehow felt deeply. In the grand library, an ancient book lay open on the table, glowing faintly. When Sophia touched it, a wave of memories flooded her mind—visions of lives long past intertwined with the manor's history.</p> <p>3. She realized that the manor was not haunted by anger or dread but by memories waiting to be acknowledged. The shadows were not malevolent spirits but fragments of forgotten moments yearning for remembrance. Sophia left with a newfound respect for the delicate balance between the living and the past, aware that some places hold stories too powerful to be ignored.</p> <p>Choose the correct option.</p> <p>1. What was Sophia's main reason for entering the manor?</p> <p>a. To prove the rumors were false b. An unexplainable connection she felt c. To look for hidden treasure</p>	6 marks

	<p>d. To take photographs for a project</p> <p>2. How does the passage describe the shadows in the manor?</p> <p>a. As fragments of forgotten memories</p> <p>b. As angry and dangerous spirits</p> <p>c. As ordinary shadows caused by light</p> <p>d. As illusions created by Sophia’s mind</p> <p>3. What effect did, ‘touching’ the ancient book, have on Sophia?</p> <p>a. It scared her away</p> <p>b. It flooded her mind with memories of the manor’s past</p> <p>c. It made her sleep instantly</p> <p>d. It caused a loud noise to echo</p> <p>4. What is the central message of the story?</p> <p>a. Forgotten places are always dangerous</p> <p>b. It is best to avoid old buildings</p> <p>c. Supernatural beings control the manor</p> <p>d. Some memories linger in places and seek recognition</p> <p>5. What does the word ‘intertwined’ in para 2, mean in the context of the passage if it were used to describe memories?</p> <p>a. Easy to forget</p> <p>b. New and exciting</p> <p>c. twisted together or closely connected so as to be difficult to separate</p> <p>d. Unimportant or ignored</p> <p>6. In the passage, what does the word ‘fragment’ in para 3, most closely mean?</p> <p>a. A small broken piece</p> <p>b. A type of shadow</p> <p>c. A loud noise</p> <p>d. A bright light</p>	
Q.2	<p>Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Lost Artifact</p> <p>1. In a quiet village nestled between rolling hills, stories circulated about a mysterious artifact hidden deep within the ancient forest nearby. The artifact was said to possess powers that could change the fate of anyone who found it. Many had tried to find it but returned empty-handed, often warning others about the forest’s deceptive paths and traps.</p> <p>2. Ethan, a curious and determined young explorer, decided to venture into the forest despite the warnings. As he carefully navigated the dense trees and tangled roots, he noticed subtle clues—strange symbols carved on stones and faint, glowing lights guiding him. After overcoming several challenges, he finally</p>	4

	<p>reached a hidden cave where the artifact rested on a pedestal.</p> <p>3. Upon touching the artifact, Ethan felt a surge of energy and understanding. But instead of keeping it, he realized that its power was meant to protect the forest and its creatures, not for personal gain. Respectful of its purpose, he left the artifact where it belonged, feeling wiser and more connected to the natural world.</p> <p>1. What motivated Ethan to enter the ancient forest?</p> <p>a. To prove the stories false b. To escape the village c. To hunt wild animals d. Curiosity and determination to find the artifact</p> <p>2. What did Ethan feel when he touched the artifact?</p> <p>a. A surge of energy and understanding b. Fear and confusion c. Exhaustion and cold d. Pain and weakness</p> <p>3. What does the word 'artifact' most likely mean in the passage?</p> <p>a. A living creature b. A type of plant c. An object of historical or cultural importance d. A sound or noise</p> <p>4. In the context of the passage, what is meant by "deceptive paths" (para 1)?</p> <p>a. Paths that are easy to follow b. Paths that trick or mislead travelers c. Paths full of flowers d. Paths that lead to the village</p>	
	SECTION B -WRITING (4 Marks)	
Q.3.	<p>Write an essay on the following topic in 150-200 words:</p> <p>"The impact of bullying on mental health and how we can create a supportive school environment."</p> <p>(FORMAT-1; CONTENT-3)</p>	
	SECTION C -GRAMMAR (5 Marks)	
Q.4.	<p>Identify whether the following statements are in Active Voice or Passive Voice</p> <p>1. The teacher explained the lesson clearly. ○ Active voice</p>	(½x5=2½)

