

Doon Public School Bhuj

English Worksheet

Dear Students,

This is your home assignment which you have to complete in your English notebook. Write all the following exercises very neatly in the notebook and learn the same. The notebook will be checked on reopening of the school. Manage your time efficiently as time is free, but it is priceless. Take care and stay safe!

Class: IX

Q-1 Read the following passage carefully:

1. Reading Comprehension (RC, as it is normally called) is the most peculiar section in almost all scholastic, entrance and employment tests. The skills in RC make a lot of difference to one's chances of good grades/selection.
2. Most students find it difficult to tackle topics that are diverse from the field they are in or they are comfortable with. So one needs to develop a taste for even the most obscure and boring topic on this planet. For success in RC one should be able to understand. And even with an average speed one can succeed if one implements the strategies.
3. Broadly speaking, RC passages can be classified in a few categories. Fact based RC is the simplest form of RC. These types of passages have lot of information in the form of names, numbers etc. In this type of passages one should read very fast.
4. Don't try to memorize any facts, numbers or names etc. In fact there is no need to even remember them. Just make yourself familiar with the structure of the passage. Just see in which paragraph author is talking about what. Mark it. Then when you go to the questions, identify in which paragraph information regarding that question is mentioned. Go to that paragraph, read the numbers, names etc. and mark the answer.
5. Inference based RC is the toughest form of RC. Here the passage is fairly tough to understand. This includes passages on topics like Religion, Spirituality, Philosophy, etc. Most of the students will be comfortable attempting these passages at least in RC. The reading speed is fairly slow in this type of passages. The way to master this type of passages is to read them again and again while practising.
6. Topic based RC includes passages on any particular topic like economics, astrology, medical science, etc. Generally what makes -these passages tough is usage of technical terms. If a topic is new to us then presence of technical term scares us even if they are defined in the passage. For success in this type of passages we need to have a fan-understanding of the definition of the term if it is defined in the passage. Read that definition twice if you need to. But don't worry about technical terms if they are not defined in the passage. Assume them to be non-existent and proceed. Key principle in these passages is that don't go to the next line unless the previous line is clear.

7. Reading passage first and then questions is the most popular strategy for RC. While answering the question you may come back to the passage to find answer as you have just read the passage initially and not crammed it. But you should not come back for each and every question. If you come back for majority of questions then you haven't read the passage properly. The key to success for this strategy is that you should understand the passage very well. We will suggest students to follow this technique from the beginning and work upon this.
8. Reading questions first and then passage is the strategy followed by a few students. They just look at the questions and not options. The objective is that after seeing the questions when you read the passage then you read only that part carefully where the answer is given. The flaw with this is that you will not be able to remember all the questions. Besides this, this strategy fails when there are questions that require understanding of the passage.

A. Answer the following:-

1. **Most students find Reading Comprehension difficult because.....**

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| (a) the language is tough | (b) the vocabulary is difficult |
| (c) the style is too involved | (d) the topics are unrelated to their interest |

Ans: (d) the topics are unrelated to their interest

2. **Fact based RC is the easiest because.....**

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| (a) it is written in simple language | (b) there are no allusions |
| (c) it contains information | (d) it can be memorised easily |

Ans: (c) it contains information

3. **For answering a question on RC, one should.....**

- (a) memorise the facts, figures, etc.
- (b) mark what the author is talking about in the para
- (c) mark the essential details of the passage
- (d) remember the names, numbers, etc.

Ans: (b) mark what the author is talking about in the para

4. **Topic based RC is tough as.....**

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| (a) it contains technical terms | (b) it is based on different topics |
| (c) it demands instant understanding | (d) one can't read them fast enough |

Ans: (a) it contains technical terms

5. **Careful reading of the passage is essential for.....**

- | | |
|--|--|
| (a) answering difficult questions | (b) saving time and effort |
| (c) proper understanding and answering correctly | (d) selective identification of relevant parts |

Ans: (c) proper understanding and answering correctly

6. **The word 'diverse' in para 2 means.....**

(a) similar

(b) same

(c) variety

(d) different

Ans: (d) different

B. Answer the following questions in brief:

7. What should one do for finding the right answers?

Ans: One should mark what the author is talking about in para.

