

BHARTIYA SHIKSHA BOARD
Module Paper - Ist Term
ENGLISH - Class 8
Session 2025-26

Time: 1 Hour

Max Marks: 20

Instructions:

- Read the questions carefully.
 - 10 minutes extra time is allowed to read this question paper. During this time, students will read the question paper only and not write the answer.
 - This questions paper contains **four** sections and **6** questions.
Section A : Reading – **6 MARKS**
Section B: Grammar – **4 MARKS**
Section C: Literature – **7 MARKS**
Section D: Writing – **3 MARKS**
 - All questions are mandatory to attempt.
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SECTION-A (Reading)

Q1. Read the following passage.

In a bustling town in Maharashtra, lived a 13-year-old boy named Dev. He was like any other school-going child—curious, active, and full of questions. But what set him apart was a habit he had picked up from his parents: doing seva, or selfless service.

Every Sunday, Dev and his family would visit a local shelter that provided food, clothes, and basic medical care to the underprivileged. At first, Dev didn't understand why they spent their weekends working while others relaxed. He wanted to play cricket with his friends or watch cartoons at home.

One Sunday, as he handed a warm meal to an elderly man with trembling hands, the man looked into Dev's eyes and whispered, "Thank you, son. This means the world to me." Something shifted in Dev at that moment. That single sentence, filled with sincerity and emotion, made Dev feel something he had never felt before—a deep sense of purpose.

Over time, Dev began to understand the real meaning of seva. It wasn't about charity or feeling sorry for others. It was about compassion, equality, and shared humanity. Whether it was helping a child learn to read or cleaning the shelter's courtyard, every small act mattered.

During a school debate on “What makes a good citizen?”, Dev confidently said, “A good citizen is someone who doesn’t wait for others to solve problems but becomes part of the solution.” His speech was met with thunderous applause. He ended with a quote his father often repeated: “The smallest act of kindness is greater than the grandest intention.”

From that day, many of his classmates joined him at the shelter. What began as a family habit became a community effort. Dev realized that real change doesn’t need loud slogans or big money—it needs willing hearts and helping hands

On the basis of your understanding of the text, answer the following questions.

- (i) Which of the following best describes the word “compassion” as used in the passage? 1 Marks
- (a) Feeling smarter than others
 - (b) Understanding someone's pain and wanting to help
 - (c) Being careful with your own needs
 - (d) Following strict rules
- (ii) What does the word “bustling” in “a bustling town in Maharashtra” most likely mean? 1 Mark
- (a) Quiet and peaceful
 - (b) Crowded and full of activity
 - (c) Poor and broken
 - (d) Small and unknown
- (iii) Identify at least two core Indian values as reflected in this story and explain them briefly. 2 Marks
- (iv) Explain the quote “The smallest act of kindness is greater than the grandest intention” with reference to the story. 1 Mark
- (v) What made the friends of Dev to join him in the Seva he performed every weekend with his parents? 1 Mark

SECTION-B (GRAMMAR)

Q2. Fill in the blanks with suitable modals from the box below: 1x2= 2 Marks

Must, would, can, could, might

- (i) I _____ swim when I was just five years old.
- (ii) You _____ not talk during the exam. It's against the rules.

Q3. Change the following sentences as directed. 1x2= 2 Marks

- (i) The teacher said, "You must listen carefully." (change to indirect)
- (ii) The boy said that he had lost his pen. (change to direct)

SECTION-C (LITERATURE)

Q4. Answer any two of the following questions in about 50-60 words. 2x2= 4 Marks

- (i) The construction of the bridge represents a combination of divine intervention and mortal effort. Explain with the reference to 'In the Footsteps of Rama'.
- (ii) 'It is important to have a strong community of friends and well-wishers around'. Discuss the advantages of teamwork in the context of 'The Hawks, The Osprey, The Turtle and the Lion'.
- (iii) In the play Counsel of Wisdom, Vidura stands out as the sole voice of conscience in the royal court. Justify this statement.

Q5. Fill in the blanks in brief. 3x1= 3 Marks

- (i) Swami Vivekananda's 'To the Awakened India' teaches us the values of _____.
- (ii) The line "We'll rather send the world up in flames than suffer one man to starve" suggests that the poet places _____ above all else. (Long Live the Republic of Bharat)
- (iii) Two qualities of Dr. Kalam's father are _____ and _____. (Wings of Fire)

SECTION-D (WRITING)

Q6. Describe a visit you made to a zoo or a wildlife park in the form of an essay. What did you see, hear, and feel during the visit? Use vivid details to talk about the different animals you observed, the environment of the place, your favourite moment, and what you learned from the experience. 3 Marks