



# INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Post Mid Term Examination (2025-26)

Subject: English

SET -II

ANSWER KEY

Class: IX

Date: 25/11/2025

Time: 3 Hours

Max. Marks: 80

General Instructions:

Read the following instruction carefully and follow them

- i. This question paper has 13 questions
- ii. This question paper contains four sections:

Section A: Reading Skills

Section B: Writing Skills

Section C: Grammar

Section D: Literature


- iii. Attempt all questions based on specific instructions for each part. Write the correct question number and part thereof in your answer sheet.
- iv. Separate instructions are given with each question/part, wherever necessary.
- v. Adhere to the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.

SECTION A: READING SKILLS (20 marks)		
Q.1.	Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow	(10 marks)
	<p>1. When the liner had finally vanished over the horizon, I was absolutely alone in the stormy night sea. First, I thought I had to swim one way, then another. It was not even midnight yet and I had no hope at all of finding my way in this terrible night time ocean. I began to feel afraid. Waves of fear rolled through me, starting from my hands and feet, attacking my heart and then reaching through my neck to my head. Waves broke over me and water went into my snorkel. I realised I would not be able to last even half an hour in such a condition.</p> <p>2. I saw individual stars but I could not distinguish the constellations they belonged to. Then dawn came and put out all my stars and I felt my solitude more keenly. The sky was grey at first, then blue-violet shades appeared. In a few minutes, the colours became brighter with dark red strips cutting across the sky. The rising Sun came up over the ocean. I was surrounded by large waves. The clouds turned pink and swept across the sky in all directions. It was a windy day. There was no land visible. I grew alarmed. Had I made a mistake in my calculations? Perhaps the current had carried me a long way off the course during the night?</p> <p>3. An hour passed, perhaps two. "Land!!!" I could not deny myself the pleasure of shouting the magic word aloud and of hearing my own voice. Perhaps it was my ghostly island of Siargao? I almost felt I had succeeded - now at least I had hope. The Sun looked out for the last time, as if it was saying goodbye to me and hid itself away again. In a few minutes the sky was filled with all the colours of a rainbow, the bright shades changing and merging as I watched. At first the clouds became deep red and then their edges turned bright orange. A little while afterwards, the clouds turned lilac and dark violet. Darkness fell swiftly. My second lonely night in the ocean began. The</p>	