8. Why is topic based R C tough?

Ans: Topic based R C is tough as it contains technical terms.

9. Which step is considered more essential for finding right answers? Why?

Ans: Careful reading of the passage is essential for proper understanding and answering correctly.

10. What is the most popular strategy for solving Reading Comprehension (RC)?

Ans: Reading passage first and then question is the most popular strategy for solving R C.

11. Find the words similar in the meaning from passage.

(a) Different (para 2)

Ans: Diverse

(b) Accept as true (para 6)

Ans: Assume

Q-2 Read the passage and answer the following:

1. The Mastermind quiz is billed as a "battle of minds". This battle is fought in two halves. In the first, each of four participants faces a barrage of questions, for two minutes, on any topic of his or her choice. In the second round, the questions are on general knowledge. There are two points for each correct answer and zero for wrong answers and passes. In the event of a tie, the person who has passed fewer questions wins.
2. Questions can be bizarre, but they are answered none the less. "It absolutely amazes you that these guys know so much. In KBC, it used to be, that this guy knows so little," says Basu after the show. Siddhartha Basu was the director of Kaun Banega Crorepati (KBC).
3. This year's Mastermind final was won by Ramanand Janardhana, a 22 year-old software engineer from Pune. Janardhana had Agatha Christie's 'Tommy and Tupence' novels as his specialist topic. He even knew that Tommy used asofoetida to create a stink in his room.
4. There are, of course, all sorts of quizzers. The diary-toting, Manorama yearbook, wielding variety will typically prepare for a contest by 'studying'. He knows that the best questions, the ones that get the 'wah-wahs', are always repeated. He is a solid quizzer, because he knows the obvious.
5. There is the other kind, like Janardhana, who claim they do nothing extra to prepare for quizzes. They read the papers and magazines, watch TV, and become quizzers because they enjoy the test of recall.

6. It was a test the nation took when KBC fever was at its height. But long before KBC, there were quiz societies across the country, in places from Guwahati to Gandhinagar. Kolkata was the hub of the game; quizzing in India began here in 1967. Even now, the majority of quizzers are from Kolkata. Of the four 2002 Mastermind finalists, two were from that city.
7. Quizzing is big in school and college festivals. It's the 'literary' highlight of all fests. There are even professional quizzers, who, like mercenaries, play for money and the thrill of the game. They represent various organisations at different times.
8. Most quizzers grow out of active quizzing after college. Some, the really hardcore devotees of the game, keep at it. "I don't get tired of quizzing," says Pinaki Prasad Roy, a Mastermind finalist. "I get excited." Roy is a 46-year old finance professional from Kolkata, and has been a quizzer for three decades.
9. Curiosity is the most essential quality for a quizzer. A fantastic memory and instant recall help. And for Mastermind at least, the choice of specialist subject is critical. In this year's event, Janardhana took an unassailable lead in the specialist round itself.

A. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

1. The Mastermind quiz is called a 'battle of minds' because.....
 - (a) it is a duel of wits
 - (b) the participants are the most intelligent persons
 - (c) the participants face a shower of questions
 - (d) the mind is on the anvil

Ans: (c) the participants face a shower of questions

2. The participants in the quiz seem 'masterminds' because.....

(a) they seem to know so little	(b) they have very polished manner
(c) they show lot of self confidence	(d) they seem to know so much

Ans: (d) they seem to know so much

3. Ramanand Janardhana won as.....
 - (a) he had mastery over the specialist topic
 - (b) he had gone through the quiz columns in magazines
 - (c) he had chinks in his memory/recall
 - (d) he knew all the often repeated questions asked by quizmasters

Ans: (a) he had mastery over the specialist topic

4. The studious quizzers are called 'solid' quizzers because.....

(a) they prepare expected questions	(b) they know the obvious
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(c) they bank on general awareness

(d) they enjoy the test of recall

Ans: (b) they know the obvious

5. The quality most essential for a quizzier is.....

(a) love of learning

(b) mathematical accuracy

(c) curiosity to know

(d) comprehensive learning

Ans: (c) curiosity to know

6. The word 'mercenaries' in para 7 means.....

(a) those who seek mercy

(b) those who work on machines

(c) those who are lively and quick

(d) those who fight for money

Ans: (d) those who fight for money

B. Answer the following questions in brief:

7. Why did Ramanand Janardhana win mastermind final?

Ans: He had mastery over the specialist topic which blessed him with victory.

