

CLASS VII - ENGLISH

Annual Examination - Paper 5 (SOLVED)

Session: 2025-26 | Term-II

Math Love Institute | Excellence in Education

| | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Maximum Marks | 80 |
| Time Allowed | 3 Hours |
| Date | February 2026 |

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper is divided into Four Sections: A, B, C, and D.
3. Section A - Reading Comprehension (15 marks)
4. Section B - Writing Skills & Grammar (25 marks)
5. Section C - Literature (30 marks)
6. Section D - Long Answer Questions (10 marks)
7. Read each question carefully before answering.
8. Attempt all sections as per instructions.

SECTION A - READING COMPREHENSION (15 MARKS)

Q1.

[8 Marks]

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

PASSAGE - 1

Elephants are among the most intelligent and gentle creatures on Earth. A baby elephant requires a lot of love, care, and training to grow into a healthy adult. The person who takes care of an elephant becomes very attached to it, much like a parent caring for a child. An elephant's trunk is a remarkable organ. It is extremely strong, yet sensitive enough to pick up a small pebble or a delicate leaf. The trunk is used for breathing, smelling, drinking water, picking up food, and even giving affectionate touches to other elephants. A young elephant must be taught how to use its trunk properly - how to bathe, how to drink water, and how to eat. Teaching an elephant requires patience, kindness, and consistency. Physical punishment does not work with elephants because they are emotional and remember everything. If treated harshly, an elephant may become rebellious or dangerous. However, if treated with love and respect, an elephant becomes the most loyal and trustworthy companion. Baby elephants, like human babies, are playful and naughty. They love to explore, splash in water, and sometimes get into mischief. But with proper training and guidance, they learn good behavior. The bond between an elephant and its caretaker can last a lifetime, based on mutual trust, love, and understanding.

Answer the following questions:

- a. Why does a baby elephant require special care and training? (2)
- b. What are the different uses of an elephant's trunk? (2)
- c. Why doesn't physical punishment work with elephants? (2)
- d. What kind of bond exists between an elephant and its caretaker? (1)
- e. Find a word from the passage that means 'disobedient' (para 3). (1)

Q2.

[7 Marks]

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

PASSAGE - 2

A squirrel is a small, furry animal commonly found in gardens and parks. It has a beautiful bushy tail that curves like a question mark when it sits. Squirrels wear a coat of grey or brown fur that keeps them warm. Squirrels are very playful and mischievous creatures. They love to climb trees and jump from branch to branch with amazing agility. When eating a nut, a squirrel sits up straight on its hind legs, holding the nut with its front paws. It is fascinating to watch how delicately they crack the shell and eat the nut inside. Squirrels are naturally shy and cautious. If you try to get too close to a squirrel, it will quickly scamper away to the other side of the tree or climb higher to safety. They are very alert and always watchful for danger. Despite their shy nature, squirrels can be quite entertaining as they chase each other around trees and play games that look like hide-and-seek.

Answer the following questions:

- a. How is a squirrel's tail described in the passage? (1)
- b. How does a squirrel eat a nut? (2)
- c. What does a squirrel do when someone tries to get close? (2)
- d. Write True or False: (2)
 - o (i) Squirrels are aggressive animals.
 - o (ii) A squirrel's tail curves like a question mark.

SECTION B - WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR (25 MARKS)

Q3.

[5 Marks]

Write a story based on the following hints in about 100-120 words:

Three children - found old chappals - wanted to help a poor beggar - gave away chappals - chappals belonged to someone else - got into trouble - learned a lesson about thinking before acting

Q4.

[5 Marks]

Character Sketch: Write a character sketch of a pet animal (real or imaginary) that you have or would like to have. Describe its appearance, nature, habits, and your relationship with it.

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Q5.

[10 Marks]

Grammar Section:

(a) Frame conditional sentences using 'if': (2)

- i. The beggar has blisters. Give him chappals. (If...)
- ii. It rains. The plants will grow. (If...)

(b) Identify and write the Finite and Non-finite verbs: (2)

- i. The squirrel likes to eat nuts.
- ii. Swimming in the river is dangerous.

(c) Change the following sentences from Singular to Plural: (2)

- i. The child was playing in the garden.
- ii. The mouse ran into its hole.

(d) Fill in the blanks with correct question tags: (2)

- i. Ravi gave away the chappals, _____?
- ii. The squirrel is eating a nut, _____?

(e) Rewrite using apostrophes correctly: (2)

- i. The music teachers chappals were missing.
- ii. The childrens toys were scattered everywhere.

Q6.

[5 Marks]

Dialogue Writing: Write a dialogue between two friends discussing a funny incident that happened in school. Write at least 6-8 exchanges.

SECTION C - LITERATURE (30 MARKS)

Q7.

[4 Marks]

Answer the following questions from "A Gift of Chappals" (Any TWO):

- a. What made Mridu conclude that the beggar had no money to buy chappals?
- b. Why did the music teacher try not to look too happy when given new chappals?
- c. Why was Rukku Manni angry with the children?

Q8.

[6 Marks]

Read the extract and answer the questions:

"A beggar came to our gate one day. He showed us his feet which had pink, peeling blisters on them. The children felt very sorry for him and wanted to help. They looked for old chappals to give him."

- a. Why did the beggar show his feet to the children? (1)
- b. How did the children feel when they saw the beggar's condition? (2)
- c. What did the children decide to do? (1)
- d. Whose chappals did they actually give to the beggar? (2)

Q9.

