OSWAAL CBSE QUESTION BANK with complete solutions

Class 8

ENGLISH

HIGHLIGHTS

- Strictly as per the NCERT Curriculum
- Chapterwise Synopsis for clarity of concepts
- Variety of questions from NCERT Textbooks
- Typology of Questions includes MCQs, VSA, SA and Long Answer types
- Include HOTS & Value Based Questions
- Answers follow the marking scheme and the prescribed word limit
CONTENTS

Section A : Reading

1. Unseen Passages .......................... 1 - 11

Section B : Writing & Grammar

2. Short & Long Writing Tasks .......... 12 - 46
3. Grammar
   (i) Gap Filling .......................... 47 - 51
   (ii) Sentence Re-ordering ........ 51 - 52
   (iii) Editing ............................. 52 - 54
   (iv) Omission ............................ 54 - 56
   (v) Active-Passive .................. 56 - 58
   (vi) Reported Speech .............. 58 - 59

Section C : Literature

HONEYDEW (PROSE)

1. The Best Christmas Present in the World .......... 60 - 62
2. The Tsunami ................................ 62 - 64
3. Glimpses of the Past ..................... 64 - 65
4. Bepin Choudhury's Lapse of Memory ............... 66 - 68
5. The Summit Within ........................ 68 - 70
6. This is Jody's Fawn ...................... 70 - 72
7. A Visit to Cambridge ...................... 72 - 74
8. A Short Monsoon Diary ........... 74 - 76
9. The Great Stone Face - I ............. 76 - 78
10. The Great Stone Face - II ........... 78 - 79

POETRY

1. The Ant and the Cricket ................. 80 - 81
2. Geography Lesson ....................... 81 - 82
3. Macavity : The Mystery Cat .......... 83 - 84
4. The Last Bargain ....................... 84 - 85
5. The School Boy ........................ 86 - 86
6. The Duck and the Kangaroo .......... 87 - 88
7. When I set out for Lyonnesse ....... 88 - 89
8. On the Grasshopper and Cricket ....... 89 - 90

(iii)
**...Contd. Contents**

**IT SO HAPPNENED**

1. How the Camel got His Hump  
   91 - 92
2. Children at Work  
   92 - 93
3. The Selfish Giant  
   93 - 94
4. The Treasure Within  
   95 - 96
5. Princess September  
   96 - 97
6. The Fight  
   98 - 99
7. The Open Window  
   99 - 100
8. Jalebis  
   100 - 101
9. The Comet - I  
   102 - 103
10. The Comet - II  
    103 - 104
PREFACE

Year after year CBSE has been introducing changes in the curriculum of various classes. We, at Oswaal Books, closely follow every change made by the Board and endeavor to equip students with the latest study material to prepare for the Examinations.

The latest offering from us are these Question Banks. These will provide comprehensive practice material for every chapter. These are prepared by experienced teachers who have translated their expertise into making important questions from every chapter in order to facilitate wholesome learning of every concept.

Highlights of our Question banks:
• Question Bank strictly as per the NCERT Curriculum
• Variety of Questions from NCERT Textbooks
• A synopsis of the important points from every chapter
• Value Based Questions as specified by CBSE Board
• Answers follow the marking scheme and the prescribed word limit

We feel extremely happy to offer our Question Banks and hope that with them, every student will discover a more thorough way of preparing and thereby excelling in their examinations. Though we have taken enough care to ensure our products to be error free, yet we welcome any feedback or suggestions that come our way for improvisation.

We wish you good luck for the forthcoming academic year!!

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FEEDBACK - FORM

Date:

QUESTION BANK

English, Class-VIII

Your name with complete address & telephone number:

____________________________________________________________________________________

First Name ______________________________ Last Name________________________________________

Date of Birth___________________________________________ Sex M/F______________

Address__________________________________________________________Pincode ___________________

Tel: Mobile  E-mail ________________________________________________

( vii )
Section A comprises of three unseen passages and an unseen poem. There are two types of passages:
Type I with Very Short Answer Type Questions (VSAQs) out of which one will test Vocabulary. Type II with Five MCQ out of which one will test Vocabulary.