	<p>stars came out unnoticed. I changed course and headed for the South-West. As it turned out, this was an unforgivable mistake.</p> <p>4. Evening was approaching. The ocean around me was full of life; large fish often leapt out of the water and big birds flew right above my head. I could see the island distinctly now. A line of dancing palms stretched the length of its shore. The sides of the mountain were covered in many different shades of green. An hour passed, perhaps more. It was extraordinarily quiet. Then suddenly to my horror, I discovered my island had noticeably begun to move North and was drifting further and further in that direction right before my eyes. Before I had worked out what was happening and could sharply change my course towards the North, the Southern tip of the island had appeared in front of me and, beyond that, open ocean stretched to the very horizon. I was totally at the mercy of the current and realised to my alarm that it was slowly carrying me past the land.</p> <p>5. My third night in the ocean crept up unnoticed. This third night in the ocean was very dark, much darker than the two previous ones. I almost decided to die as I had no hope of seeing another dawn. I was suddenly aware of a quiet voice: "Swim to the sound of the breakers."</p> <p>6. Indeed, there had been a distant rumbling for some time although I had paid no attention to it. Now, I started listening and I thought it sounded like the characteristic noise of jet aeroplanes constantly landing and taking off. The voice inside kept insisting that I should swim towards this thunder of waves. At last, I obeyed. Again, I heard an approaching rumble. What I suddenly saw at a distance of about 30 or 40 metres has imprinted itself on my memory forever. It was a gigantic wave with steep, very slowly falling crests. Never in my life had I seen such an enormous wave - it even seemed to be touching the sky. It moved very slowly and was fantastically beautiful.</p> <p>7. The wave did not break over me as I assumed it would. An irresistible force dragged me up its steep slope right to the very foot of the falling crest. Instinctively, I clutched my mask snorkel and managed to take a deep breath. The crest started to break over me and pulled me under it. For a moment, I found myself in the air under the crest as if in a cave. Then my body was in a swirling current of water; the inner power of the wave made me recover several times, twisting me in all directions before it subsided. I realised that I had to try to keep my body on the crest and I quickly took up a horizontal position. This time the wave quickly grabbed me and carried me at great speed for quite a long distance on its crest.</p> <p>8. I got up to the surface easily and swam in the direction the waves were heading. "Somewhere there, beyond the reef, there should be a lagoon," I hoped. Suddenly, I felt something hard under my feet. I could stand up to my chest in water! Around me I could see random currents of water, splashes of foam and phosphorescent spray, all swirling about. Before I fully came to my senses, another large wave approached and carried me some distance further. I was up to my waist in water when a new wave picked me up, taking me several metres forward. Now, the depth of the water was only up to my knees. I had enough time to take a few tentative steps, to catch my breath and look around. I surfaced at the foot of a very tall palm tree. I left a trail of luminous water and my body glittered like some princess's ball-gown. Only now did I feel completely safe. The ocean was behind me.</p>	
1.	<p>What emotion can be associated with the narrator in the beginning of the passage?</p> <p>(a) Anger</p> <p><b>(b) Fear</b></p> <p>(c) Nervousness</p> <p>(d) Joy</p>	1
2.	<p>At the beginning of the story, the narrator seems to be swimming alone in the stormy night sea. Why? Give reason including evidence from the story.</p> <p>Ans. <b>The narrator was left alone in the stormy night sea because the liner (ship) he was on had departed and vanished over the horizon. Evidence: "When the liner had finally vanished over</b></p>	2

	<b>the horizon, I was absolutely alone in the stormy night sea.</b>	
3.	Why did the narrator feel that he would not last? (a) He was scared.  (b) Water had entered his snorkel.  (c) He did not know where to go.  <b>(d) Both (b) and (c)</b>	1
4.	Why did the narrator grow alarmed? <b>Ans. The narrator grew alarmed because he could not see any land.</b>	1
5.	The narrator mentions one of his actions as an unforgivable mistake. Do you think it was the biggest mistake made by him? <b>Ans. Yes, it appears to be his biggest mistake because changing course to the South-West caused him to drift past the island due to the current. This mistake nearly cost him his life as he was "totally at the mercy of the current" and it carried him past the land.</b>	1
6.	Select the most suitable replacement of the underlined word from paragraph 6 that is similar in meaning. The organisers of the Desert Festival came across <u>gigantic</u> sand dunes and decided to set up camp in that vicinity. <b>Ans. enormous</b>	1
7.	State whether the given statement is True or False. The narrator was certain that the enormous wave will break his hope to be onshore. <b>Ans. False</b> (The narrator was not certain the wave would break his hope. He "assumed it would" break over him, but he didn't express certainty about losing hope. In fact, the wave ultimately helped him reach shore.)	1
8.	Complete the sentence appropriately. The voice inside the narrator's mind indicated him to <b>swim towards the sound of the breakers/thunder of waves.</b>	1
9.	At what point did the narrator feel completely safe? Why? <b>Ans. The narrator felt completely safe when he surfaced at the foot of a very tall palm tree on land. He felt safe because the ocean was finally behind him, and he was on solid ground after three nights at sea.</b>	1
Q.2.	<b>Read the following passage to answer the questions that follow:</b>	(10 marks)
	<p>1. Yoga in India is considered to be around 5,000 years old mental, physical and spiritual practice. It originated in ancient times when people used to meditate to transform their body and mind. Launching and celebrating 21st June as Yoga Day was an initiative taken by the Indian Prime Minister in the United Nations General Assembly. From then, the yoga day became a worldwide event celebrated by the people of all countries.</p> <p>2. Yoga is essentially a spiritual discipline. It is the art and science of healthy living. It is a practice of controlled body part movements and control of breath. It is not just a physical practice but also a way to get control over mental, emotional and spiritual thoughts. It improves discipline and sense of power while providing a chance to live a healthy life without physical and mental problems.</p> <p>3. Yoga is a very safe, easy and healthy way to get fit for the whole life without any problems. It can be practiced by people at any age be it childhood, teenage, adult or old age irrespective of age, religion or health circumstances. It needs only safe, slow and controlled movements of body with controlled breathing. Regular practice of yoga regularises the connection between the body, mind and soul. It enhances the functioning of all the body organs. By providing good health it fulfills our physical needs, through knowledge it fulfills our psychological needs and through inner peace it fulfills the spiritual need thus, it helps in maintaining the harmony among all.</p> <p>4. Regular practice of the yoga in the morning provides outer and inner relief by keeping away from the countless ailments at the physical and mental level. Practicing postures or asana</p>	