[6 Marks]

Answer with reference to the poem "The Squirrel":

"He wore a question mark for tail, An overcoat of gray, He sat up straight to eat a nut. He liked to tease and play."

- a. Name the poet. (1)
- b. Why does the poet say the squirrel wore a question mark for tail? (2)
- c. What is meant by 'overcoat of gray'? (1)
- d. How did the squirrel tease the poet? (2)

Q10.

[8 Marks]

Short Answer Questions (Answer ANY FOUR): (2 marks each)

- a. What secret did Ravi and Meena share with Mridu in the backyard? (from "A Gift of Chappals")
- b. How did the narrator teach Kari to sit down and walk? (from "Bringing up Kari")
- c. What qualities of a rebel are described in the poem "The Rebel"?
- d. Why do squirrels run to the other side of the tree when we approach them?
- e. What happened when the music master couldn't find his chappals?
- f. Describe Kari's fondness for bananas. How did he steal them?

Q11.

[6 Marks]

Match the following: (1 mark each)

| Column A | Column B |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (a) Mahendran | (i) The Rebel |
| (b) Question mark tail | (ii) Kari's favorite food |
| (c) Music teacher | (iii) A Gift of Chappals |
| (d) Cuts his hair short | (iv) The Squirrel |
| (e) Bananas | (v) Bringing up Kari |
| (f) Baby elephant | (vi) Kitten in the backyard |

SECTION D - LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (10 MARKS)

Q12.

[5 Marks]

Answer ANY ONE of the following:

- a. The children in "A Gift of Chappals" showed kindness but also acted without thinking. Discuss how their good intentions led to an embarrassing situation. What lesson can we learn from this?
- b. Describe the process of training Kari as narrated in "Bringing up Kari". What qualities did the narrator possess that made him a good trainer?

Q13.

[5 Marks]

Creative Writing - Answer ANY ONE:

- a. Write a story about a playful squirrel that lived in your school garden. Describe its daily activities, how it interacted with students, and a funny incident involving the squirrel. (Word limit: 150-180 words)
- b. Imagine you are Ravi from "A Gift of Chappals". Write a diary entry expressing your feelings after Rukku Manni scolded you. Include your thoughts about helping the beggar, the consequences you faced, and whether you think you did the right thing.



ANSWER KEY WITH DETAILED SOLUTIONS

SECTION A - READING COMPREHENSION ANSWERS

Answer 1: Passage-1 (Bringing up Elephants)

Solutions:

(a) Why does a baby elephant require special care and training? (2 marks)

A baby elephant requires special care and training because:

- Like human babies, baby elephants need to learn how to use their trunk properly - how to bathe, drink water, and eat
- They need guidance to understand good behavior and develop into healthy adults
- Without proper training, they may not learn essential survival skills
- They are playful and naughty, so they need consistent training to learn discipline and good manners

(b) What are the different uses of an elephant's trunk? (2 marks)

An elephant's trunk is used for multiple purposes:

1. Breathing - it serves as the elephant's nose
2. Smelling - to detect food and danger

3. Drinking water - by sucking water and spraying it into the mouth
4. Picking up food - both large and small items
5. Giving affectionate touches to other elephants - showing emotion and bonding

The trunk is remarkably versatile - strong enough to lift heavy objects yet sensitive enough to pick up something as small as a pebble or a delicate leaf.

(c) Why doesn't physical punishment work with elephants? (2 marks)

Physical punishment doesn't work with elephants because:

- Elephants are highly emotional and intelligent creatures who have excellent memory
- They remember everything, including harsh treatment, and never forget ill-treatment
- If treated harshly, they become rebellious, uncooperative, or even dangerous
- Physical punishment damages the trust and bond between the elephant and its caretaker
- Elephants respond much better to love, kindness, and respect rather than force or violence

(d) What kind of bond exists between an elephant and its caretaker? (1 mark)

The bond between an elephant and its caretaker is based on mutual trust, love, and understanding. This bond can last a lifetime and makes the

elephant the most loyal and trustworthy companion.

(e) Find a word from the passage that means 'disobedient' (para 3). (1 mark)

Answer: rebellious

The word "rebellious" in paragraph 3 means disobedient or resistant to authority.

*Marking: (a) 2 marks, (b) 2 marks, (c) 2 marks, (d) 1 mark, (e) 1 mark =
Total 8 marks*

Answer 2: Passage-2 (The Squirrel)

Solutions:

(a) How is a squirrel's tail described in the passage? (1 mark)

A squirrel's tail is described as beautiful, bushy, and curved like a question mark when it sits.

(b) How does a squirrel eat a nut? (2 marks)

When eating a nut, a squirrel follows a specific process:

- It sits up straight on its hind legs (back legs)
- It holds the nut with its front paws
- It delicately cracks the shell open
- Then it eats the nut inside

This sitting position and the delicate way it

handles the nut is fascinating to watch.

(c) What does a squirrel do when someone tries to get close? (2 marks)

When someone tries to get close to a squirrel:

- Being naturally shy and cautious, it quickly scampers (runs) away
- It moves to the other side of the tree to maintain distance
- Sometimes it climbs higher up the tree to safety
- It remains alert and watchful for danger at all times

This behavior shows that squirrels are very cautious creatures who prefer to maintain a safe distance from humans.

(d) True or False: (2 marks)

(i) Squirrels are aggressive animals. - FALSE

Explanation: The passage clearly states that squirrels are "naturally shy and cautious," not aggressive. They are playful and entertaining but avoid humans by running away.