Let Revise

Some Important tips to solve Section A

- Read the passage carefully and try to understand the contents.
- Try to understand the meaning of every word in context to the passage.
- After reading the passage thoroughly, turn to the questions that follow. Try to find the answers.
- Check your answers before writing them.
- Answer should be in the same tense, in which the question is given.
- Answer the questions on the basis of the information given in the passage. Do not add your own views, expressions and imagination.
- Try to answer the questions in your own words but strictly to the point and as briefly as possible.
- See that every answer is clear and complete in itself.
- Revise your answers carefully to avoid any mistake.
- Most importantly time management should be followed.

Type - I

PASSAGE - 1

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

The culture of nuclear families is in fashion. Parents are often heard complaining about the difficulties in bringing up children these days. Too much of freedom in demand, too much independence; overnight parties; excessive extravagance, splurging pocket money; no time for studies and family all this is a common cry of such families. Aren't parents, themselves, responsible for this pitiful state? The basic need of a growing youth is the family, love, attention and bonding along with moral values. One should not forget that 'charity begins at home'.

Independence and individuality both need to be respected, in order to maintain the sanctity of family. Children, today are to be handled with tact in order to bridge the ever widening generation gap. Only the reasonable demands need to be fulfilled, as there are too many expenses to be met and too many social obligations to be taken care of by the parents. Our forefathers lived happily in joint families. Children loved to
live with their cousins, learnt to adjust within means. There was perfect harmony between the generations. There never existed the concept of old-age homes. There was deep respect for the family elders and love, care and concern for the youngsters. Even the minor family differences were solved amicably.

(a) Mention any two major common concerns of a nuclear family. (1 × 5 = 5)
(b) Who, according to the passage, are responsible for them?
(c) Explain the expression ‘charity begins at home’.
(d) Describe the atmosphere in joint families.
(e) Which word in the passage means ‘Holiness of life’?

Ans. (a) Too much independence and no time for studies and family.
(b) Parents themselves.
(c) The parent should not forget that it is in giving that one receives.
(d) In joint families, children get a friendly atmosphere and they also learn to adjust within means.
(e) Sanctity.

PASSAGE - 2

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. 5

When we enter New York harbour, the first thing we see is the Statue of Liberty. What impresses us the most is its size and magnificence. Have you ever wondered how it came to be there? The Statue of Liberty was a gift from the people of France to mark the one hundred year anniversary of American Independence. In 1869, sculptor Frederic Auguste Bartholdi began to plan his concept for the monument.

Bartholdi chose the look of classic Greek and Roman figures. He envisioned Liberty as a strong and proud figure, one who personified not only the majestic Greek goddesses of the past, but also the working men and women of the present. Finally, in 1884, the work was finished, and Liberty was packed into 214 crates and sent to New York city. Only one problem stood in the way. While the French had raised a lot of funds to build the statue, New York had not secured the funds to build its foundation. It was not until a New York newspaper implored people for donations that money became available. Finally, on 28th October 1886, Americans celebrated the unveiling of the Statue of Liberty.

(a) Why was the Statue of Liberty given as a gift to America by France? (1 × 5 = 5)
(b) What is the name of the sculptor of the monument ‘the Statue of Liberty’?
(c) What did the sculptor imagine the Statue of Liberty to be?
(d) How many years did it take to unveil the Statue of Liberty?
(e) Trace the word from the passage which means the same as “imagined”.

Ans. (a) The Statue of Liberty was given as a gift to America by France to mark the one hundred year anniversary of American Independence.
(b) Frederic Auguste Bartholdi.
(c) The sculptor imagined the Statue of Liberty as the majestic Greek Goddesses of the past and also as the working men and women of the present.
(d) It took about 2 years to unveil the Statue of Liberty.
(e) envisioned.

PASSAGE - 3

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. 5

An elderly carpenter was ready to retire. He told his employer of his plans to leave the house building business and live a more leisurely life with his family. He would miss the pay cheque, but he needed to retire. The employer was sorry to see his good worker go and asked if he could build just one more house as a personal favour. The carpenter said ‘yes’, but in time it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work. He resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior material. It was an unfortunate way to end his career.

