

HOLIDAY HOMEWORK – 2016
ENGLISH
CLASS VIII

1ST TERM SYLLABUS

Literature – Skill Based Reader:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------|
| 1. The Income Tax Man | - | April |
| 2. The Fire Bringer | - | May |
| 3. The Louse and the Mosquito | - | July |
| 4. Follow Your Dream | - | OBA |
| 5. Ten Medal HOLDER | - | September |
| 6. Flame in the forest | - | September |

Supplementary Reader : Tales from Shakespeare:-

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------|
| 1. As You Like It | - | April – May |
| 2. Romeo and Juliet | - | July |
| 3. The Comedy of Errors | - | August |
| 4. Hamlet – Prince of Denmark | - | September |

Language – Great Fun With Grammar :-

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|-------------|
| 1. Chapter 1,2,3 | - | April – May |
| 2. Chapter 4, 5,6 | - | July |
| 3. Chapter 7,8,9 | - | August |
| 4. Chapter 10,11,12 | - | September |

Sunshine Grammar Workbook:-

Chapter 1 to 6

Writing Skills:-

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|--------|
| 1. Notice Writing | - | April |
| 2. Message | - | April |
| 3. Informal Letter | - | May |
| 4. Formal Letter | - | July |
| 5. Article | - | July |
| 6. Editing and Omitting | - | August |

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 7. Guided Composition | - | August |
| 8. Dialogue Completion | - | September |
| 9. Bio Sketch | - | September |
| 10. Diary Entry | - | After every chapter |
| 11. Jumbled Sentences | - | Continuously |

IIInd Term Syllabus

Literature- Skill Based Reader:-

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|-----------|
| 1. I Come to Bury Caesar | - | October |
| 2. Noise | - | November |
| 3. Ballad of Father Gilligan | - | November |
| 4. Charles | - | December |
| 5. Death of a Tree | - | January |
| 6. Ocean Dome | - | Read Only |

Supplementary Reader : Tales from Shakespeare:-

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|----------|
| 1. Alls Well that Ends Well | - | October |
| 2. The Tempest | - | December |
| 3. The Taming of the Shrew | - | January |

Language –Great Fun With Grammar :-

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|----------|
| 1. Chapter 13,14,15 | - | October |
| 2. Chapter 16,17,18,19 | - | November |
| 3. Chapter 20, 21 | - | December |
| 4. Chapter 22, 23 | - | January |
| 5. Chapter 24 | - | February |

Sunshine Grammar Workbook:-

1. Chapter 7 to 13

Writing Skills:-

- | | | |
|-------------------|---|----------|
| 1. Speech Writing | - | October |
| 2. E-mail | - | October |
| 3. Bio Sketch | - | November |

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------------|
| 4. Dialogue Completion and Writing | - | November |
| 5. Debate Writing | - | December |
| 6. Guided Composition | - | December |
| 7. Jumbled Sentences and Diary Entry | - | Continuously |

Holiday Home Work and Assignment

1. **William Shakespeare – The Bard of Stratford – On Avon.** In the words of Ben Jonson, “Shakespeare is not of any age but for all time.” The greatest English dramatist has written about 37 plays and innumerable sonnets. This year we commemorate his 400th death anniversary.
 - a) Make a list of all the plays of Shakespeare and categorize them into tragedies , histories and comedies.
 - b) Given below is a list of passages from his plays. Read all and write them in a chart . Write the names of the plays that they are taken from .
 1. The Seven Ages.
 2. What’s in a name?
 3. To be or not to be : that’s the question?
 4. Beware the ides of March.
 5. Shall I compare thee to a beautiful day? (Sonnet)
 6. We band of brothers.
 7. The green eyed monster .
 8. Now is the winner of our discontent.
 9. We are such stuff as dreams are made of.
 - c) Write a brief synopsis of the life and times of Shakespeare.

Project:

Step into History : The North Indian Americans

- How did they get the name – Indian
- Names of Tribes
- Their nomadic life
- Dress , ornaments and homes
- Family life – way of living
- Myths and Legends
- Belief and customs
- Status of North Indian Americans in Today’s America
- Their regard and love for nature
- Chief Seattle’ s letter to the President of America.