(ii) A squirrel's tail curves like a question mark.

- TRUE

Explanation: The passage explicitly mentions "It has a beautiful bushy tail that curves like a question mark when it sits."

Marking: (a) 1 mark, (b) 2 marks, (c) 2 marks, (d) 2 marks (1 mark each) =
Total 7 marks

SECTION B - WRITING SKILLS & GRAMMAR ANSWERS

Answer 3: Story Writing

Solution:

The Lesson of the Chappals

Three friends - Ravi, Meena, and Mridu - were playing in the backyard when they heard a beggar calling at the gate. Curious, they went to see who it was. The old beggar looked tired and showed them his feet, which had large pink blisters from walking barefoot on the hot roads.

Mridu's heart filled with compassion. "We should help him," she said with tears in her eyes. Ravi immediately thought of a solution. He had seen a pair of old-looking chappals near the front door. "Perfect!" he thought. Without asking anyone, he picked them up and gave them to the beggar, who blessed them and left quickly.

The children felt proud of their good deed. However, their joy was short-lived. Soon, Lalli's music teacher came out looking for his chappals. Those were the very chappals the children had given away! The music teacher was furious, claiming they were brand new and expensive.

Rukku Manni was terribly embarrassed. She scolded the children severely and had to give the music teacher Gopu Mama's new chappals as replacement. The children realized their mistake - they had acted impulsively without thinking about the consequences.

That day, they learned an important lesson: kindness and charity are noble virtues, but we must think carefully before acting. Good intentions alone are not enough; we must also use wisdom and ask for permission before giving away things that don't belong to us. Their hearts were in the right place, but their actions needed better judgment.

Marking: Relevance to hints 2 marks, Story development 2 marks, Expression and moral 1 mark = 5 marks

Answer 4: Character Sketch of a Pet

Solution:

Character Sketch of My Pet Dog - Bruno

Bruno is my loyal companion and best friend. He is a two-year-old Golden Retriever with beautiful golden-brown fur that shines in the sunlight. His large, expressive brown eyes always seem to understand my emotions, and his wagging tail is like a happiness indicator that never stops moving when I come home.

In appearance, Bruno is medium-sized with a sturdy build and a fluffy coat. His most distinctive feature is his friendly face with a perpetual smile and a pink tongue that often hangs out, especially after playing. His paws are surprisingly large, and he hasn't quite learned to control his strength, often knocking things over in his enthusiasm.

Bruno's nature is gentle and affectionate. He is incredibly friendly with everyone - family members, guests, and even strangers. Unlike watchdogs who bark at everyone, Bruno greets everyone with excited jumps and tail wags. He is particularly gentle with children and seems to understand that he needs to be careful around them.

His daily habits are quite predictable. Every morning, he wakes me up by licking my face at exactly 6 AM. He loves his morning walk and gets extremely excited when he sees me pick up his leash. After the walk, he waits patiently near his food bowl for breakfast. His favorite activity is playing fetch with a tennis ball - he can play this game for hours without getting tired!

Bruno is also quite intelligent. He understands several commands like sit, stay, come, and shake hands. However, he conveniently "forgets" these commands when he's busy doing something more interesting, like chasing squirrels or sniffing interesting smells.

Our relationship is special. Bruno is always there

when I'm sad, resting his head on my lap as if offering comfort. He celebrates with me when I'm happy, jumping and running in circles. He's taught me about unconditional love, loyalty, and living in the moment. Taking care of Bruno has also taught me responsibility - feeding him on time, taking him for walks, and ensuring his health and happiness.

Bruno is not just a pet; he's a family member who brings endless joy, laughter, and love into our home.

Marking: Description of appearance 1.5 marks, Nature and habits 2 marks, Relationship 1.5 marks = 5 marks

Answer 5: Grammar Section

Solutions:

(a) Frame conditional sentences using 'if': (2 marks)

(i) The beggar has blisters. Give him chappals.

Answer: If the beggar has blisters, give him chappals.

OR: Give him chappals if the beggar has blisters.

(ii) It rains. The plants will grow.

Answer: If it rains, the plants will grow.

OR: The plants will grow if it rains.

Explanation: Conditional sentences with 'if' show cause and effect or conditions. The 'if clause'

states the condition, and the main clause states the result.

(b) Identify Finite and Non-finite verbs: (2 marks)

(i) The squirrel likes to eat nuts.

Finite verb: likes (shows tense - present tense, agrees with subject)

Non-finite verb: to eat (infinitive form, doesn't show tense)

(ii) Swimming in the river is dangerous.

Finite verb: is (shows tense - present tense)

Non-finite verb: Swimming (gerund/present participle, doesn't show tense)

Explanation: Finite verbs change according to tense and subject. Non-finite verbs (infinitives, gerunds, participles) don't change with tense or subject.

(c) Change from Singular to Plural: (2 marks)

(i) The child was playing in the garden.

Answer: The children were playing in the garden.

Changes: child → children (irregular plural), was → were (plural verb)

(ii) The mouse ran into its hole.

Answer: The mice ran into their holes.

Changes: mouse → mice (irregular plural), its → their (plural possessive), hole → holes (regular plural)

**(d) Fill in the blanks with correct question tags:
(2 marks)**

(i) Ravi gave away the chappals, didn't he?

Explanation: Statement is positive and in past tense, so tag is negative: didn't he?