8. Who are called solid quizzers? Why?

Ans: The studious quizzers are called solid quizzers. They know the obvious.

9. Which is the most essential quality of a quizzier?

Ans: The quizzier should have curiosity to know.

10. How is Kolkata associated with quizzing game?

Ans: Quizzing in India began in Kolkata in 1967. Even now the majority of the quizzers are from Kolkata.

11. Find the words from the passage which are similar in meaning to these words.

(a) Those who fight for money (para 7)

Ans: Mercenaries

(b) Enthusiasts (para 8)

Ans: Devotees

Q-3 You went to Shimla and saw the snowfall for the first time. Write a diary entry in about 100-120 words about your experience that enthralls you whenever you recollect your visit.

Wednesday, 23rd November,

Shimla has always been a place I wanted to visit. I thought of it as a lovely hill station with magnificent scenery and tall peaks. While I knew that Shimla experiences snowfall every winter, I was not really hoping to see it during my visit in November. We were just walking leisurely enjoying the lovely scenery, when snow started falling from the sky. Suddenly everything was covered in a white blanket. The experience seemed surrealistic to me. My brother and I made the most of it. We made snowballs and started throwing them at each other. Watching the snow falling from the skies and playing in it was simply the highlight of our trip.

I am sure it is a memory that will remain etched in my mind forever.

Ramya

Q-4 The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet against the correct blank number.

	Incorrect	correction
When I return home from school, I found that	a) _____	_____
my mother were in kitchen and my younger	b) _____	_____
sister is playing with her friends in the verandah.	c) _____	_____
In my room, all the books was lying scattered.	d) _____	_____
on the floor. I am definitely very annoyed.	e) _____	_____

Answers:-

- a) return – returned
- b) were – was
- c) is – was
- d) was – were
- e) am - was

Q-5 Write a short story, with the help of the cues given below. Give a suitable title to the story.

Going to Mumbai by train to attend the marriage of a friend got stuck in a traffic jam reached the railway station late boarded a wrong train realised after two hours

A series of Unfortunate Events

I sat down with relief as I ticked off the last task in the checklist. I wanted everything to be perfect as it was my best friend's marriage in Mumbai. The alarm rang next morning, I woke up in excitement and booked a cab to the railway station. Everything was going perfectly until I got stuck in a traffic jam. I reached the railway station late but on the sight of the train still waiting on the platform, I hurried and somehow managed to get into the train. I breathed a sigh of relief and got comfortable. It was only when the Ticket Collector came, I realised that I had been in the wrong train for two hours. I panicked and deboarded the train at the next station. I tried booking a ticket for the next train to Mumbai but there was no availability. On coming back from the ticket counter, I realised that my luggage was missing. Even after hours of finding and reporting it, there was no trace of it. I got tired and lost hope, tried booking a cab with the minimal amount I was left with in my pocket. The cab couldn't reach on time as it was raining heavily. Disheartened, I finally walked my way to the nearest hotel, contacted my parents and recited them the series of unfortunate events that happened during the day. Alas, I couldn't even make it to my best friend's wedding.

Q-6 Answer the following questions:

1) What things about the book did Margie find strange? (Ch-1 Beehive)

Ans: Margie found it strange that the words printed on a book stood still instead of moving the way they did on a screen. She also found it odd that the words on a page always remained the same as the first time they were read. Besides, the idea that someone would write a book about schools was itself strange for Margie.

