

The City School

Unified End of Year Examinations 2017-18



SCHOOL
NAME

INDEX
NUMBER

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ENGLISH
CLASS 8

May 2018
2 hours

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

- ❖ Write your index number and branch/campus clearly in the space provided.
- ❖ You have ten minutes reading time –use it to look carefully through the paper.
- ❖ Read and follow the instructions of the questions given.
- ❖ Answer all question in the spaces provided.
- ❖ Check your answer paper before you hand it in.
- ❖ Marks for each section are shown below.

----- For Examiner's use only -----

	Section A: Writing		Section B: Reading		Total
	P1: Directed Writing	P2: Creative Writing	P1: Unseen Passage	P2: Seen Passage (Literature)	
Max. Marks	20	30	25	25	100
Marks Obtained					

Percentage		Grade	
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Invigilated by: _____ Marked by: _____ Rechecked by: _____

Q.1 Write on ONE of the following topics. (150 – 180 words) []/20]

- i. The city’s public transport problem is one of the clamoring issues of the time that needs to be assessed and evaluated. Write a newspaper article carrying the following details:
- The reasons behind the emerging problem
 - Suggest possible solutions
 - Predict what will happen if the situation persists.

OR

- ii. A shopping mall is about to be built in your area. Many older people have objected to this plan and asked to build a recreational park instead. You and your friends are very happy about their objection and you have decided to write to the local newspaper in favour of the park. Write a letter to the Editor in Chief, you must include the following details:
- The hazards of the shopping mall.
 - What benefits you think the park will bring?
 - Suggest a solution to the problem.

OR

- iii. You recently attended a live show of your favourite celebrity. After meeting him/her, your opinion has changed. Write an account to your friend. Include details:
- Details about that celebrity.
 - Why did you like him/her?
 - What made you think differently?

Lined writing area with horizontal lines and two binder holes on the left side.

Q.2 Write on ONE of the following topics. (180 – 250 words) []/30

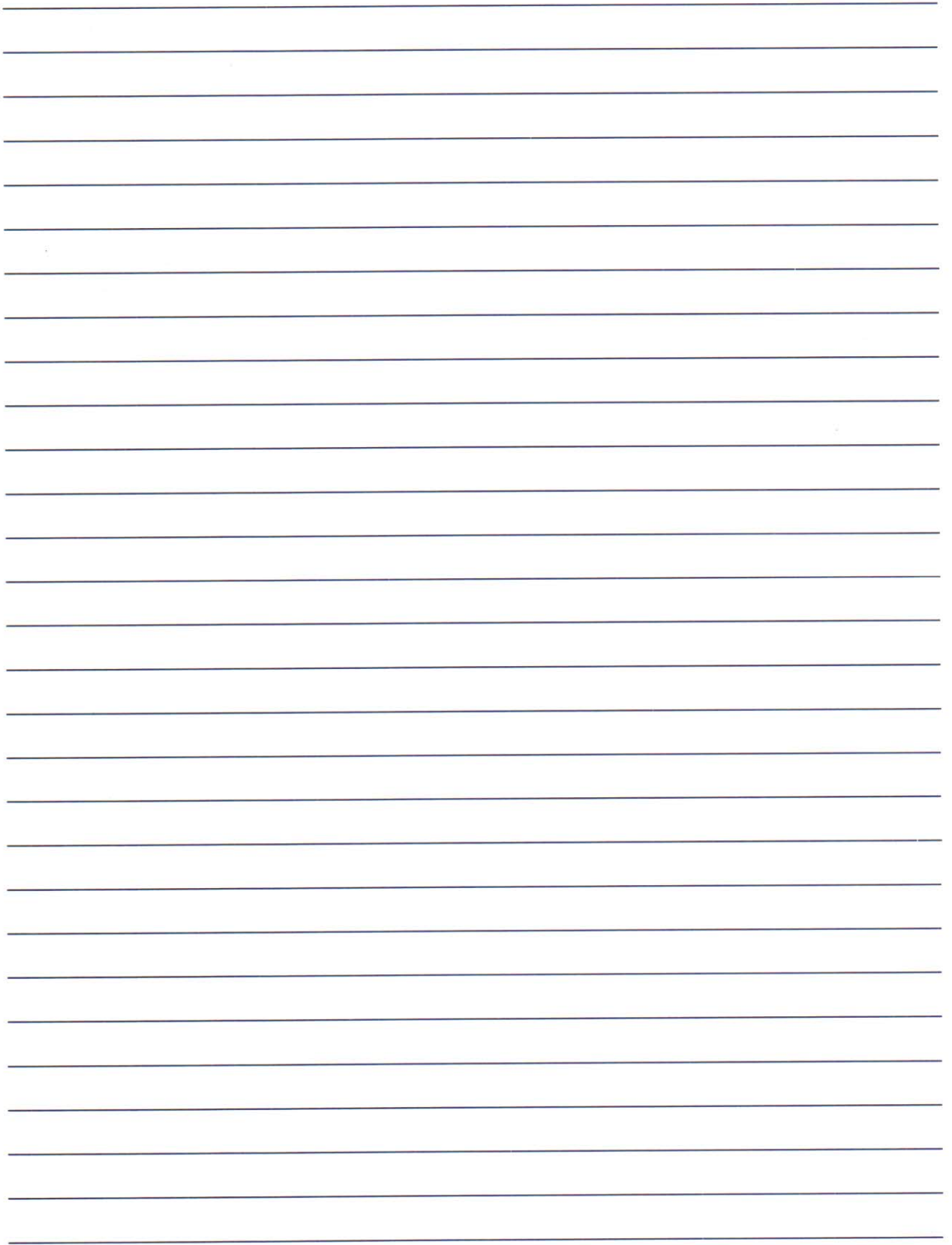
- i. You must have experienced some excursion trips managed by your school. Travelling with school fellows and friends is an exciting experience. Compare and contrast any school field trip with any family picnic.