(ii) The squirrel is eating a nut, isn't it?

Explanation: Statement is positive and in present continuous, so tag is negative: isn't it?

Rule: Positive statement → Negative tag, Negative statement → Positive tag

(e) Rewrite using apostrophes correctly: (2 marks)

(i) The music teachers chappals were missing.

Answer: The music teacher's chappals were missing.

Explanation: Apostrophe + s shows singular possession (the chappals belong to one teacher)

(ii) The childrens toys were scattered everywhere.

Answer: The children's toys were scattered everywhere.

Explanation: For irregular plurals that don't end in 's', add apostrophe + s to show possession

Marking: Each part carries 2 marks, Total = 10 marks

Answer 6: Dialogue Writing

Solution:

A Funny Incident in School

Rahul: Hey Priya! Did you hear what happened in the science lab today?

Priya: No! What happened? I was in the library during science period.

Rahul: Oh my god, it was hilarious! You know how Mr. Sharma always tells us to be careful with chemicals?

Priya: Yes, he's always so serious about safety. What did someone do?

Rahul: Well, today Amit was supposed to mix two solutions for an experiment. But instead of reading the labels carefully, he grabbed the wrong bottles!

Priya: Oh no! What happened then? Was it dangerous?

Rahul: No, thankfully it wasn't dangerous at all. But when he mixed them, the solution started bubbling and turned bright pink! Then it started overflowing from the beaker!

Priya: That must have scared everyone! What did Mr. Sharma do?

Rahul: That's the funniest part! Mr. Sharma rushed over with a cloth to clean it up, but he slipped on the spilled solution and almost fell! He managed to catch the table just in time.

Priya: Poor Mr. Sharma! Was he angry?

Rahul: Surprisingly, no! After making sure no one was hurt, even he started laughing. He said, "This is exactly why I keep telling you to read labels carefully!" The whole class burst into laughter.

Priya: I wish I had been there! Amit must have been so embarrassed.

Rahul: He was! His face turned as pink as the solution. But Mr. Sharma was really nice about it and used it as a teaching moment. He explained what went wrong and why it's important to follow instructions.

Priya: That's actually a good way to handle it. I hope Amit learned his lesson!

Rahul: Oh, he definitely did! He apologized and promised to be more careful. Now everyone calls that experiment "Amit's Pink Disaster"!

Priya: That's a story he'll never forget! Thanks for sharing - I needed a good laugh today.

Marking: Format and exchanges 2 marks, Content and relevance 2 marks, Natural flow 1 mark = 5 marks

SECTION C - LITERATURE ANSWERS

Answer 7: Questions from "A Gift of Chappals" (Any TWO)

Solutions:

(a) What made Mridu conclude that the beggar had no money to buy chappals?

Mridu concluded that the beggar had no money to buy chappals because:

- She saw large, pink, peeling blisters on the soles of his bare feet
- These blisters were caused by walking on hot tar roads without any footwear
- She reasoned that if the beggar had money, he would have bought chappals to protect his feet
- The painful condition of his feet showed that he was too poor to afford even basic footwear
- Her compassionate nature made her understand the connection between his poverty and his suffering

This shows Mridu's sensitivity and empathy towards the poor and needy.

(b) Why did the music teacher try not to look too happy when given new chappals?

The music teacher tried not to look too happy when given Gopu Mama's new chappals because:

- He had earlier claimed that his own chappals were brand new and very expensive
- He had said he bought them from Mount Road and they cost him a whole month's fees
- But in reality, his chappals were old and shabby-

looking

- When he received Gopu Mama's genuinely new and hardly-worn chappals, his eyes lit up with joy
- However, he tried to hide his happiness because if he looked too pleased, it would expose his lie
- He wanted to maintain his complaint that he was getting inferior replacement for his "brand new" chappals
- So he pretended to be disappointed and said "Well, I suppose these will have to do"

This shows the music teacher's dishonest and greedy nature.

(c) Why was Rukku Manni angry with the children?

Rukku Manni was angry with the children for several reasons:

- They had given away the music teacher's chappals to the beggar without asking anyone
- This created a very embarrassing situation for her in front of the music teacher
- The music teacher was a guest and losing his chappals in her house reflected badly on her hospitality
- She had to listen to the music teacher's complaints and accusations
- She was forced to give away Gopu Mama's new, hardly-worn chappals as compensation
- The children's impulsive action, though well-intentioned, showed lack of judgment
- She knew she would now have to explain to Gopu Mama about his missing chappals

- The whole situation could have been avoided if the children had asked permission first

Despite understanding their good intentions, she was frustrated by their thoughtless action.

Marking: Each answer carries 2 marks, Total for ANY TWO = 4 marks

Answer 8: Extract from "A Gift of Chappals"

Solutions:

(a) Why did the beggar show his feet to the children? (1 mark)

The beggar showed his feet to the children to make them understand his suffering and desperate need for chappals. He wanted to evoke their sympathy by showing them the painful pink, peeling blisters.

(b) How did the children feel when they saw the beggar's condition? (2 marks)

When the children saw the beggar's condition:

- They felt very sorry for him and his painful situation
- Mridu's eyes filled with tears seeing the unfairness of the situation
- They were moved by compassion and wanted to help him immediately
- Their hearts went out to the poor beggar who had to walk on hot roads barefoot
- This compassion motivated them to find a solution

to help him

The children's reaction shows their kind and empathetic nature.