2) What kind of teachers did Margie and Tommy have? (Ch-1 Beehive)

Ans: Margie and Tommy had mechanical teachers with large black screens that flashed lessons and questions. These teachers had slots where the students had to put their homework and test papers.

3) Why was Margie doing badly in geography? What did the Country Inspector do to help her? (Ch-1 Beehive)

Ans: Margie was doing badly in geography because the geography sector of the mechanical teacher had been adjusted at a higher level.

4) How does Evelyn hear music? (Ch-2 Beehive)

Ans: Evelyn hears music through her whole body. In fact she just feels the music. She tries to feel the vibrations which create sound. While playing drums she uses her upper and lower body to feel vibrations from different types of drums. While playing xylophone she feels the music pulsating through her fingers. When she has to perform on wooden floors, she removes her shoes. This enables her to feel the vibrations through her bare feet. She even feels the music through her hair.

5) Where was the shehnai played traditionally? How did Bismillah Khan change this? (Ch-2 Beehive)

Ans: Traditionally the Shehnai was played in temples and during wedding ceremonies, as it was considered an auspicious instrument. Bismillah Khan brought Shehnai into mainstream music and changed the way people perceived shehnai.

6) **Why did Bismillah Khan refuse to start a shehnai school in the U.S.A.?** (Ch-2 Beehive)

Ans: Bismillah Khan was in love with Benares and the Ganges flowing there. He used to get inspiration from the ambience of numerous ghats in Varanasi. He knew that he won't be able to get that ambience in the USA. So, he refused to start a shehnai school in the USA.

7) **Where does the traveller find himself? What problem does he face?** (Poem-1)

Ans: The traveller finds himself in the yellow woods at a point where the road forks into two. The problem that he faces is that he cannot decide which road to take to continue his journey since it is not possible for him to travel both roads at the same time.

8) **What do you think the last two lines of the poem mean? (Looking back, does the poet regret his choice or accept it?)** (Poem-1)

Ans: The last two lines of the poem mean the acceptance of reality. The poet made a choice and accepted the challenging path. He took an unexplored path in his life. He wanted to do something different in his life so he chooses the less travelled road. No he does not regret his choice.

9) **What should we do to make friends with the wind?** (Poem-2)

Ans: To make friends with the wind, the poet asks us to build strong homes, join the doors firmly and practice to make our bodies and hearts stronger.

10) **What are the things the wind does in the first stanza?** (Poem-2)

Ans: The wind breaks the shutters of the windows; scatters the papers; throws down the books from the shelf; tears the pages of the books; and brings showers of rain.

11) **Why does the lost child lose interest in the things that he had wanted earlier?** (Ch-1 Moments)

Ans: The lost child loses interest in the things that he wanted earlier because now he is sad as he has lost his parents. Before getting anything of his choice like sweets, flowers, balloons, joy rides and music, he wants to reunite with his mother and father.

12) **When does he realise that he has lost his way? How have his anxiety and insecurity been described?**

(Ch-1 Moments)

Ans: When the child raised his demand for a ride on the round about, his parents did not reply. He moved his head up to look for them. It was then that he discovered that he had lost his way. His anxiety and insecurity have been described in the following ways-

1. The child saw hefty men with murderous eyes and got scared of them.
2. He ran here and there looking for his parents.
3. His turban untied.
4. His clothes became dirty.
5. He was screaming at the top of his voice.

13) How does Toto come to grandfather's private zoo? (Ch-2 Moments)

Ans: The writer's grandfather liked to collect animals and had made a zoo at home. One day, he saw a red - coloured monkey tied to a trough with a tonga driver. He liked the monkey and wanted to add it to his collection. He bought Toto from the tonga driver for a sum of five rupees.

14) Why does the author say, "Toto was not the sort of pet we could keep for long"? (Ch-2 Moments)

Ans. The author says that Toto was not the kind of pet that they could keep for long because he was extremely mischievous. He destroyed many things - he tore the wallpapers, clothes and curtains. He broke dishes too. The family could not afford all this and so, decided to get rid of Toto.