OR

- ii. Write a narrative recalling an incident where a person's honesty left a lasting impression on you. Remember to use descriptive language and add interesting details.

OR

- iii. Imagine you have bought a pair of shoes from a vintage shop. You wear them and, thinking about the old kings, you step forward. Suddenly, you realise you have become the king's age and you are standing in a castle. The shoes can travel, anywhere. Describe what happens next.



A series of horizontal lines for writing, spanning most of the page width.

Read the following passage and answer the questions given below.

[25]

- 1 *So Jake spread his arms, leaped skyward from the sidewalk, and began to fly, rocketing up over the neighbourhood. Suddenly he heard the distant voice of his father calling, as if from another universe, and Jake pried open sleep-heavy eyes . . .*
- 2 "Get up, pal," said Jake's father, "or you'll miss the school bus." "Just let me sleep a little longer," Jake mumbled. Then he groaned and turned over, pulling the covers up over his head like a tent, as if to somehow recapture his dream. Jake loved to sleep. It wasn't that he was lazy or lacked energy. Jake was a normal fourteen-year-old kid in every way. But he loved to curl up under a soft white cloud of sheets, rest his head on a marshmallow pillow, and luxuriate in the **twilight** world of **slumber** where life is exciting and dreams always come true.
- 3 *So Jake was sitting at a table at Chez Maurice's in Hollywood, having lunch with his buddy, Tom Cruise. Tom was offering Jake a role in his next movie when . . .*
- 4 "Get up," said Jake's father, gently shaking his son's shoulders. Jake yawned and **hauled** his legs over the side of the mattress, where he sat for a few moments to **reconcile** himself with the shocking reality of upright existence. He dragged himself into the shower, where he briefly dreamed of tropical rain forests, and at last shuffled downstairs to breakfast.
- 5 "Jake's going to sleep his life away!" teased Taylor, his nine-year-old sister, as she sat at the table, kicking her dangling legs excitedly as if to show by comparison how wide awake she was.
- 6 "He's just a growing boy," said Jake's father, washing dishes at the kitchen sink. "Right?" Jake nodded sleepily and finished his breakfast. He trudged out the front door with Taylor, still half-sleepwalking, and they waited on the curb for their school bus, as usual.
- 7 At school, finally fully awake, Jake cycled through the pleasant routine of another typical day. He greeted his buddy Benjamin at the locker they shared. They discussed hockey games and books. Then there was science with Mr. Albert, Math with Ms. Freed, and lunch with Benjamin, who always told great jokes. After school, there was homework, dinner with his dad and Taylor, maybe a little TV, and then off to dreamland. And so went week after week, and month after month.
- 8 *So Jake swung the bat, sending the ball out of Dodger Stadium and into the Baseball Hall of Fame . . .*
- 9 "Come on, get up," giggled Taylor, holding a ringing alarm clock only inches from her brother's face. "You'll be late for school!" Jake shook his head in disbelief and ducked under the covers.