	<p>creates the feeling of well-being. It sharpens the human mind, improves intelligence and helps in achieving high level of concentration. Yoga is like a practical philosophy which develops self-discipline and self-awareness.</p> <p>5. We cannot count the benefits of yoga; we can understand it only as a miracle which can be experienced by practice. It maintains physical fitness, reduces stress, controls emotions, feelings, controls negative thoughts, feelings of general well-being, improves mental clarity, enhances self-understanding and connects us to the nature.</p>	
1.	<p>Complete the following statement by choosing an appropriate option.</p> <p>Yoga is basically .....</p> <p>(a) a material discipline (b) associated with material living (c) a practice of uncontrolled body movements <b>(d) the art and science of healthy living</b></p>	1
2.	<p>Comment on the writer 's reference to the kind of people who can practice yoga.</p> <p><b>Ans. The writer emphasizes that yoga is universal and inclusive. It can be practiced by people of all ages (childhood, teenage, adult, or old age) and is not restricted by age, religion, or health circumstances.</b></p>	1
3.	<p>Pick the option that correctly lists the benefits of doing yoga.</p> <p>1. Maintains physical fitness 2. Controls emotions, feelings 3. Controls negative thoughts 4. Improves mental clarity 5. Enhances self-understanding</p> <p>Options (a) 1 and 4      (b) 2 and 6      (c) 3 and 5      <b>(d) All of these</b></p>	1
4.	<p>Comment on the importance of asanas in yoga.</p> <p><b>Ans. Asanas (postures) are important in yoga as they create a feeling of well-being and contribute to overall health. Practicing asanas regularly sharpens the human mind, improves intelligence, and helps in achieving high levels of concentration.</b></p>	2
5.	<p>How does yoga fulfil our psychological needs?</p> <p><b>Ans. Yoga fulfills our psychological needs through knowledge.</b></p>	1
6.	<p>Substitute the underlined word in the given line with a word from paragraph 3 which means the opposite:</p> <p>The lights <u>diminish</u> the ambience of the banquet.</p> <p><b>Ans. enhance</b></p>	1
7.	<p>Which of the following is true for yoga?</p> <p>(a) It is an art and science combined into one (b) It is primarily spiritual in nature (c) It is not backed by WHO <b>(d) Both (a) and(b)</b></p>	1
8.	<p>Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference with respect to the following.</p> <p>Yoga enables one to get control over <b>mental, emotional and spiritual thoughts.</b></p>	1
9.	<p>State whether the given assertion is True or False.</p> <p>21st June is celebrated as Yoga Day.</p> <p><b>Ans. True</b></p>	1
<b>SECTION B: WRITING SKILLS (24 marks)</b>		
<i>All the names and addresses used in the questions are fictitious. Resemblance, if any, is purely coincidental.</i>		