(c) What did the children decide to do? (1 mark)

The children decided to find an old pair of chappals and give them to the beggar so that his feet would be protected from the hot roads.

(d) Whose chappals did they actually give to the beggar? (2 marks)

The children actually gave away the music teacher's chappals to the beggar. When Ravi saw a pair of chappals on the front doorstep, he assumed they were old and unwanted. Without checking or asking anyone, he picked them up and gave them to the beggar.

However, these chappals belonged to Lalli's music master who had left them there while he was inside giving violin lessons. This mistake led to a very embarrassing situation when the music teacher came out and couldn't find his chappals. The children's good intentions resulted in an awkward problem for Rukku Manni.

Marking: (a) 1 mark, (b) 2 marks, (c) 1 mark, (d) 2 marks = Total 6 marks

Answer 9: Poem "The Squirrel"

Solutions:

(a) Name the poet. (1 mark)

Poet: Mildred Bowers Armstrong

(b) Why does the poet say the squirrel wore a question mark for tail? (2 marks)

The poet says the squirrel "wore a question mark for tail" because:

- The squirrel's tail is long, bushy, and curves upward when the squirrel sits
- This curved shape resembles the symbol of a question mark (?)
- When the squirrel sits on the ground or on a branch, its tail arches over its back
- The tip of the tail curves downward while the rest is raised, creating the distinctive question mark shape

This is a beautiful poetic description that helps readers visualize the squirrel's most distinctive feature - its beautiful bushy tail.

(c) What is meant by 'overcoat of gray'? (1 mark)

'Overcoat of gray' refers to the squirrel's gray-colored fur that covers its entire body like a coat. The poet calls it an "overcoat" because it is the outer covering that keeps the squirrel warm.

(d) How did the squirrel tease the poet? (2 marks)

The squirrel teased the poet in a playful manner:

- When the poet and others would run around the tree trying to catch or approach the squirrel
- The clever squirrel would quickly move to the other side of the tree
- It played a game of hide-and-seek by constantly staying on the opposite side
- This playful behavior seemed like the squirrel was deliberately teasing them

The squirrel's actions show its playful and mischievous nature, as well as its natural caution around humans.

Marking: (a) 1 mark, (b) 2 marks, (c) 1 mark, (d) 2 marks = Total 6 marks

Answer 10: Short Answer Questions (ANY FOUR)

Solutions:

(a) What secret did Ravi and Meena share with Mridu in the backyard?

The secret that Ravi and Meena shared with Mridu was about a kitten they had found and were hiding in the backyard. They had named the kitten Mahendran. The kitten lived in a torn football that was filled with sand. Ravi claimed that the kitten was a descendant of the Mahabalipuram Rishi-Cat, trying to make it sound special and important. They were keeping the kitten a secret because Paati (grandmother) didn't like animals and would make

them get rid of it if she found out. The children had to be very careful when feeding milk to the kitten without letting Paati know.

(b) How did the narrator teach Kari to sit down and walk?

The narrator taught Kari using gentle commands and physical signals:

To teach Kari to sit down:

- The narrator would put his hand on Kari's back and say "Dhat" (the command for sitting)
- After giving the command, he would pull Kari's trunk gently
- Kari learned to respond to this signal and would sit down when commanded

To teach Kari to walk:

- The narrator would pull Kari's ear forward and say "Mali" (the command for walking)
- This signal indicated that Kari should start walking
- Kari learned to associate the ear pull and the word with the action of walking

The training required patience, consistency, and kindness. Kari was an intelligent elephant and learned quickly.

(c) What qualities of a rebel are described in the poem "The Rebel"?

The poem "The Rebel" describes several qualities of a rebel:

- A rebel always does the opposite of what others do
- When others have long hair, the rebel cuts his hair short
- When others have short hair, the rebel grows his hair long
- When everyone talks in class, the rebel stays silent
- When everyone is quiet, the rebel creates a disturbance
- When everybody wears uniform, the rebel dresses in fantastic clothes
- When others wear fancy clothes, the rebel wears simple uniform

The poem humorously shows that a rebel:

- Is non-conformist and doesn't follow the crowd
- Likes to be different and stand out
- Sometimes acts contrary just for the sake of being different
- However, the poem concludes that "it is very good that we have rebels" while also saying "you wouldn't like to be one" - suggesting that rebels serve a purpose in society but their contrary nature can be difficult

Marking: 2 marks each × 4 = 8 marks (Any FOUR to be attempted)

Answer 11: Matching

Solution:

Correct Matches:

(a) Mahendran → (vi) Kitten in the backyard

Explanation: Mahendran was the name given by Ravi to the kitten found in the backyard.

(b) Question mark tail → (iv) The Squirrel

Explanation: The poem "The Squirrel" describes the squirrel as wearing "a question mark for tail."

(c) Music teacher → (iii) A Gift of Chappals

Explanation: The music teacher is a character in "A Gift of Chappals" whose chappals were given away.

(d) Cuts his hair short → (i) The Rebel

Explanation: The poem "The Rebel" mentions that when others have long hair, the rebel cuts his short.

(e) Bananas → (ii) Kari's favorite food

Explanation: In "Bringing up Kari," bananas were Kari the elephant's favorite food, which he would steal.

(f) Baby elephant → (v) Bringing up Kari

Explanation: "Bringing up Kari" is the story about raising and training a baby elephant named Kari.