Moments later Jake awakened to an empty, quiet room. He noted with puzzlement that all the buttons on his shirt top had popped off in the night. Then he pulled himself from bed and padded sleepily to the shower. The bathroom mirror reflected a face that was oddly unfamiliar—one with heavier eyebrows and new creases in its brow. Jake rubbed a hand over his face and felt the unexpected sandpaper abrasion of whiskers. Mystified and dazed, he staggered downstairs to the kitchen, where he was shocked to discover a teenaged Taylor sitting at the breakfast table beside his father, who was greyer and heavier.

- 10 “So you finally woke up,” commented Jake’s father, casually sipping his coffee. “We thought you’d sleep forever.” “You certainly overslept!” added Taylor in a surprisingly mature voice. Jake shook his head as if to disperse the fog of dreams. “What are you talking about?” “You’ve been asleep for four years,” Jake’s father replied calmly. “Better get dressed, or you’ll be late for your last day of school.” This statement set Jake’s mind reeling. His last day of school? Had he really slept so long? Was he now *eighteen* years old? Lost in a whirl of confusion, Jake went to his room to dress for school and discovered that none of his clothes fit him. He borrowed a shirt, pants, and shoes from his father—and they made him look and feel even older.
- 11 Taylor led zombie-like Jake out the front door to the curb. Boarding his bus, Jake stared in **bewilderment** at the aged faces of his friends. “Hey, it’s Jake!” shouted someone from the back of the bus. “He’s back!” One by one, his schoolmates began to recognize him. “Buddy, you sure look older!” said someone sitting near where Jake stood. Jake looked down to discover his friend Benjamin smiling heartily and looking startingly like his older brother. Jake sat beside Benjamin, who eagerly told what had happened during Jake’s years of slumber—how Mr. Albert had retired from teaching science, and how Ms. Freed had married. Benjamin spoke excitedly of hockey games won and lost; of books read and remembered; of school plays, classes, pep rallies, and car washes. They were small, ordinary events, but to Jake they seemed extraordinary because they had happened without him. He had missed grades nine through twelve. And now there would be no more school days with Benjamin, his teachers, or his other friends. Jake had slept them all away.
- 12 “Come on, buddy, get up,” called Jake’s father. Jake pried open leaden eyelids to see his father standing at the foot of his bed, looking younger and leaner. Beside him was a nine-year-old Taylor, seemingly more girlish and bubbly than ever before. “Come on, sleepyhead!” she giggled. Her laughter seemed as bright as the yellow sunshine splashing about the room. “You don’t want to miss school, do you?” Jake beamed and looked at his family. “No, I wouldn’t want to do that,” he said as he threw back the covers and leaped out of bed.

Q.3 Choose the correct option.

[/7]

- i. **What conclusion can be made based on the fact that Jake's shirt does not fit?**
 - A. He has cheap shirt that came apart while he slept.
 - B. He has grown lots in the four years he was asleep.
 - C. He ate too much the night before and gained weight.
 - D. He had a growth spurt that happened overnight.

- ii. **The phrase "as bright as the yellow sunshine" is an example of which term?**
 - A. Simile
 - B. Metaphor
 - C. Personification
 - D. Onomatopoeia

- iii. **Which event happens first?**
 - A. Jake dreams about having lunch with Tom Cruise.
 - B. Jake dreams about flying over the neighbourhood.
 - C. Jake dreams about playing baseball for the Dodgers.
 - D. Jake dreams about sleeping for four years.

- iv. **Why does Jake leap out of bed at the end of the story?**
 - A. He does not want his dad bugging him.
 - B. He does not want his sister laughing at him.
 - C. He does not want to sleep his life away.
 - D. He does not want to grow anymore.

- v. **What do the italicized sentences represent in the story?**
 - A. Dreams
 - B. Conversations
 - C. Opinions
 - D. Wishes

vi. After reading the passage, what could be the belief of the author?

