

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# YEAR 8 ENGLISH EXAMINATION

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, HERITAGE & ARTS

**Time Allowed:** 1½ hours

(An extra 10 minutes is allowed for reading this paper)

**SECTION A**

**[40 marks]**

**PART I**

**COMPREHENSION**

**[20 marks]**

Read the two passages given and answer the questions at the end of each passage.

**Passage I**

## Earth Day

Many countries around the world celebrate Earth Day. It is a day **that** is meant to raise awareness and appreciation of the Earth's natural environment. The first Earth Day was held in the USA. It was founded by the United States Senator Gaylord Nelson as an environmental teacher in a general educational forum or seminar.

Earth Day was first celebrated on April 22, 1970. While this first **Earth** Day was focused on the United States, an organisation **launched** by Denis Hayes, who was the original national coordinator **in** 1970, made it international in 1990 and organised events in more than 193 nations. Earth Day is now coordinated globally by the Earth Day **Network**, and is celebrated in more than 175 countries every year.

Numerous communities celebrate Earth Week, an entire week of **activities** focused on environmental issues. In 2009, the United Nations declared April 22 as International Earth Day.

**Adapted from:** <https://www.sprep.org>

**Circle** the letter of the **best** answer in your **Answer Booklet**.

1. Earth Day is celebrated
  - A. all over the world.
  - B. only in the Fiji Islands.
  - C. only in the United States.
  - D. in the South Pacific countries only.



## Passage II

**Susana's Generosity**

Susana was a very **intelligent** and generous girl at the age of fifteen. She loved reading so she spent most of her days reading at home and school. When the teachers of her class asked her any questions, she would answer immediately.

She always kept herself busy with social activities. One day, on her way to school, she saw an old man begging on the roadside.

At first, she thought that she should stop there and ask him why he was begging. The old man was too old to beg and instead, he should be resting. At the same time, she realised that if she stopped there, she would be late for school.

She thought for a while and decided to help the old man. She noticed that everyone who was passing by did not give him any money. After a while, she took out a dollar from her pocket and gave it to the old man.

She felt very pleased with her generous act as she gave away her pocket money to someone who needed it more than her.

**Adapted from:** <https://syllabusfy.in>

6. The synonym of the word **intelligent** in line 1 is
- A. clever      B. unwise      C. stupid      D. senseless
7. How was Susana's day mostly spent?
- A. Reading      B. Playing and reading      C. Doing social activities      D. Eating and doing social activities

4.

8. Who did Susana meet on her way to school?
- A. A hermit      B. An old man      C. A young man      D. A poor woman
9. What did Susana want to ask the old man about?
- A. To eat healthy food  
B. The reason for begging  
C. To work instead of begging  
D. To beg as much as he could
10. How much money did Susana give to the beggar?
- A. one dollar      B. two dollars      C. four dollars      D. eight dollars

**PART II**

**GRAMMAR**

**[20 marks]**

**Circle** the letter of the **best** answer to each question.

1. The sun \_\_\_\_\_ in the West.
- A. set                      B. is set              C. sets                  D. setting
2. Selai was excited \_\_\_\_\_ her exams.
- A. in                      B. at                  C. on                      D. about
3. It was a public holiday \_\_\_\_\_ the businesses were open.
- A. and                  B. because              C. yet                      D. although

5.

4. Which word is spelt correctly?

- A. neice    B. orignal    C. absence    D. catigory

5. "Mere was working on the book, \_\_\_\_\_ she?"

- A. don't    B. can't    C. won't    D. wasn't

6. Which **prefix** gives the opposite meaning of the word **understand**?

- A. un    B. um    C. mis    D. dis

7. Sandy looked at Bob \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. angry    B. angrily    C. angryful    D. angriness

8. Samu said to his brother, "I don't believe in aliens." In reported speech, this would be written as:

- A. Samu asked his brother that he believes in aliens.  
B. Samu told his brother that he did believe in aliens.  
C. Samu told his brother that he did not believe in aliens.  
D. Samu asked his brother that he didn't believe in aliens.

9. Identify a preposition used in the sentence given below.

The children ran happily through the muddy pool of water.

- A. of    B. ran    C. happily    D. children



**B. LIBRARY**

1. Name **one** piece of information that can be found on a cover page of a book. \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

2. Explain what non-fiction books are. \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

**C. MASS MEDIA**

1. Identify **one** advantage of a newspaper. \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

2. State **one** other form of mass media that is useful for you. \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

**PART II  
marks]****LANGUAGE USAGE****[5**

Write your answers to Questions 1- 4 in the spaces provided.