Marking: 1 mark each = 6 marks

SECTION D - LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS ANSWERS

Answer 12: Option 1 - Kindness and Consequences in "A Gift of Chappals"

Solution:

Good Intentions, Poor Judgment: Lessons from "A Gift of Chappals"

The story "A Gift of Chappals" beautifully illustrates an important life lesson: good intentions alone are not enough; we must also use wisdom and think about consequences before acting. The children in the story - Ravi, Meena, and Mridu - had pure hearts and genuine compassion, but their impulsive actions created an embarrassing situation.

The Children's Good Intentions:

The children demonstrated admirable qualities when they encountered the beggar:

- They felt genuine compassion seeing the beggar's blistered feet
- Mridu's eyes filled with tears witnessing his suffering
- They immediately wanted to help and find a solution
- Their hearts went out to someone less fortunate than themselves
- They understood the pain of walking barefoot on hot tar roads

Their empathy and desire to help were completely

genuine. In a world where many people ignore the suffering of others, these children showed remarkable sensitivity. They didn't just feel sorry; they wanted to take action.

The Thoughtless Action:

However, their good intentions led them to act without thinking:

- They assumed the chappals on the doorstep were old and unwanted
- They didn't ask Rukku Manni or any adult for permission
- They didn't verify who owned the chappals before giving them away
- They acted impulsively, driven by emotion rather than careful thought

When Ravi saw the chappals, he immediately thought, "Perfect! We can give these to the beggar." He didn't stop to think: Whose chappals are these? Should I ask before giving them away? Are these really old and unwanted?

The Embarrassing Situation:

The consequences of their thoughtless action were significant:

- The chappals belonged to the music teacher, who was a guest in the house
- The music teacher was upset and complained loudly about his "brand new, expensive" chappals
- Rukku Manni was terribly embarrassed in front of

the guest

- She had to endure the music teacher's complaints and accusations
- She was forced to give away Gopu Mama's new chappals as replacement
- She would later have to explain to Gopu Mama about his missing chappals
- The whole household was thrown into confusion and stress

What could have been a simple act of kindness turned into a complicated problem affecting multiple people.

The Contrast: Music Teacher's Dishonesty:

Interestingly, the story also shows us the music teacher's dishonest behavior:

- He claimed his old chappals were brand new and expensive
- He exaggerated how much they cost
- When given Gopu Mama's genuinely new chappals, his eyes lit up
- He tried to hide his happiness to maintain his false complaint

This contrast highlights that while the children made a mistake in judgment, their intentions were pure - unlike the music teacher who deliberately lied for personal gain.

Important Lessons We Learn:

1. Think Before Acting:

Good intentions must be combined with careful thinking. Before giving away something, we should verify ownership and get proper permission.

Impulsive actions, even well-meant, can create problems.

2. Ask for Guidance:

Children should consult adults before making important decisions. Rukku Manni would have found a proper way to help the beggar if the children had asked her.

3. Kindness Requires Wisdom:

True charity involves not just a good heart but also good judgment. We must think about all consequences - both for the person we're helping and for others who might be affected.

4. Own Your Mistakes:

When the truth came out, the children had to face the consequences. Learning from mistakes is part of growing up.

5. The Value of Compassion:

Despite the mistake, the children's compassion for the beggar was beautiful. Society needs such empathetic individuals who care about others' suffering.

Conclusion:

"A Gift of Chappals" teaches us that:

- Kindness and charity are wonderful virtues that should be encouraged
- However, these virtues must be balanced with wisdom, responsibility, and permission
- Good intentions don't automatically justify our actions if they harm others
- We must think carefully about consequences before acting
- Seeking advice from elders helps us avoid unnecessary problems

The children's hearts were in the right place - they saw someone suffering and wanted to help. This compassion is precious and should never be lost. But they also learned that helping others requires not just emotion but also careful thinking.

In life, we often face similar situations where we want to help someone but must also consider all implications. The key is to maintain our compassionate hearts while developing wisdom and good judgment. This balance - between empathy and responsibility, between action and reflection - is what truly defines mature and meaningful kindness.

The story reminds us: Be kind, be generous, but also be wise. Help others, but think about how your help affects everyone involved. And always, always ask for permission before giving away things that don't belong to you!

Marking: Content and Analysis 3 marks, Understanding of lesson 1.5 marks, Expression and Conclusion 0.5 marks = 5 marks

Answer 12: Option 2 - Training Kari

Solution:

The Art of Training Kari: Patience, Love, and Understanding

"Bringing up Kari" is a delightful account of how a young boy raised and trained a baby elephant with patience, kindness, and intelligence. The story provides valuable insights into animal training and the special bond between humans and elephants.

The Process of Training Kari:

The narrator's approach to training Kari was systematic and gentle:

1. Teaching Basic Commands:

The narrator taught Kari essential commands through repetition and physical signals:

- To make Kari sit: He would put his hand on Kari's back, say "Dhat," and gently pull his trunk
- To make Kari walk: He would pull Kari's ear forward and say "Mali"
- These commands were taught through patient repetition until Kari associated the words and gestures with the actions

2. Teaching How to Bathe:

One of the most important lessons was teaching Kari to bathe properly:

- The narrator would take Kari to a river or pond
- He would call out "Mali" and pull Kari's ear to make him lie down in the water
- Initially, Kari was hesitant about water
- But with gentle encouragement and by making it fun, Kari learned to enjoy bathing
- Kari would lie down in the water and let the narrator scrub him clean