Q.3.	You are Arjun/Ananya, Secretary of the Science Club of Delhi Public School. Write a notice in about 50 words inviting Class 9 students to participate in an Inter-School Science Exhibition. Provide relevant details. Put the notice in a box. <b>FORMAT: 1½ CONTENT: 2½</b>	(4 marks)
Q.4.	Priya wants to buy a new smartphone, but her mother thinks her current phone works fine. Write a dialogue between them with Priya trying to convince her mother in not more than 100 words. Write a minimum of four dialogues each. <b>FORMAT: 2 CONTENT: 3</b>	(5 marks)
Q.5.	You are Rahul/Riya, living at 25 Park Street, Kolkata. Write a letter in about 120 words to your grandmother thanking her for the wonderful birthday gift she sent and how you're using it. <b>FORMAT: 3 CONTENT: 4</b>	(7 marks)
Q.6.	A. Write a paragraph on the topic <i>Mysterious Bermuda Triangle</i> in not more than 150 words. Use the verbal cues given below: Atlantic Ocean region – Triangle formed by Miami, Bermuda, and Puerto Rico – Also called "Devil's Triangle" – Unexplained disappearances of ships and aircraft – Vanished without trace – No wreckage found in many cases – Flight 19 (five US Navy planes disappeared in 1945) – USS Cyclops vanished with 300 crew members – no one and nothing returns from there – some believe in supernatural causes – remains a fascinating mystery – captures human imagination <b>FORMAT:2 CONTENT: 6</b>	(8 marks)
OR		
	B. Write a paragraph on the visual clue given below in not more than 150 words. 	
<b>SECTION C: GRAMMAR (10 marks)</b>		
Q.7.	Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option given below to make the sentence complete: i. When _____ your grandmother last? a) <b>did you visit</b> b) have you visited c) are you visiting d) do you visit  ii. Neither the students nor the teacher _____ aware of the sudden schedule change. a) were b) <b>was</b> c) are d) have been  iii. She has _____ patience than her sister when dealing with difficult situations. a) much b) most c) many d) <b>more</b>	(1x3=3)

Q.8.	<p>Select the option that identifies the error and supplies the correction for the following line:</p> <p>i. If I would have known about the meeting, I would have attended it.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="359 226 979 479"> <thead> <tr> <th>Option</th> <th>Error</th> <th>Correction</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>a)</td> <td><b>would have known</b></td> <td><b>had known</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>b)</td> <td>about</td> <td>of</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c)</td> <td>would have attended</td> <td>attended</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d)</td> <td>it</td> <td>them</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>ii. The number of accidents on this highway have increased significantly this year.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="359 607 877 889"> <thead> <tr> <th>Option</th> <th>Error</th> <th>Correction</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>a)</td> <td>number</td> <td>amount</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>b)</b></td> <td><b>have</b></td> <td><b>has</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>c)</td> <td>significantly</td> <td>significant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d)</td> <td>this</td> <td>these</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Option	Error	Correction	a)	<b>would have known</b>	<b>had known</b>	b)	about	of	c)	would have attended	attended	d)	it	them	Option	Error	Correction	a)	number	amount	<b>b)</b>	<b>have</b>	<b>has</b>	c)	significantly	significant	d)	this	these	(1x2=2)
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Q.9.	<p>Read the conversation and complete the passage given below.</p> <p>Ankit: Where are you going?  Atul: To the airport.  Ankit: May I drop you there in my car?  Atul: Thanks a lot. It will be a great help to me.</p> <p>Ankit asked Atul where (a) ..... Atul replied that he was going to the airport. Ankit further asked him (b).....there in his car. Atul thanked him, adding that it would be a great help to him.</p> <p>a) <b>he was going</b>  b) <b>if/whether he might/could drop him</b></p>	(1x2=2)																														
Q.10	<p>Rearrange the words to make meaningful sentences.</p> <p>i. difficulties / perseverance / achieved / through / success / he / numerous/despite  <b>He achieved success through perseverance despite numerous difficulties.</b></p> <p>ii. pollution / addressing / climate change / requires / environmental / global / and / efforts /collective  <b>Addressing environmental pollution and climate change requires collective global efforts.</b></p> <p>iii. the / scientific / revolutionary / despite / breakthroughs / community /the/ skepticism / initial / accepted /eventually / the  <b>Despite the initial skepticism, the scientific community eventually accepted the revolutionary breakthroughs.</b></p> <p><b>OR</b>  <b>The scientific community eventually accepted the revolutionary breakthroughs despite the initial skepticism.</b></p>	(1x3=3)																														
<b>SECTION D: LITERATURE (26 MARKS)</b>																																
Q.11	Read the given extract and answer the following with reference to context. (Any two)	(2 x 4 = 8)																														
a.	<i>All the world's a stage,  And all the men and women merely players;  They have their exits and their entrances,  And one man in his time plays many parts.</i>	4																														