When the carpenter finished his work, his employer handed over the key of the house to the carpenter—“This is your house, my gift to you.”

What a shock! What a shame! If he had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently! Now he had to live in a poorly built house. So it is with us. We build our lives, a day
at a time, often putting less than our best into the building. Then, with a shock, we realize we have to live in the house we have built. If we could do it over, we would do it much differently. But, you cannot go back. You are the carpenter, and every day you hammer a nail, place a board, or erect a wall. Someone once said, your attitude, and the choices you make today, help build the “house” you will live in tomorrow. Therefore, build wisely!

(a) What did the carpenter tell his employer?
(b) What favour did his employer ask from the carpenter?
(c) What surprise did the employer have for the carpenter?
(d) Why was the surprise a ‘shame’ for the carpenter?
(e) Which word in the first paragraph means the same as ‘art of skill of a workman’?

Ans. (a) The carpenter told his employer of his plans to retire from his house building business and live a leisurely life with his family.
(b) The employer asked if he could build just one more house as a favour.
(c) The employer handed over the keys of the new house to the carpenter.
(d) As the carpenter resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior material.
(e) workmanship.

PASSAGE - 4

Read the following passage and answer the questions/complete the statements that follow. Write your answers in your answer sheet:

THE WONDERS OF TEA

Next to water, tea is the most commonly consumed beverage in the world. This is a good news because tea offers important health benefits. Its benefits were first discovered by the Chinese Emperor Shen Nung who declared that it gave one vigour of body, contentment of mind and determination of purpose. Today there is ample proof that tea in its many forms possesses a number of health benefits from supporting the immune system to reducing the risk of cancer, to helping prevent tooth decay.

What makes tea such a healthy drink? The star compounds are called catechins. Those are antioxidants that help prevent cell damage by harmful molecules called free radicals.

Tea can be black, green and red and is derived from a warm-weather evergreen tree known as Camelia Sinensis. The more processing, tea leaves undergo, the darker they become. Green tea is the least processed tea. It is simply steamed quickly and offers the maximum healing powers because it isn’t fermented. It also helps prevent tooth decay and aids weight loss.

(a) The most commonly consumed beverage in the world is ......................... .
(b) Benefits of tea were first discovered by .................................................... .
(c) Tea turns out to be a healthy drink due to the presence of ....................... .
(d) Green tea leaves offer maximum healing powers because it is ............. .
(e) The word to the last para which means the same as helps is ................. .

Ans. (a) tea
(b) the Chinese Emperor Shen Nung
(c) catechins
(d) not fermented
(e) aids.

POEM - 1

Read the poems given below and answer the questions/complete the statements that follow:

Be the Best
If you can’t be a pine on the top of the hill,
Be a scrub in the valley—but be
The best little scrub by the side of the rill,
Be a bush if you can’t be a tree
If you can't be a bush be a bit of the grass,
And some highway happier make;
If you can't be a muskie then just be a bass
But be the liveliest bass in the lake!
We can't all be captains, we've got to be crew,
There's something for all of us here
There's big work to do and there's lesser to do,
And the task we must do is the near.
If you can't be a highway then just be a trait
If you can't be the sun, be a star,
It isn't by size that you win or you fail
Be the best of whatever you are!

(a) What is the poet's tone in the poem?  (1 × 5 = 5)
(b) What should be our attitude towards our work?
(c) What is the message of the poem?
(d) Winning does not depend on ..................
(e) Which word in the poem means the same as “piece of work is difficult”.

Ans. (a) Optimistic
(b) Whatever we do, we should do it whole-heartedly.
(c) One should try to do one's best with whatever one is.
(d) Size
(e) task.

POEM - 2

Read the following poem carefully and answer the questions complete the statements given below: 5

Oh! Defenders of borders
You are great sons of my land
When we are all asleep
You still hold on to your deed.

Windy season or snowy days
Or scorching sun's sweltering rays
You are there guarding all the time awake
Treading the lonely expanses as Yogis.

Climbing the heights or striding the valleys
Defending the deserts and guarding the marshes
Surveillance in seas and by securing the air
Prime of your youth given to the nation!!

Wind chimes of my land vibrate your feat
We pray for you brave men!!
May the Lord bless you all!!

