Reading Comprehension

Standard difficulty · 20 questions · 40 marks · Time: 48 minutes

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: ____ / 40

Write full answers in Sections B and C. Answers are on the last page — try every question first!

Section A — Choose the correct answer 8 × 1 = 8 marks

1. Read the passage and answer.

On Tuesday, Isha and her friend Kabir went to the park to fly an orange kite. The wind was strong, and the kite rose high above the trees. Suddenly, the string snapped! The kite floated down and got stuck in the branches of a tall jamun tree. Isha felt sad. Then Kabir had an idea. He ran home and came back with his grandfather. He used a long bamboo stick to free the kite. The children thanked him and tied the string again. This time, they held it more carefully, and the kite flew all afternoon.

What colour was the kite?

(a) green **(b)** purple **(c)** orange **(d)** yellow

2. Read the passage and answer.

Last December, Neha's class went on a trip to the zoo. They travelled by bus and reached the zoo at ten o'clock. First, they saw a big crocodile, and then they watched a family of deer. Neha's favourite animal was the zebra, because it had black and white stripes. At noon, the children ate their lunch under a big tree. A cheeky monkey tried to grab Tara's banana, and everyone laughed. The bus brought them back to school at three o'clock. Neha was tired but very happy.

What did the monkey try to grab?

(a) a water bottle **(b)** Tara's banana **(c)** Neha's cap **(d)** a sandwich

3. Read the passage and answer.

Nikhil had planned a picnic with his cousins on Thursday. But when he woke up, dark clouds covered the sky, and soon it began to pour. Nikhil was disappointed. His grandmother smiled and took out the carrom board. They played three games, and Nikhil won two of them. Then Grandmother showed the children how to make paper boats. They floated the boats in the puddles near the door and watched them sail away. In the evening, Nikhil said, "This was even better than a picnic!"

How did Nikhil feel when it began to rain?

(a) disappointed **(b)** sleepy **(c)** excited **(d)** proud

4. Read the passage and answer.

One evening, Rohan went to the market with his father to buy vegetables. Near a fruit stall, an old man slipped, and his bag of apples fell on the road. The apples rolled everywhere. Some people just walked past, but Rohan ran to help. He picked up all the apples and put them back in the bag. His father helped the old man to stand up. The old man smiled and gave Rohan the biggest apple from his bag. “You are a kind child,” he said. On the way home, Rohan’s father said that he was proud of him.

In the passage, “rolled” means:

(a) melted
(b) moved along by turning over and over
(c) flew up
(d) stood still

5. Read the passage and answer.

Kabir has a little puppy called Moti. One afternoon, Moti was missing. Kabir looked under the bed, behind the sofa and in the garden, but Moti was nowhere to be found. Kabir was very worried. His mother helped him search the whole house. At last, Kabir heard a soft whimper coming from the clothes cupboard. There was Moti, fast asleep on a pile of warm clothes! Kabir laughed and gave Moti a big hug. From that day, Kabir always looked in the clothes cupboard first.

Which is the best title for the passage?

(a) Where Is Moti?
(b) The Lost Shoe
(c) Busy Bees
(d) A Day at the Zoo

6. Read the passage and answer.

Honeybees live together in a home called a hive. Each hive has one queen bee, who lays all the eggs. The worker bees fly from flower to flower to collect a sweet juice called nectar. They turn the nectar into honey and store it in tiny wax rooms called cells. Bees also help plants, because they carry pollen from one flower to another. When a bee finds a field full of flowers, it does a little dance to tell the other bees where to go.

Who lays all the eggs in a hive?

(a) the worker bees
(b) the oldest bee
(c) the queen bee
(d) the drone

7. Read the passage and answer.

Vivek has a little puppy called Patch. One evening, Patch was missing. Vivek looked under the bed, behind the sofa and in the garden, but Patch was nowhere to be found. Vivek was very worried. His mother helped him search the whole house. At last, Vivek heard a soft whimper coming from the clothes cupboard. There was Patch, fast asleep on a pile of warm clothes! Vivek laughed and gave Patch a big hug. From that day, Vivek always looked in the clothes cupboard first.

What happened just after this: “Vivek looked under the bed and in the garden”?

