

## Weekly Test

Std – 9<sup>th</sup> EM  
Sub: English

Unit : 1

Marks - 20  
Date :-

**Q.1 Read the following extract and do the following activity : [05]**

Life, believe, is not a dream,  
So dark as sages say;  
Oft a little morning rain  
Foretells a pleasant day :

Sometimes there are clouds of gloom,  
But these are transient all;  
If the shower will make the roses bloom,  
Oh, why lament its fall?

Rapidly, merrily,  
Life's sunny hours flit by,  
Gratefully, cheerily,  
Enjoy them as they fly.

- A1. What does the rain often foretell?
- A2. What should we do during joyful times in life?
- A3. Write two pairs of rhyming words.
- A4. 'Life's sunny hours fit by'. Explain the figures of speech.
- A5. Pick out from the extract one line each that reflects an optimistic (positive) attitude and pessimistic (negative) attitude.

**Q.2 Read the following passage and answer the questions below : [10]**

- A1. Give Reasons. (2)
  - 1) Mother wished to shift the family to a free house because \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2) Father collected the driftwood because \_\_\_\_\_

Over the next few days, William (father) attached the floatable old kegs to one another and built a bow that curved around them. The family had landed successfully on the island. They set up a tent and softened the floor with armloads of grass they cut and spread to serve as their beds. They came to a grove of trees. One tree grew what looked like gourds on its trunk. The father told Fritz, the gourds would make excellent bowls and spoons, and they cut them into various utensils.

After some days, Elizabeth informed William that she wanted the family to move to a safer place. Their current camp was not only exposed but also very dry and hot. If they built a house up in one of the large trees, they would be safe from jackals. She described a perfect tree for the project, one whose trunk was nearly forty feet in diameter. The branches were very long and extended straight out from the trunk, making them perfect platforms for a structure. Later, when determining the height of the lowest branches, the father taught the boys geometry and how to use triangles to measure big objects. He measured a defined distance from the trunk, then he calculated angles using several measured rods, determining that the lowest branch was thirty feet off the ground.

The men knotted a rope at certain intervals and attached pieces of bamboo in each knot. Thus, they created their ladder. Father returned to the beach and collected driftwood, thinking it would be perfect to build a 'sledge,' on runners rather than wheels. Later, they used it to transport materials.

- A2. How did the mother describe a tree while the tree house was being built? (2)
- A3. (a) Give the synonyms of : (1) Kegs (2) Grove (2)  
(b) Give the antonyms of : (1) shortened (2) softened
- A4. (i) Elizabeth informed William that she wanted the family to move to a safer place. (Identify the clauses) (1)  
(ii) William attached the floatable kegs to one another and built a a bow. (Make it simple) (1)
- A5. Being out the character traits of William from the above passage.(2)

**Q.3 Read the following passage and answer the questions below: [05]**

A1. Fill in the blanks by choosing correct alternatives. (2)

- (a) Mathilde was born into a family of ----- (clerks/aristocrats)
- (b) Mathilde dressed ----- (plainly/richly)
- (c) Mathilde dreamt of a grand -----  
(palatial/majestic) mansion.
- (d) Mathilde had a former schoolmate as a ----- (friend/relation)

Mathilde was a pretty and charming girl, born, as if by an error of fate, into a family of clerks. She had no means of becoming known, understood, loved or be wedded to an aristocrat; and so she let herself be married to a minor official at the Ministry of Education.

She dressed plainly, because she had never been able to afford anything better. She suffered endlessly, feeling she was entitled to all the luxuries of life. She suffered because of her shabby, poorly furnished house. All these things, that another woman of her class would not even have noticed, tormented her and made her resentful. She dreamed of a grand, palatial mansion, with vast rooms and inviting smaller rooms, perfumed for afternoon chats with close friends.

Yet, she had no rich dresses, no jewels, nothing; and these were the only things she loved. She wanted so much to charm, to be envied, to be sought after.

She had a rich friend, a former schoolmate at the convent, whom she avoided visiting, because afterwards she would weep with regret, despair and misery.

A2. What did Mathilde dream of? (1)

A3. Why did Mathilde weep with misery after visiting her school mate. (2)