- A. Teenagers should not listen to their friends.
- B. Teenagers should not listen to their parents.
- C. Teenagers should not let opportunities pass by them.
- D. Teenagers need to sleep more than ten hours a night.

vii. What could be the title for the story?

- A. Life is Full of Important Things: better not waste it.
- B. Annoying Sisters Keep You Awake.
- C. He is Just a Growing Boy.
- D. Alarm Clock Jitters.

Q.4 Why did Jake want to escape from the world of reality into the world of dreams?

(paragraph 2)

[]/2]

Q.5 Interpret why Jake's final dream transfigured him. (paragraph 9 through 11)

[]/4]

Q.6 How was Jake's relation with his sister? (from whole passage) [/2]

Q.7 Use the following words in sentences. [/5]

i. Twilight:

ii. Hauled:

iii. Slumber:

iv. Bewilderment:

v. Reconcile:

Q.8 Change the sentences into indirect speech.

[]/5]

- i. "Come on, get up," giggled Taylor, holding a ringing alarm clock only inches from her brother's face. "You'll be late for school!"

- ii. "You've been asleep for four years," Jake's father replied calmly. "Better get dressed, or you'll be late for your last day of school."

- iii. "No, I wouldn't want to do that," he said.

- iv. "So you finally woke up," commented Jake's father, casually sipping his coffee. "We thought you'd sleep forever."

- v. "Jake's going to sleep his life away!" teased Taylor.

Read the following passage and answer the questions given below.

[25]

"I am Mr. Bilbo Baggins," he answered, "companion of Thorin, if you want to know. I know your king well by sight, though perhaps he doesn't know me to look at. But Bard will remember me, and it is Bard I particularly want to see."

"Indeed!" said they, "and what may be your business?"

"Whatever it is, it's my own, my good elves. But if you wish ever to get back to your own woods from this cold cheerless place...

... "I see I have some information you have not got. Dain, I may tell you, is now less than two days' march off, and has at least five hundred grim dwarves with him—a good many of them have had experience in the dreadful dwarf and goblin wars, of which you have no doubt heard. When they arrive there may be serious trouble."

"Why do you tell us this? Are you betraying your friends, or are you threatening us?" asked Bard grimly.

"My dear Bard!" squeaked Bilbo. "Don't be so hasty! I never met such suspicious folk! I am merely trying to avoid trouble for all concerned. Now I will make you an offer!"

"Let us hear it!" they said.

"You may see it!" said he. "It is this!" and he drew forth the Arkenstone, and threw away the wrapping. "This is the Arkenstone of Thrain," said Bilbo, "the Heart of the Mountain; and it is also the heart of Thorin. He values it above a river of gold. I give it to you. It will aid you in your bargaining." Then Bilbo, not without a shudder, not without a glance of longing, handed the marvellous stone to Bard, and he held it in his hand, as though dazed.

"But how is it yours to give?" he asked at last with an effort.

"O well!" said the hobbit uncomfortably. "It isn't exactly; but, well, I am willing to let it stand against all my claim, don't you know. I may be a burglar—or so they say: personally I never really felt like one—but I am an honest one, I hope, more or less. Anyway I am going back now, and the dwarves can do what they like to me. I hope you will find it useful."

The Elvenking looked at Bilbo with a new wonder. "Bilbo Baggins!" he said. "You are more worthy to wear the armour of elf-princes than many that have looked more comely in it. But I wonder if Thorin Oakenshield will see it so. I have more knowledge of dwarves in general than you have perhaps. I advise you to remain with us, and here you shall be honoured and thrice welcome."

"Thank you very much I am sure," said Bilbo with a bow.

"Next day the trumpets rang early in the camp. Soon a single runner was seen hurrying along the narrow path. At a distance he stood and **hailed** them, asking whether Thorin would now listen to another **embassy**, since new tidings had come to hand, and matters were changed.

“That will be Dain!” said Thorin when he heard. “They will have got wind of his coming. I thought that would alter their mood! Bid them come few in number and weaponless, and I will hear,” he called to the messenger.

About midday the banners of the Forest and the Lake were seen to be borne forth again. A company of twenty was approaching. At the beginning of the narrow way they laid aside sword and spear, and came on towards the Gate. Wondering, the dwarves saw that among them were both Bard and the Elvenking, before whom an old man wrapped in cloak and hood bore a strong casket of iron-bound wood.