(a) Vivek heard a soft whimper
(b) Patch went missing
(c) Vivek looked under the bed and in the garden
(d) Vivek found Patch asleep in the clothes cupboard

8. Read the passage and answer.

The elephant is the largest animal that lives on land. It uses its long trunk to breathe, smell, drink water and pick up food. An elephant can eat more than a hundred kilograms of grass, leaves and fruit in a day. Elephants live in groups called herds, and the oldest female usually leads the herd. Their big ears help them keep cool on hot days. Elephants also love water and often spray it over their backs with their trunks.

Which sentence is true?

(a) The youngest male leads the herd.
(b) Elephants eat meat.
(c) Elephants do not like water.
(d) Elephants live in herds.

Section B — Short answer — 8 × 2 = 16 marks

9. Read the passage and answer.

Arjun had planned a picnic with his cousins on Thursday. But when he woke up, dark clouds covered the sky, and soon it began to pour. Arjun was disappointed. His grandmother smiled and took out the snakes and ladders board. They played three games, and Arjun won two of them. Then Grandmother showed the children how to make paper boats. They floated the boats in the puddles near the door and watched them sail away. In the evening, Arjun said, “This was even better than a picnic!”

Where did they float the boats? (Answer in a few words.)

10. Read the passage and answer.

Neha’s class planted bean seeds in small pots. Their teacher, Mrs Iyer, put the pots on the window sill so that they could get sunlight. Every morning, Neha watered the pots carefully. For many days, nothing happened, and some children said the seeds would never grow. But Neha did not give up. After two weeks, tiny green shoots peeped out of the soil. The whole class clapped with joy. Mrs Iyer told them that seeds need water, sunlight and patience. Now the plants are tall and strong, and Neha is very proud of them.

Where were the pots kept? (Answer in a few words.)

11. Read the passage and answer.

The camel is called the ship of the desert. It can walk for many days on hot sand without drinking water. Its long eyelashes keep the sand out of its eyes, and its wide feet do not sink into the sand. The hump on its back stores fat, not water. When food is hard to find, the camel uses this fat for energy. People in the desert use camels to carry heavy loads and to travel from one place to another. A thirsty camel can drink a lot of water very quickly.

What is the camel called? (Answer in a few words.)

12. Read the passage and answer.

A frog begins its life as a tiny egg in a pond. The egg hatches into a tadpole, which has a tail and lives in water like a fish. Slowly, the tadpole grows legs and loses its tail. Then it becomes a young frog and can live on land as well as in water. Frogs have long, sticky tongues to catch insects. They have strong back legs, so they can jump a long way. In the rainy season, you can hear frogs croaking loudly at night.

Find a word in the passage that means “that sticks to things”.

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13. Read the passage and answer.

Pooja has a little puppy called Moti. One afternoon, Moti was missing. Pooja looked under the bed, behind the sofa and in the garden, but Moti was nowhere to be found. Pooja was very worried. Her mother helped her search the whole house. At last, Pooja heard a soft whimper coming from the laundry basket. There was Moti, fast asleep on a pile of warm clothes! Pooja laughed and gave Moti a big hug. From that day, Pooja always looked in the laundry basket first.

Why did Pooja laugh at the end?

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14. Read the passage and answer.

One evening, Nikhil went to the market with his father to buy vegetables. Near a fruit stall, an old man slipped, and his bag of guavas fell on the road. The guavas rolled everywhere. Some people just walked past, but Nikhil ran to help. He picked up all the guavas and put them back in the bag. His father helped the old man to stand up. The old man smiled and gave Nikhil the biggest guava from his bag. “You are a kind child,” he said. On the way home, Nikhil’s father said that he was proud of him.

Write True or False: Nikhil went to the market alone.

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15. Read the passage and answer.

One evening, Riya went to the market with her father to buy vegetables. Near a fruit stall, an old man slipped, and his bag of apples fell on the road. The apples rolled everywhere. Some people just walked past, but Riya ran to help. She picked up all the apples and put them back in the bag. Her father helped the old man to stand up. The old man smiled and gave Riya the biggest apple from his bag. “You are a kind child,” he said. On the way home, Riya’s father said that he was proud of her.

What did the old man give Riya? (Answer in a few words.)

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16. Read the passage and answer.

On Monday, Tara and her friend Rohan went to the park to fly an orange kite. The wind was strong, and the kite rose high above the trees. Suddenly, the string snapped! The kite floated down and got stuck in the branches of a tall jamun tree. Tara felt sad. Then Rohan had an idea. He ran home and came back with his grandfather. He used a long bamboo stick to free the kite. The children thanked him and tied the string again. This time, they held it more carefully, and the kite flew all afternoon.