1. **Rewrite** the following sentences using the **instructions given in the brackets**.

(Rewrite the sentence below beginning with: **If**)

(i) Rumi walked slowly so she arrived late. \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

(Join the sentences below using a suitable **conjunction**)

(ii) It was raining heavily. I stayed home. \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

(iii) **Rewrite in Direct Speech.**

Jemesa said that his glass is broken. \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

2. Join the sentences below to form a compound sentence.

Ratu was glad. He saw there was some tea left. (1 mark)

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3. Change the statement given below into a question.

He likes eating chocolate. (1 mark)

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**PART III**

**LITERATURE**

**[25 marks]**

Answer all the questions in this section.

**A. NOVEL – *Swiss Family Robinson* by Johann Wyss**

**[5 marks]**

Use the extract below and your knowledge of the story to answer the questions that follow.

Afterwards we **all** walked to Tent House. Our purpose was to get some of the stores that we had left there. We also intended to bring the geese and ducks back to our new home where there was a stream for them to swim in. My wife and I walked by the river but the boys wandered far away. Suddenly they came rushing towards us.

**Source:** *Swiss Family Robinson* by Johann Wyss, 1992.

(i) The word **all** in the first sentence of the extract refers to \_\_\_\_\_ . (1 mark)

(ii) a) What made the boys rush to their parents? (2 marks)

\_\_\_\_\_

b) Explain a lesson learnt from the passage provided. (2 marks)

**B. BIOGRAPHY****[7 marks]**

- (i) Choose one person you have studied and state what you admired about this person.  
(1 mark)

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- (ii) Which country was this person from? \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

- (iii) What was this person's goal? (1 mark)

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- (iv) What difficulties did he/she face? (2 marks)

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- (v) How has this person challenged you in your own life? (2 marks)

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**C. POETRY****[7 marks]**

- (a) Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

<p>There is so much to enjoy  <b>Many new friends to meet</b>          Lots of entertainment          Yet what I earn is not enough          To keep up with the high cost of living</p>
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**Source:** *Leaves* - Poems for Years 7 & 8, USP, 2012

- (i) Write the title of the poem where the extract is from. (1 mark)

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- (ii) State what the line: 'many new friends to meet' is referring to. (1 mark)

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10.

(iii) Explain what the poem is about.

(2 marks)

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(b) **LIST OF POEMS**

Bush Medicine	- Konai Helu Thaman
My Future	- Sarah Pene
Reef Walking	- Konai Helu Thaman
Town Life	- Nelson Puirah

From the list given above, choose a **poem**.

Write down its **title** and answer the questions given below.

(i) Explain why the title is appropriate.

(2 marks)

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(ii) Identify a lesson you have learnt from the poem chosen in part (i). (1 mark)

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**D. DRAMA - *Treasure Island***

[6 marks]

A play (adapted from R.L. Stevenson's novel).

(a) Match the characters in **List A** with their roles in List B.

(2 marks)

List A	List B
1. Billy Bones	A. Secret ringleader of the pirate band
2. Long John Silver	B. Dies after 'the black spot' at the inn

3. Jim Hawkins	C. A rich man
4. Ben Gunn	D. Young but humble and courageous
5. Squire Trelawney	E. Former marooned pirate.

(b) Write complete sentences to answer the questions given below.

- (i) If you were given a role to play in this drama, which role would you choose and give a reason. **(2 marks)**

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- (ii) Explain a message you learnt from the drama. **(2 marks)**

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#### PART IV

#### LETTER WRITING

[10 marks]

Write a letter of **60 – 80 words** and include a **plan**.

Your name is Liam Cooper if you are a boy, or Charlotte Avery, if you are a girl. You attend Niagara Public School, Nasoata.

Your class is planning to host Drugs Awareness Week at your school. As the Head boy or Head girl, you are required to write to the **Officer in Charge of Crime Prevention, Nasoata**, requesting him/her to be the chief guest of the planned awareness program at your school.

In your letter, include the following details:

- (i) the purpose for the awareness program;
- (ii) the date and time of the awareness program
- (iii) the number of students, teachers, and parents who will be present;
- (iv) any other information that is relevant to the program.