	<p><b>(a) What does the poet compare the world to?</b> Ans. The poet compares the world to a <b>stage</b>.</p> <hr/> <p><b>(b) Who are the 'players' mentioned in these lines?</b> Ans. The 'players' are <b>all men and women / human beings</b>.</p> <hr/> <p><b>(c) What do 'exits' and 'entrances' symbolize?</b> Ans. 'Exits' and 'entrances' symbolize <b>birth and death</b>.</p> <hr/> <p><b>(d) How many parts does one man play according to the poet?</b> Ans. One man plays <b>many(seven) parts</b> in his lifetime.</p>	
b.	<p><i>"I am illiterate. I never went to school. I was married at a very young age. I never had a chance to go to school."</i></p> <p><b>a) Why couldn't the grandmother go to school?</b> Ans. The grandmother couldn't go to school because <b>she was married at a very young age</b>.</p> <hr/> <p><b>b) To whom is the speaker talking?</b> Ans. The speaker is talking to <b>her granddaughter / the narrator</b>.</p> <hr/> <p><b>c) What is the tone of the speaker when mentioning this fact?</b> Ans. The tone is <b>regretful / sad / disappointed</b>.</p> <hr/> <p><b>d) What does this reveal about the social conditions of that time?</b> Ans. This reveals that <b>girls were married early and denied education / child marriage was prevalent and girls had no access to education</b>.</p>	4
c.	<p><i>"Will no one tell me what she sings? Perhaps the plaintive numbers flow For old, unhappy, far-off things, And battles long ago"</i></p> <p><b>a) Why does the poet ask "Will no one tell me what she sings?"</b> Ans. The poet asks this because <b>he cannot understand the language / the song is in a dialect he doesn't know</b>.</p> <hr/> <p><b>b) What does 'plaintive numbers' mean?</b> Ans. 'Plaintive numbers' means <b>sad/melancholic songs</b>.</p> <hr/> <p><b>c) What possible themes does the poet suggest for her song?</b> Ans. The poet suggests themes of <b>old, unhappy, far-off things and battles long ago / past sorrows and ancient battles</b>.</p> <hr/> <p><b>d) Name the poet.</b> Ans. The poet is <b>William Wordsworth</b>.</p>	4
Q.12	Answer any SIX of these questions in about 30-40 words each.	(6x2=12)
a.	<p>What special characteristics did Duke possess that made him an extraordinary dog? Ans. <b>Duke possessed exceptional loyalty, determination, and intelligence. He had an instinctive understanding of his master's needs and showed remarkable perseverance in helping Chuck recover. Duke refused to give up, encouraged Chuck to walk again through his persistent efforts, and displayed unusual patience and devotion throughout Chuck's rehabilitation process.</b></p>	2
b.	<p>Who was Jerry Fisher? What methods did Jerry Fisher use to convince Bill to participate in the fight? Ans. <b>Jerry Fisher was the trainer of Mr. Bramble. He tried to persuade Bramble to change his mind and reminded him of the prize money he would earn from the fight. He also told him about the press coverage he would receive, the trouble he had taken to train for the fight and how by winning the fight he would qualify to fight another famed boxer.</b></p>	2