ENGLISH ASSIGNMENT
Ist TERM - STD VIIIth
SECTION A – READING

1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow in space provided

OLYMPICS

The credit to start the modern Olympic games goes to Baron Perie de Coubertin of France. He was born in Paris 1862. His parents wanted him to join the army so he joined the Sainik Academy. Soon he left it and started to study political science. Having studied political science he came to know about the national and international problem. He thought that the national and international problems could be easily solved through sports. It was Coubertin's desire to restart the ancient Olympic games at the world level. He called a meeting of various countries opposed this idea. In 1893. Some countries viz Italy , Spain , Greece , and Sweden were in favour of commencing the Olympic games whereas the rest of the countries was held in Paris in which 75 representatives competition would be held every fourth year on the lines of the ancient Olympic games of Greece. The first modern Olympic 122 countries participated from all of the world . According to Coubertin 122 countries participated from all over the world. According to Coubertin, the Olympic games aimed at developing patriotism and fraternity among sports persons and also promoting international peace and cooperation .The Olympic motto comprises of three Latin words-Citius, Altius and Fortius which means Faster, Higher and Stronger, respectively. The Olympic flag is as popular as the Olympic motto. It was created in 1913 at the suggestion of Coubertin. The Olympic flag is made of white silk and contains five interlocking rings in five colours representing the five continents of the world viz. America, Europe, Australia, Asia and Africa. The five rings have different colors viz. yellow, green, blue, red and black. The interlocking of the rings symbolizes cooperation and friendship.

Questions :

- (a) Given below is the summary of the passage. Complete it by writing the missing words in the space provided.

.....was born in Paris in..... He called a meeting of various countries in Spain,, and were in

favour of the Olympics. The first Olympic games were held in in the year The Olympic flag has five In five representing.....

(b) What is the Olympic motto?

.....
.....

(c) Pick two adjectives from the passage and use them in sentences of your own.

.....
.....
.....

2. Read the following poem carefully and answer the questions that follow in the space provided :

THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH

Under a spreading chestnut tree
The village smithy stands :
The smith, a mighty man is he,
With large and sinewy hands
And the muscles of his brawny arms
Are strong as iron bands.

And children coming home from school
Look in at the open door;
They love to see the flaming forge,
And hear the bellows roar,
And catch burning sparks that fly
Like chaff from a threshing floor.

-H.W. Longfellow

Questions :

(a) Where does the village smithy stand?

.....
.....

.....
.....

(b) The village blacksmith is a tough man with and
..... arms. His muscles are as as
iron.....

(c) The school children love to see two things at the workshop :
.....
.....
.....

(d) What are the sparks from the fire compared to?
(i)
.....
(ii)
.....

(e) Explain the meanings of the following words as they are used in the poem. Write
the answers against the words in the space provided.
Smithy (line2) ..
.....
Bellows (line 10)
.....
Sinewy (line 4)
.....
Forge (line 9)
.....

**3. Read the following poem carefully and answer the questions that follow in the
space provided :**

This is the way that autumn came to the trees:
It stripped them down to the skin,
Left their ebony bodies naked.
It shook out the yellow leaves which were their hearts,
scattered them over the ground.

Whoever wanted, trampled them out of shape;
Not a single moan or protest was heard.

Birds that herald dreams
Became strangers to their voice
When their song was throttled.

They dropped into the dust
even before the hunter strung his bow.

Oh, God of May, have mercy.
Bless these withered bodies
With the passion of your resurrection,
Make their dead veins flow with blood.

Give some tree the gift of green again.
Let one bird sing.

'When Autumn Came' :- Faiz Ahmed

Faiz

Questions:

(a) Describe any two things that autumn did with the trees.

.....
.....
.....
.....

(b) Autumn the leaves over the ground. People
..... the leaves out of shape. Birds that are known to
..... dreams became strangers to their own voice.

(c) Whom does the hunter try to catch?

.....
.....

(d) What are the two colours mentioned in the poem?

.....
.....

(e) The word 'withered' (line 14) means.

.....
.....

(f) Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following. Write the answers against the words in the space provided.

Crushed

..... Rising from the
dead.....

4. Read the following poem carefully and answer the questions that follow in the space provided :

WINTER TIMES

Late lies the wintry sun a-bed,
A frosty, fiery sleepy-head;
Blinks but an hour or two; and then,
A blood-red orange, sets again.
Before the stars have left the skies,
At morning in the dark I rise;
And shivering in my nakedness,
By the cold candle, bathe and dress.
Close by the jolly fire I sit,
To warm my frozen bones a bit;
Or with a reindeer-sled, explore
The colder countries round the door.
When to go out, my nurse doth wrap
Me in my comforter and cap,
The cold wind burns my face, and blows
Its frosty pepper up my nose.
Black are my steps on silver sod;
Thick blows my frosty breath abroad;
And tree and house, and hill and lake,
Are frosted like a wedding-cake.