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam

(a) The poem is dedicated to....................  (1 × 5 = 5)
(b) What do they sacrifice for the nation?
(c) Which figure of speech is used in the last line of the second stanza?
(d) What does Dr. Kalam express through the last two lines?
(e) ‘Scorching’ in the poem means ......................... .

Ans. (a) The soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the nation.
(b) Their lives, their youth and everything.
(c) Simile.
(d) Dr. Kalam expresses his tribute through the last two lines.
(e) Burning.

POEM - 3

Read the poem given below and complete the sentences that follow.

BALOONS
Whenever I see
Gas balloons go up
I wonder where we’d end up
If we’re balloons.
Would we go far away
To some unknown destiny?
Or will it be carefully decided goal
We would work our way to?
Balloons! How much they’re
like human beings—
so different from each other
in colours, shapes, design and sizes
Some live long and some don’t
Just like us some find
A pair of loving hands and some don’t
They get lost, burst or destroyed
Like we do
At times
They rub cheeks affectionately
Occasionally you can hear
them whisper secrets
As only friend will
And once in a while, in the chill
of the night, or mist of dawn
you may find one tear
flowing down
silently

(a) The poem describes the similarities between .................... . (1 × 5 = 5)
(b) Just as we are unaware about the fate of balloons, we are also............. .
(c) Outwardly balloons are different from each other in......... .
(d) The line used to describe the rustling sound of balloons is..................... .
(e) The word from the poem that comes closest in meaning to ‘fate’ is

Ans. (a) balloons and human beings
(b) unaware of our destiny
(c) colour and size
(d) ‘They rub cheeks affectionately’
(e) ‘destiny’
**Type - II**

**PASSAGE - 1**

Read the following passage carefully:

For the mobility—impaired, highly trained canines called ‘service dogs’ can pick up dropped keys, open and close drawers, retrieve prepared meals, help a person in and out of bathtub, dial 911, push and pull wheelchairs, help operate a car or van and pull off gloves, shoes, socks and jackets. Other dogs provide specific assistance to those who suffer seizures (sudden attacks of illness) and require special medication. And, of course, the helping dogs provide companionship, play and give unconditional love to the people they assist.

It is thirty odd years now since the placement of the first assistance dog. But only in recent years, with the rising independent movement among disabled people has the idea begun to spread widely.

While most service–dogs are trained to work with people who rely on wheelchairs, other categories of helping dogs include hearing–dogs who alert their owners to sounds, such as doorbells, phones, cooking timers, alarm clocks, smoke alarms and seizure dogs which carry medication in their packs and are trained to dial 911 on large keypad phones.

**Answer the following questions by selecting the most appropriate option:**

1. The service-dogs were:
   - (a) paid highly
   - (b) less in number
   - (c) multiple taskers
   - (d) employees

2. The idea of assistance dogs became popular due to the:
   - (a) independent movement among the disabled
   - (b) awareness by the hospitals
   - (c) independence of the country
   - (d) both (a) and (c)

3. The categories of helping–dogs are:
   - (a) domestic dogs, service dogs & seizure dogs
   - (b) service, hearing and seizure dogs
   - (c) hunting and domestic dogs
   - (d) None of the above

4. There is a difference between:
   - (a) the service dogs and the helping dogs
   - (b) the serving dogs and canines
   - (c) the canines and ordinary dogs
   - (d) both (b) and (c)

5. Give the noun form of ‘trained’:
   - (a) train
   - (b) trains
   - (c) training
   - (d) trainee

**Ans.** 1. (c) multiple taskers
2. (a) independence movement among the disabled
3. (b) service, hearing and seizure dogs
4. (c) The canines and ordinary dogs
5. (d) trainee

**PASSAGE - 2**

Read the following passage carefully:

An owl is a bird. There are two basic types of owls: typical owls and barn owls. Owls live in almost every country of the world. Owls are mostly nocturnal, meaning they are awake at night. Owls are predators—they hunt the food that they eat. Owls hunt for mice and other small mammals, insects and even fish. Owls are well adapted for hunting. Their soft, fluffy feathers make their flight nearly silent. They have very good hearing...