c.	<p>What prevents Gaston from being interested in buying the villa in the beginning?</p> <p>Ans. <b>Gaston is not fond of his wife's family. He believes that her parents would occupy the villa for quite some time and her sister would also visit there. He believes that buying the villa is a bad investment and has no desire to buy it.</b></p>	2
d.	<p>Why did the author consider Private Quelch to be like a 'Professor' when he first encountered him at the training depot?</p> <p>Ans. <b>Private Quelch looked like a 'Professor' when the author first met him at the training depot. He was lanky, stooping, frowning through his horn-rimmed spectacles. A five-minute-conversation would bring out his debating skills and abilities. All these traits are generally found in university professors.</b></p>	2
e.	<p>Describe the second stage of life as elaborated by Shakespeare in the poem 'The Seven Ages'.</p> <p>Ans. <b>The second stage is the "whining schoolboy". Shakespeare describes him as going unwillingly to school, carrying his satchel, with a shining morning face, creeping like a snail, showing his reluctance and lack of enthusiasm for education.</b></p>	2
f.	<p>How does the poet describe the two roads in the poem <i>The Road Not Taken</i>.</p> <p>Ans. <b>The poet sees two roads diverging in a yellow wood. It was autumn and both the roads were covered with dead or fallen yellow leaves. The first one went down in 'the undergrowth' of the forest. The other road was equally beautiful, grassy and 'wanted wear'. It was less frequented by than the first.</b></p>	2
g.	<p>Why did Bill Bramble decide not to fight with Murphy?</p> <p>Ans. <b>As the fight would be reported in the National Mail, a paper which Harold read, he would become aware of his father's true identity, a fact that they had hidden from him, imagining that the revelation would shame him utterly.</b></p>	2
Q.13	<p>Answer any ONE of the following questions in about 120-150 words.</p>	(1x6=6)
a.	<p>In the play 'Villa for Sale', can the bond between the maid and Juliette be described as modest and straightforward? Explain with appropriate reasons.</p> <p>Ans. <b>The maid and Juliette shared a comfortable and friendly relationship with each other. Juliette was not hesitant in discussing her problems with the maid. In the beginning, the discussion about the villa and the financial problem portray that they share a relationship of two equals. When the maid suggested her to get a role of cook in film and called her comical, Juliette was not offended. She took the comment in a positive manner and was talking to the maid politely. Relationships are built on respect, trust and the way we treat each other and the same could be seen between the maid and Juliette. She trusted the maid and therefore, asked her to take care of the visitors when she was upstairs. Also, she respected the concern of her maid and did not get upset and listened to her suggestions carefully.</b></p>	6
b.	<p>What was Mr. Bramble's profession and why was the family ashamed of it? Explain the irony at the end of the story.</p> <p>Ans. <b>Mr. Bramble was a professional boxer. He was well-known in the boxing world and fought under the name "Young Porky."</b></p> <p><b>The Bramble family felt ashamed of his profession because boxing was considered rough, violent, and unsuitable for a respectable family man, particularly one who hoped to set a good example for his young, studious son, Harold. They feared that Harold, who was extremely talented and intelligent, would look down upon such a physically aggressive job.</b></p> <p><b>The irony is that everybody assumed Harold to be disappointed and humiliated if he gets to know the truth but, to everyone's surprise, he felt it to be a privilege to be the son of a great boxer. The very thing the family was ashamed of—Mr. Bramble being a boxer—turns out to be the thing Harold admires the most.</b></p> <p><b>When Harold discovers the truth, he is not shocked or disappointed at all. In fact, he feels proud and even wishes they had told him earlier. So, the situation becomes the opposite of what the adults expected. They hid Mr. Bramble's profession fearing Harold would be upset. But Harold is upset because they hid it, not because his father is a boxer.</b></p>	6