“Hail Thorin!” said Bard. “Are you still of the same mind?”

“My mind does not change with the rising and setting of a few suns,” answered Thorin. “Did you come to ask me idle questions? Still the elf-host has not departed as I bade! Till then you come in vain to bargain with me.”

“Is there then nothing for which you would yield any of your gold?”

“Nothing that you or your friends have to offer.”

“What of the Arkenstone of Thrain?” said he, and at the same moment the old man opened the casket and held aloft the jewel. The light leapt from his hand, bright and white in the morning.

Then Thorin was stricken dumb with amazement and confusion. No one spoke for a long while. Thorin at length broke the silence, and his voice was thick with wrath. “That stone was my father’s, and is mine,” he said. “Why should I purchase my own?” But wonder overcame him and he added: “But how came you by the heirloom of my house—if there is need to ask such a question of thieves?”

“We are not thieves,” Bard answered. “Your own we will give back in return for our own.”

“How came you by it?” shouted Thorin in gathering rage.

“I gave it to them!” squeaked Bilbo, who was peering over the wall, by now in a dreadful fright.

“You! You!” cried Thorin, turning upon him and grasping him with both hands. “You miserable hobbit! You undersized—burglar!” he shouted at a loss for words, and he shook poor Bilbo like a rabbit.

“By the beard of Durin! I wish I had Gandalf here! Curse him for his choice of you! May his beard wither! As for you I will throw you to the rocks!” he cried and lifted Bilbo in his arms.

“Stay! Your wish is granted!” said a voice. The old man with the **casket** threw aside his hood and cloak. “Here is Gandalf! And none too soon it seems. If you don’t like my Burglar, please don’t damage him. Put him down, and listen first to what he has to say!”

“You all seem in league!” said Thorin dropping Bilbo on the top of the wall. “Never again will I have dealings with any wizard or his friends. What have you to say, you descendant of rats?”

“Dear me! Dear me!” said Bilbo. “I am sure this is all very uncomfortable. You may remember saying that I might choose my own fourteenth share? Perhaps I took it too literally —I have been told that dwarves are sometimes politer in word than in deed. The time was, all the same,

when you seemed to think that I had been of some service. Descendant of rats, indeed! Is this all the service of you and your family that I was promised, Thorin? Take it that I have disposed of my share as I wished, and let it go at that!"

"I will," said Thorin grimly. "And I will let you go at that—and may we never meet again!" Then he turned and spoke over the wall. "I am betrayed," he said. "It was rightly guessed that I could not **forbear** to **redeem** the Arkenstone, the treasure of my house. For it I will give one fourteenth share of the hoard in silver and gold, setting aside the gems; but that shall be accounted the promised share of this traitor, and with that reward he shall depart, and you can divide it as you will. He will get little enough, I doubt not. Take him, if you wish him to live; and no friendship of mine goes with him.

"Get down now to your friends!" he said to Bilbo, "or I will throw you down."

"What about the gold and silver?" asked Bilbo.

"That shall follow after, as can be arranged," said he. "Get down!" "Until then we keep the stone," cried Bard.

"You are not making a very splendid figure as King under the Mountain," said Gandalf. "But things may change yet."

"They may indeed," said Thorin. And already, so strong was the bewilderment of the treasure upon him, he was pondering whether by the help of Dain he might not recapture the Arkenstone and withhold the share of the reward.

Q.9 Read the passage and answer the given questions. [14]

- i. Explain the reason behind Thorin's wrath? Also evaluate briefly whether his reaction towards Bilbo is justified or not. [4]

- ii. Why did Bilbo give Arkenstone to Bard and risk his own life? [2]

iii. Who was the old man carrying a casket? What was there in the casket? [/2]

iv. What did Thorin offer against Arkenstone? [/2]

v. "You all seem in league!" What do you think Thorin meant by saying this? [/1]

vi. According to Bilbo, how could the conditions be unfavourable for Dain, in his battle against Thorin? [/3]

Q.10 Explain the meaning of the following words. [/5]

i. Embassy: _____

ii. Casket: _____

iii. Hailed: _____

iv. Redeem: _____

v. Forbear: _____