3. Controlling Food Habits:

Training also involved teaching Kari proper eating behavior:

- Kari loved bananas and would steal them from the dining table
- The narrator had to teach him not to steal food
- This required vigilance and consistent discipline
- However, it was done with love, not harsh punishment

4. Teaching Through Experience:

The narrator allowed Kari to learn from experience:

- When Kari saw other elephants behaving in certain ways, he would imitate them
- The narrator encouraged positive behaviors and discouraged negative ones
- He used rewards and gentle correction rather than force

Qualities of the Narrator as a Trainer:

The narrator possessed several exceptional

qualities that made him an excellent trainer:

1. Patience:

- Training a baby elephant requires tremendous patience
- The narrator never got frustrated when Kari didn't understand immediately
- He repeated commands and exercises as many times as needed
- He understood that learning takes time, especially for a young animal

2. Kindness and Love:

- The narrator genuinely loved Kari and treated him with affection
- He never used physical punishment or harsh methods
- He knew that elephants are emotional creatures who respond to love
- His gentle approach created trust between him and Kari

3. Understanding of Elephant Psychology:

- The narrator understood that elephants are intelligent and have excellent memory
- He knew they respond better to kindness than to force
- He recognized that elephants are emotional and can be rebellious if mistreated
- He used this understanding to develop effective training methods

4. Consistency:

- The narrator was consistent in his commands and expectations
- He used the same words and gestures every time
- This consistency helped Kari learn faster and remember better
- He didn't confuse Kari by changing methods frequently

5. Observation Skills:

- The narrator carefully observed Kari's behavior and reactions
- He noticed when Kari was happy, scared, or confused
- He adjusted his training methods based on Kari's responses
- He learned to understand Kari's needs and moods

6. Sense of Responsibility:

- The narrator took complete responsibility for Kari's well-being
- He ensured Kari had proper food, shelter, and care
- He protected Kari from dangers
- He understood that training was not just about teaching commands but about raising a healthy, happy elephant

7. Playfulness:

- The narrator made training fun for Kari
- He played with Kari and made learning enjoyable
- Bath time, for example, became a playful activity rather than a chore
- This positive approach made Kari eager to learn

and cooperate

The Results of Good Training:

The narrator's patient and loving approach produced excellent results:

- Kari learned all the essential skills needed for an elephant
- He developed a deep bond of trust and affection with the narrator
- Kari was well-behaved and responded to commands
- He grew into a healthy, happy elephant
- The relationship between Kari and the narrator became like that of a parent and child

Lessons We Can Learn:

The story of training Kari teaches us valuable lessons that apply beyond animal training:

1. Patience Achieves More Than Force:

Whether training animals, teaching children, or learning new skills, patience is more effective than harsh methods.

2. Love and Respect Create Strong Bonds:

Relationships based on love and mutual respect are stronger and more lasting than those based on fear.

3. Understanding Is Key:

To teach anyone anything, we must first understand their nature, needs, and capabilities.

4. Consistency Matters:

Being consistent in our approach helps others learn and trust us.

5. Positive Reinforcement Works:

Encouraging good behavior is more effective than just punishing bad behavior.

Conclusion:

The narrator's success in training Kari was not due to any special equipment or complex techniques. It was the result of simple but powerful qualities: patience, love, understanding, consistency, and responsibility. His approach shows us that the best way to teach and train - whether animals or humans - is through kindness, respect, and genuine care.

The bond between the narrator and Kari reminds us that when we approach others with love and patience, we can achieve remarkable results. The narrator wasn't just training an elephant; he was raising a companion, building a friendship, and creating a relationship based on mutual trust and affection. This is the true art of training - not just teaching skills, but building bonds that last a lifetime.

Marking: Content and Process Description 3 marks, Qualities Analysis 1.5 marks, Expression and Conclusion 0.5 marks = 5 marks

Answer 13: Option 1 - Story about a Squirrel

Solution:

Chippy: The School Garden Squirrel

Our school garden had a special resident - a playful squirrel we named Chippy. Chippy had beautiful grey-brown fur and a magnificent bushy tail that curved like a question mark when he sat. His bright, curious eyes and quick movements made him a favorite among all students.

Every morning, Chippy would arrive at the old banyan tree near the assembly ground. He had made his home in a hollow trunk and would peek out whenever the bell rang, as if attending our morning assembly! Students would often see him sitting up straight on branches, eating nuts and seeds he had collected.

Chippy's daily routine was quite entertaining. After morning assembly, he would scamper down to the garden where students played during recess. He seemed to enjoy watching us play, sitting on low branches and chattering away. When anyone tried to approach him, he would quickly run to the other side of the tree, playing his favorite game of hide-and-seek.

The funniest incident happened during our annual day celebrations last month. We had decorated the school garden with colorful balloons and streamers. Chippy was very curious about these new, shiny objects. During the cultural program, when all eyes

were on the stage, Chippy decided to investigate a large red balloon tied to a tree near the stage.

We were watching a dance performance when suddenly we heard a loud "POP!" Everyone turned to see Chippy hanging upside down from a branch, looking absolutely shocked! He had apparently tried to bite the balloon and it had burst right in his face. For a few seconds, Chippy just hung there, stunned and confused. Then he quickly scrambled up the tree and disappeared into his hole.

The entire audience, including the chief guest, burst into laughter. Even the dancers on stage couldn't control their giggles. The program had to be paused for a few minutes until everyone stopped laughing. Poor Chippy didn't come out for the rest of the day, probably embarrassed by his adventure!