**-Robert Louis
Stevenson**

Questions:

(a) What is the rhyme scheme of the poem ?

.....
.....

(b) Identify whether the following statements are true or false. Tick the correct option.

- | | | |
|-------|---|--------------|
| (i) | The colour of the sun is blood-red orange. | T I F |
| (ii) | The poet rises in the morning, in the dark. | T I F |
| (iii) | Poet's bones are not frozen. | T I F |
| (iv) | Everything is frosted like a wedding-cake. | T I F |

(c) Pick any two words from the poem that show that the poet is feeling cold.

.....
.....

(d) Explain the phrase 'cold candle' (line 8). Can a candle be cold ?

.....

.....

.....

(e) Find words from the poem which mean the same as the following. Write the answers against the words in the space provided.

Full of fire.....

Shaking

To cover

Frozen

5. Read the following poem carefully and answer the questions that follow in the space provided :

Children need to learn to take care of themselves because schools can be very stressful. They need guidelines on ways to be able to return to the present moment, to be able to handle their emotions and realize that their emotions are not in their control. This guideline is what we call mindfulness training.

Mindfulness meditation is the practice of stopping and becoming aware of what we are thinking and doing, in other words, introspecting. The more we are mindful of our thoughts, speech and actions, the more concentration and clarity we develop on what we are doing and the greater is our depth of understanding of a situation.

Teachers and parents have to become role models for young people. Through mindful practices such as mindful breathing and mindful walking, they must be able to stop and look deeply and be calm in order to see the root and the consequence of an event/action/act with understanding and peace. If teachers can do that, children will follow it as well. Similarly, we have to learn how to handle our anger without venting frustration on our children. We have to reach out and help diffuse the violence within ourselves.

Questions:

1. What can be stressful for children ?

(a) School

(b) Home

(c) Society

(d) All of the above.

2. What do students need to be able to handle their sentiments ?

(a) Lectures

(b) Counseling

(c) Arrogance

(d) All of the above.

3. What is mindful meditation ?

(a) The practice of stopping and becoming aware of what we are thinking and doing

(b) Time management

(c) Task management

(d) Trouble management

4. Teachers and parents have to

(a) become strict

(b) become serious

(c) become role models for young people

(d) become haughty

5. 'Stressful' implies

(a) meditation

(b) causing tension or worry

(c) incorporated

(d) relaxation

6. Read the following poem carefully and answer the questions that follow in the space provided :

The fabled pearl carpet of Baroda, a rare jeweled masterpiece that was once part of Maharaja Khande Rao Gaekwad's collection, is set to go under the hammer next month. The centerpiece of sale in Doha on March 19, the carpet has never appeared at an auction before. Bidding for it is expected to start at \$5 million.

Just two years ago, the mothball-sized Baroda Pearls from the same collection had sold for a record \$7.1 million in New York. This time, too, the auctioneers, Sotheby's are hoping it will beat estimates even in these times of economic downturn. "Works that are truly rare and special like the carpet will always find a lot of buyers," said Henry-Howard Sneyd, Sotheby's deputy chairman for Europe and Asia.

Embellished with an estimated two million natural seed pearls as well as diamonds, the carpet sure has the razzle dazzle to attract buyers. Crafted in 1865, the Pearl Carpet has tumultuous story behind it. In the early 1860s, Maharaja Khande Rao of Baroda, considered one of the most notable jewellery collectors of the 19th century, had a desire to offer a priceless Pearl Carpet at the shrine of the Prophet in Medina. He wanted it to be just like the Pearl Carpet over Mumtaz Mahal's tomb in Taj Mahal.

