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.

NOTICE
Green Valley School
14 July
Clay Modelling Contest
All students of Classes 3 to 5 are invited to take part in a clay modelling contest on Friday, 24 July, at 11 a.m. in the school hall. Clay will be given at school. Bring an old newspaper to cover your desk. Prizes will be given for the best three. Give your names to your class teacher by Friday, 17 July.
Mr Menon
Art Teacher

Who wrote the notice?

(a) Mr Das **(b)** Mrs Iyer **(c)** Ms Bose **(d)** Mr Menon

7. 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!”

What happened just after this: “it began to pour”?

(a) Arjun planned a picnic
(b) They made paper boats
(c) They played snakes and ladders
(d) It began to pour

8. Read the passage and answer.

Owls are birds that hunt at night. They have large eyes that help them see in the dark, but they cannot move their eyes from side to side. Instead, an owl can turn its head almost all the way round. Owls have soft feathers, so they fly very quietly. This helps them catch mice and other small animals without being heard. During the day, owls rest in holes in trees or in old buildings.

Which sentence is true?

(a) Owls can move their eyes from side to side.
(b) Owls fly very noisily.
(c) Owls rest in ponds during the day.
(d) Owls hunt at night.

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

9. Read the passage and answer.

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

What was Moti sleeping on? (Answer in a few words.)

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10. Read the passage and answer.

One evening, Farhan 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 Farhan 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 Farhan the biggest apple from his bag. “You are a kind child,” he said. On the way home, Farhan’s father said that he was proud of him.

When did this happen? (Answer in a few words.)

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11. 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.

What helps elephants keep cool? (Answer in a few words.)

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12. Read the passage and answer.

Last March, Riya's class went on a trip to the zoo. They travelled by bus and reached the zoo at ten o'clock. First, they saw two sleepy lions, and then they watched three black bears. Riya's favourite animal was the peacock, because it spread its colourful feathers. At noon, the children ate their lunch under a big tree. A cheeky monkey tried to grab Vivek's banana, and everyone laughed. The bus brought them back to school at four o'clock. Riya was tired but very happy.

Find a word in the passage that means "went from one place to another".

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13. Read the passage and answer.

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

Why did Mr Menon put the pots on the window sill?

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14. Read the passage and answer.

Arjun had planned a picnic with his cousins on Tuesday. 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!"

Write True or False: It was sunny all day.

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15. 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.

Why do a camel's feet not sink into the sand? (Answer in a few words.)

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16. Read the passage and answer.

On Sunday, Riya and her friend Pooja went to the park to fly a red 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. Riya felt sad. Then Pooja had an idea. She ran home and came back with her 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 Riya feel when the kite got stuck? Why?

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

17. Read the passage and answer.

Isha had planned a picnic with her cousins on Thursday. But when she woke up, dark clouds covered the sky, and soon it began to pour. Isha was disappointed. Her grandmother smiled and took out the carrom board. They played three games, and Isha 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, Isha said, “This was even better than a picnic!”

(a) What did Grandmother teach the children to make? (b) Which game did they play? (c) Why could the children not go for the picnic? (d) What does “disappointed” mean in the passage?

18. Read the passage and answer.

Neha had planned a picnic with her cousins on Wednesday. But when she woke up, dark clouds covered the sky, and soon it began to pour. Neha was disappointed. Her grandmother smiled and took out the ludo board. They played three games, and Neha 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, Neha said, “This was even better than a picnic!”

(a) Put these events in the order in which they happened: (p) they played ludo; (q) it began to pour; (r) Neha planned a picnic; (s) they made paper boats. (b) Suggest another title for the passage.

19. 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.

(a) What is the sweet juice in flowers called? (b) What is the home of honeybees called? (c) Who lays all the eggs in a hive? (d) How does a bee tell the others where the flowers are?

20. Read the passage and answer.

Last January, Isha'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 two sleepy lions. Isha's favourite animal was the giraffe, because it had such a long neck. At noon, the children ate their lunch under a big tree. A cheeky monkey tried to grab Arjun's banana, and everyone laughed. The bus brought them back to school at three o'clock. Isha was tired but very happy.

Which animal would you most like to see at a zoo, 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	**(d) Mr Menon**	the answer is in the passage
7	**(c) They played snakes and ladders**	in the passage: Arjun planned a picnic → it began to pour → they played snakes and ladders → they made paper boats
8	**(d) Owls hunt at night.**	check each sentence against the passage
9	**a pile of warm clothes**	the answer is in the passage
10	**one evening**	the answer is in the passage
11	**big ears**	the answer is in the passage
12	**travelled**	look for a word with this meaning
13	**e.g. So that the seeds could get sunlight.**	An answer that matches the passage, in a full sentence.
14	**False**	check the sentence against the passage
15	**they are wide**	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) Paper boats; (b) Carrom; (c) e.g. Because it began to rain heavily. (d) Sad because something hoped for did not happen**	answers from the passage, in short sentences
18	**(a) (r), (q), (p), (s): Neha planned a picnic → it began to pour → they played ludo → they made paper boats; (b) e.g. "Paper Boats"**	the order of events in the passage
19	**(a) nectar; (b) a hive; (c) the queen bee; (d) it dances**	every answer is in the passage
20	**e.g. I would like to see a tiger, because it is strong and has beautiful stripes.**	Sensible ideas linked to the story, in correct sentences.

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