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The homework was completed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Passive voice 3. The cake was baked by my mother for the party. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Passive voice 4. Scientists discover new species every year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Active voice 5. The venue will be decorated. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Passive voice 	
Q5.	<p>Change the voice from Active to Passive.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I did not beat her. 2. The tiger was chasing the deer. 3. Have you finished the report? 4. The policemen have caught the thief. 5. Anybody can cure it. <p>ANS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. She was not beaten by me. 2. The deer was being chased by the tiger. 3. Has the report been finished by you? 4. The thief has been caught by the policemen. 5. It can be cured by anyone. 	($\frac{1}{2} \times 5 = 2\frac{1}{2}$)
SECTION D LITERATURE (11 Marks)		
Q 6.	<p>Answer ANY ONE of the following with reference to context.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. She threw open the window and gently placed the little bird on the sill. He shook himself a little. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Who is 'she' in the above lines? b. Why did she open the window and place the bird on the sill? c. What do you understand by this act of hers? <p>Ans:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. She is Princess September. b. She opened the window and placed the bird on the sill to set it free. c. Realizing that true love cannot thrive in captivity, she sets the bird free. <p>(Words may vary)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. <i>"Do you think the fawn's still there? Will you help me find him?"</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Who is the speaker? b. To whom is the speaker asking for help? c. Why does the speaker want to find the fawn? <p>Ans:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Jody is the speaker. b. Jody is asking Mill Wheel for help. c. Jody's father had been bitten by a rattlesnake. The fawn's mother was the one who saved his life. Jody felt bad about abandoning the fawn in the forest after its mother was killed. 	(1x3=3)
Q 7.	<p>Answer <i>any three</i> questions in brief:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why does Jody want to bring the fawn home? <p>Ans: Jody's father had killed the doe. Without the mother deer, the fawn was likely to starve to death in the forest. So, Jody wanted to bring the young fawn home.</p>	(1x3=3)

2. What did Princess September do to ensure the safety of her pet?
Ans. To ensure the safety of her pet and to eliminate the risk of losing him, Princess September locked the bird in a golden cage.

3. 3. What does the line,
“Nor sit in learning’s bower worn thro’ with the dreary shower”, mean?
Ans: It means the boy feels too weary and dispirited by the oppressive school setting of dull lessons and teacher's lectures.

4. Jody didn’t want Mill-wheel with him for two reasons. What were they?
Ans: Jody didn’t want Mill-wheel to join him in the search for the fawn. The reason was that he was not sure about the fawn’s safety. He didn’t want Mill-wheel to see his disappointment

Q.8 Match the words in the first column with their correct meanings in the last column and rewrite them. (½x4=2)

1. a close shave	a. shiver
2. convulsion	b. traps for catching birds or animals
3. nip’d (nipped)	c. a narrow escape
4. snares	d. to stop or destroy something at an early stage of its development
	e. mind or mentality

1-c; 2-a; 3-d; 4-b

Q9. Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in detail. (1½x2=3)

a. **How can you say that Jody was a caring and responsible caretaker of the fawn?**

Ans: Jody took upon the responsibility of looking after the fawn. He looked after the fawn like a mother. He carried it with utmost care and sensitivity to the house even though he was light-hearted with joy. He saved it from all the twigs and bushes that came along the way. He gave it his share of milk and even made it drink while remaining patient, as the fawn refused to drink directly from the gourd.

b. **How did Princess September’s react to the loss of her parrot?**

Ans. When Princess September got to know about the death of her parrot, she burst into a flood of tears, and nothing that her Maids of Honour could say comforted her. She cried so much that the Maids of Honour, not knowing what to do, told the Queen about it.

c. **How carefully did Jody bring the fawn back to his home?**

Ans: Jody picked up the fawn into his arms and proceeded to home. After some distance, he kept the fawn down and took rest. Later on, the fawn followed him. Thus, he brought the fawn back home.