Questions:

1. What is set to go under the hammer ?

(a) A car

(b) A rare jewelled masterpiece

(c) A motorbike

(d) A table

2. How was the pearl carpet retained ?
- (a) As a state treasure (b) As a per personal asset
(c) As debt (d) None of the above
3. When was it crafted ?
- (a) 1965 (b) 1876
(c) 1865 (d) 1864
4. What did the auctioneers hope ?
- (a) It will beat estimates even in these times of economic downturn
(b) It will not attract the common masses
(c) It will not be sold
(d) None of the above
5. Find words/phrases in the passage which mean the same as the following:
'to make objects especially in a skilled way'
- (a) rare (b) crafted
(c) auction (d) tumultuous

**SECTION B – WRITING.
FIRST TERM**

Notice Writing

1. You are Aditi/Aditya. As the President of the Dramatic Society of St. Francis Sr. Sec. School, you have invited a visiting theatre group “Kala” to give a performance of Romeo and Juliet in your School. Draft a notice of about 50 words informing the students of this event.
2. You have found a watch in the school canteen. Draft a notice of about 50 words informing the students about it. Describe the watch and from whom it is to be collected after verification.
3. You Chander/Chandni, Head girl/boy of your school. Your school is arranging a one day trip to a nearby slum area to study the level of education among the slum dwellers. Draft a notice in about 50 words for all Senior classes inviting them to join the trip. Invent the necessary details and write the notice in a box.

Message

1. Read the following conversation between Kartik and Rohit. Rohit has to leave immediately and leaves a message for Sohit. Write the message in about 50 words and put it in a box.

Kartik: Hello! Is this 26492365?

Rohit: Yes, May I know who is calling?

Kartik: I am Kartik. Sohit's friend. May I speak to him?

Rohit: I am sorry. He is not at home. May I take a message.

Kartik: Of Course! Please tell him not to be late for the Exhibition at the School Auditorium for tomorrow as he is supposed to read the inaugural speech.

Rohit: I will convey the message to him.

2. You are Prakash from Shimla. A friend of your father is coming tomorrow by the Himalayan Queen. He is requesting your father to pick him up. Since your father is not at home and you have to go for tuition, leave a message in about 50 words for him and put the message in a box.

3. You and your friend Ramesh had decided to go for a movie in the evening. You have some urgent work and cannot go. Write a message of about 50 words in a box and send it to Ramesh through your servant.

Informal Letter

1. Write a letter to your best friend requesting her to attend the marriage ceremony of your sister.
2. Write a letter to your sister who is in Canada describing to her the marriage of your cousin which she could not attend.
3. Write a letter to your father describing the co-curricular activities and your academic achievements in your school. You are Puneet/Puneeta of Lovedale school Ooty.

Formal letter

1. You are Keshav /Kanishka Gupta of 13/7, Yamuna Apartments, Alaknanda, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019. Three days ago, you bought a washing machine from Kalkaji Electronics. The machine is not working properly. Write a letter to the dealer complaining about the same and requesting him to change it at the earliest.

2. You are Ajay/Anita Sehgal of 64, Nehru Park, New Delhi-110029. Write a letter to the S.H.O. Safdargang Enclave Police Station, complaining about the nuisance of loudspeakers in your locality.

3. Your elder sister is going to London for further studies. She wants you to accompany her to help her to settle down. Write an application requesting your Principal for leave for one week, so that you can accompany her.

Article Writing

1. You recently read a poster on 'Water Leakage'. You were so motivated for the cause of water conservation that you decided to write an article on it for your school magazine. Write an article of about 120-150 words. The following points will help you.
 - (a) Dwindling water resources.
 - (b) Rain water wasted.
 - (c) Clever use of water.
 - (d) Suggestions & role of students.
2. Write an article for a children's magazine on the topic 'Value of Discipline' in about 120-150 words.
3. You are Vinay/Vineeta. Write an article of about 120-150 words on the increasing pollution in cities and its harmful effects on people. Suggest some ways of curbing the menace.

Diary writing

1. You are Simi/Simon. You participated in a singing competition and you won the best singer award. Write how you felt in the form of a diary entry in about 100 words.
2. Imagine that you are the chief of your native American Village. Write how you felt when the young, brave boy of your tribe brought fire from the Burning Mountain with the coyote's help.
3. Imagine that you are Roxanne. Write how you felt when Perin scolded you for grabbing the medals and threatened to report you to Sister Breed.