After that day, Chippy became even more famous. Students started bringing small treats for him - peanuts, almonds, and sometimes fruits. The teachers allowed us to feed him, but only from a distance, teaching us to respect wild animals' space.

Chippy taught us many lessons without ever trying to. We learned to appreciate nature, to be gentle with animals, and that wild creatures deserve our care and respect. His playful antics brought joy to our school days, and his presence reminded us that we share our world with many wonderful creatures.

Even today, Chippy continues to be our school's unofficial mascot. New students are always told the story of "Chippy and the Balloon Incident," and everyone keeps a watch for his playful presence in our garden. He may be just a small squirrel, but he has brought enormous happiness into our school life, teaching us that the best lessons often come from the most unexpected teachers!

Marking: Story development and incident 3 marks, Description and creativity 1.5 marks, Conclusion and lesson 0.5 marks = 5 marks

Answer 13: Option 2 - Ravi's Diary Entry

Solution:

Date: [Date of the incident]

Time: 8:30 PM

Dear Diary,

Today has been one of the most confusing and upsetting days of my life. I did something that I thought was right, but it turned into a disaster. I'm sitting here in my room, still thinking about what happened, and I don't know whether to feel proud or ashamed.

It all started when that old beggar came to our gate this afternoon. Mridu, Meena, and I went to see him, and diary, the sight of his feet broke my heart. He had these big pink blisters all over his feet from walking on the hot roads without any

chappals. I could see he was in so much pain. When Mridu saw it, her eyes filled with tears, and I felt this strong need to do something to help him.

Then I saw those old-looking chappals on the verandah. They looked shabby and worn out, so I thought, "These must be some old chappals that nobody wants." Without thinking much, I grabbed them and gave them to the beggar. The relief and gratitude in his eyes made me feel like I had done something really good. Mridu and Meena also seemed happy that we could help him.

But oh god, what happened next! When Lalli's music master came out looking for his chappals, my heart sank. Those were HIS chappals! Not some old, unwanted pair, but the music master's own chappals that he had left there while teaching Lalli.

The music master got so angry! He started shouting about how they were brand new (though they didn't look new to me at all) and how expensive they were. He said they cost a whole month's fees and he had gone all the way to Mount Road to buy them. I felt terrible seeing him so upset.

Then came the worst part - Rukku Manni came out and asked us what happened. When she learned the truth, I could see her face changing. A sharp V-shaped line formed between her eyebrows, and I knew she was really, really angry. She scolded us in front of everyone, and I felt so small and embarrassed.

She had to give the music master Gopu Mama's brand new chappals as replacement. Those chappals looked really nice, and I know they were hardly worn. The music master's eyes actually lit up when he saw them, though he tried to pretend he was still upset. I think he was secretly happy to get such good chappals in exchange for his old ones!

But what hurt the most was when Rukku Manni asked me, "Don't you know the difference between doing charity and giving away other people's things without permission?" She was absolutely right, and I had no answer. I just stood there feeling terrible.

Now I'm confused, diary. My intentions were good - I genuinely wanted to help that poor beggar. Doesn't the story of Karna that Rukku Manni herself told us teach us to be generous and help others? Karna gave away everything he had to help people. Isn't that what I was trying to do?

But I also understand that I made a big mistake. I should have:

1. Asked Rukku Manni before giving away anything
2. Made sure those chappals were actually unwanted
3. Thought about whose chappals they might be
4. Considered the consequences of my actions

I acted on impulse, driven by emotion, without thinking things through. Yes, I wanted to help the beggar, but in doing so, I created problems for everyone else - the music master was upset, Rukku

Manni was embarrassed, and now she has to explain to Gopu Mama why his new chappals are gone.

The thing is, diary, I still believe we should help people in need. Seeing that beggar's blistered feet really affected me. But today I learned that good intentions alone are not enough. I need to think before I act. I need to ask for permission before giving away things that don't belong to me. I need to balance my desire to help with responsibility and wisdom.

Rukku Manni is probably worried about what to tell Gopu Mama. The music master went away with Gopu Mama's chappals, probably happy despite his complaints. And somewhere, that beggar is walking with the music master's old chappals, unaware of all the trouble they caused.

Tomorrow, I'm going to apologize properly to Rukku Manni and to Gopu Mama when he comes home. I'll tell them I'm sorry for acting without thinking and for causing them trouble. I'll promise to always ask permission before doing such things in the future.

But I won't apologize for wanting to help the beggar. That feeling of compassion, of wanting to ease someone's suffering - that's something I want to keep. I just need to learn to be wiser about how I help.

Maybe that's what growing up means - keeping your

good heart but developing better judgment. Having compassion but also thinking about consequences. Wanting to help but doing it in the right way.

I've learned my lesson, diary. Next time someone needs help, I'll still want to help them. But I'll be smarter about it. I'll ask adults for guidance. I'll think about all the people who might be affected. I'll make sure I'm helping in a way that doesn't create new problems.

For now, I just hope Gopu Mama won't be too angry when he finds out. And I hope Rukku Manni will forgive me soon. I didn't mean to cause trouble. I just wanted to help.

Confused but wiser,
Ravi

Marking: Format and feelings 2 marks, Reflection and understanding 2 marks, Expression and conclusion 1 mark = 5 marks

END OF QUESTION PAPER

Total Marks: 80

All Questions Solved with Detailed Explanations

Best wishes for your examination!

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