How did Tara feel when the kite got stuck? Why?

Section C — Longer answers — 4 × 4 = 16 marks

17. Read the passage and answer.

One evening, Sahil went to the market with his father to buy vegetables. Near a fruit stall, an old man slipped, and his bag of guavas fell on the road. The guavas rolled everywhere. Some people just walked past, but Sahil ran to help. He picked up all the guavas and put them back in the bag. His father helped the old man to stand up. The old man smiled and gave Sahil the biggest guava from his bag. “You are a kind child,” he said. On the way home, Sahil’s father said that he was proud of him.

(a) Why did Sahil go to the market? (b) What did the old man give Sahil? (c) Why was Sahil’s father proud of him? (d) What does “slipped” mean in the passage?

18. Read the passage and answer.

Arjun has a little kitten called Moti. One evening, Moti was missing. Arjun looked under the bed, behind the sofa and in the garden, but Moti was nowhere to be found. Arjun was very worried. His mother helped him search the whole house. At last, Arjun heard a soft mew coming from the laundry basket. There was Moti, fast asleep on a pile of warm clothes! Arjun laughed and gave Moti a big hug. From that day, Arjun always looked in the laundry basket first.

(a) Put these events in the order in which they happened: (p) Arjun looked under the bed and in the garden; (q) Arjun heard a soft mew; (r) Arjun found Moti asleep in the laundry basket; (s) Moti went missing. (b) Suggest another title for the passage.

19. Read the passage and answer.

The elephant is the largest animal that lives on land. It uses its long trunk to breathe, smell, drink water and pick up food. An elephant can eat more than a hundred kilograms of grass, leaves and fruit in a day. Elephants live in groups called herds, and the oldest female usually leads the herd. Their big ears help them keep cool on hot days. Elephants also love water and often spray it over their backs with their trunks.

(a) Who usually leads the herd? (b) What is a group of elephants called? (c) What helps elephants keep cool? (d) What do elephants eat?

20. Read the passage and answer.

Neha's class planted sunflower seeds in small pots. Their teacher, Mrs Iyer, put the pots on the window sill so that they could get sunlight. Every morning, Neha watered the pots carefully. For many days, nothing happened, and some children said the seeds would never grow. But Neha did not give up. After three weeks, tiny green shoots peeped out of the soil. The whole class clapped with joy. Mrs Iyer told them that seeds need water, sunlight and patience. Now the plants are tall and strong, and Neha is very proud of them.

Would you like to grow a plant? Which one, and why? Write two or three sentences.

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Answer key

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Q	Answer	Working
1	**(c) orange**	the answer is in the passage
2	**(b) Tara's banana**	the answer is in the passage
3	**(a) disappointed**	look at what the character did and said
4	**(b) moved along by turning over and over**	read the sentence the word is in
5	**(a) Where Is Moti?**	a good title tells what the whole passage is about
6	**(c) the queen bee**	the answer is in the passage
7	**(a) Vivek heard a soft whimper**	in the passage: Patch went missing → Vivek looked under the bed and in the garden → Vivek heard a soft whimper → Vivek found Patch asleep in the clothes cupboard
8	**(d) Elephants live in herds.**	check each sentence against the passage
9	**in the puddles**	the answer is in the passage
10	**on the window sill**	the answer is in the passage
11	**the ship of the desert**	the answer is in the passage
12	**sticky**	look for a word with this meaning
13	**e.g. Because Moti was safe, fast asleep on a pile of warm clothes.**	An answer that matches the passage, in a full sentence.
14	**False**	check the sentence against the passage
15	**the biggest apple**	the answer is in the passage
16	**e.g. Sad, because the kite was stuck high up in the tree.**	A word that matches the story, with a reason from the passage.
17	**(a) To buy vegetables; (b) The biggest guava; (c) e.g. Because Sahil helped the old man by picking up his guavas. (d) Slid and fell by accident**	answers from the passage, in short sentences
18	**(a) (s), (p), (q), (r): Moti went missing → Arjun looked under the bed and in the garden → Arjun heard a soft mew → Arjun found Moti asleep in the laundry basket; (b) e.g. "Where Is Moti?"**	the order of events in the passage
19	**(a) the oldest female; (b) a herd; (c) big ears; (d) grass, leaves and fruit**	every answer is in the passage
20	**e.g. Yes, I would like to grow a sunflower because it is tall and bright.**	Sensible ideas linked to the story, in correct sentences.

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