Bio – Sketch

1. **Given below is a profile of John Keats. Write a bio-graphical sketch of him from the notes given below.**

Birth	:	1795
Place	:	Moorfields, London
Father	:	Livery – Stable keeper
Father's death	:	1804
Mother	:	Remarried
Mother's death	:	1810
Schooling	:	Clark's School at Enfield
Interest	:	Cricket, Boxing
Death	:	1821

2. **Given below is an outline of a popular athlete P.T. Usha. Use the given information to write a bio-sketch of hers.**

1964	:	Born in an average middle class family on 27 th June in a tiny village of Kerala called Poyoli. Nicknamed Poyoli Express.
1977	:	Created her 1 st National record (100m)
1980	:	Her debut in the Moscow Olympics. Did not win anything.
1982	:	ASIAD New Delhi, won silver medals in 100m and 200m.
1983	:	At the Asian Track and Field Champion ship in kuwait, won a Gold medal in 400m with a new Asian Record.
1983-89	:	13 Golds at ATF meets.
1986	:	Seoul Asiad, just 22 years old, won 200m, 400m, 400m hurdles 4x400m relay and Called Asia's Sprint Queen

Language : Editing and Omitting

1. **The following passage has not been edited there is a word missing in each line.**

The king was very kind. He always cared for his subjects. He called the Minister and told him not to tax the people due to lack of rainfall crops.

2. **The following passage has not been edited there an error in each line.**

The secret for Gandhi ji's success was due on his selfless service for his people. He never derire personal provise and was never disturbed at uriticien. He stood up not justice and died for his ideals. His faith on non-violence is never shaken. He was really the great man.

Jumbled Sentences

1. at me/laughing/found/the boys felt/he/his great friends/ deciveing/ that/ him/ were.
2. Expects/to help/his friends/he/him.
3. None/him/helps/but.
4. Done/he what/none/have/did/could
5. In the capital/the biggest/held/was/industrial/fair/last year.
6. My county/the people/of /are/than/more hard working/those/your country/of
7. Gave/a few/please/rupees/me
8. By you/the work/be/will/when/finished
9. Before/never/this man/she/had/seen.

Dialogue completion

1) **Complete the following dialogue**

Vikram : What is your plan for the evening?

Rajani : I haven't planned anything yet (a)
 _____.

Vikram : I wanted you to accompany me to the book fair

Rajani : That's fine. I (b) _____.

Vikram : In that case we should go.

Rajani : Of course (c) _____

Vikram : (d) _____. Let's meet at gate No. 3 at 4:00 pm.

ii) Complete the following dialogue

Ram : Where are you (a) _____? (go)

Farmer : I am going to the market to (b) _____ (sell) fruits.

Ram : What have you (c) _____ (get) in your basket?

Farmer : There (d) _____ (be) several kinds of fruits.

Ram : What is the (e) _____ (cost) of the fruits.

Farmer : I shall (f) _____ (charge) a reasonable rate.

Ram : All right sit down. I will (g) _____ (buy) them all.

iii) Complete the following dialogue by filling in the blanks with the appropriate forms of the verbs.

Master : What have you (a) _____ (do) with the money I
 (b) _____ (give) you?

Servant : I have (c) _____ (spend) it all. Sir, but I have
 (d) _____ (ask) my father to send it back to you.

Master : Is that the way to (e) _____ (talk) to your
 master?

Servant : I (f) _____ (be) sorry. Sir.

QUESTION BANK
SECTION D – LITERATURE
FIRST TERM : Skill Based Reader

1. Was it foolish of the author to be so friendly ?
2. Write a character sketch of the author.
3. The income tax man gives the author something when he is leaving. What was it?
How does the author react?
4. How does the author manage to reduce the tax he has to pay?
5. The author says that his self respect has gone forever. Why?
6. Why was it important to bring fire to the village?
7. Who was the fire bringer and how do we know that he had brought fire?
8. Why do the villagers listen to the coyote?
9. Why did the coyote need so many runners?
10. Why was the mosquito called a bumbler?
11. The mosquito says that the king's blood is helpful. How is it helpful?
12. The mosquito's arrogance led to the entire louse clan to be destroyed. What did he do?
13. "Trespassers will be Prosecuted."
 - (a) Where was this written?
 - (b) Why was this written?
14. Describe the change that came over the giant one day. What triggered it ?
15. "For the best dachshund of the dog show."
 - (a) Where was this written?
 - (b) How did it reach Perin's house?
 - (c) To whom did it belong?
 - (d) What was the result for Perin?
16. Why was Perin fed up of Roxanne?
17. Why did the mosquito almost die of shock?
18. "How happy we were there!"
 - (a) Who said this and from where has this line been taken?
 - (b) Why were they unhappy now?
 - (c) What happened every afternoon?
19. What was the reward that the selfish giant got in the end?
20. "Right, but pay close heed."
 - a) Who said this to whom?
 - b) Why does she say this?
21. Characteristics and diary entries of all the characters in your text.

