

ENGLISH NEW SCHEME

Time: 2 ½ hours

Total score: 60

Instructions:

- Answer all the questions
- The first 15 minutes is allowed as cool off time.
- Read the questions and plan your answers during the cool off time.

Questions 1-6: Read the excerpt from 'Severn Suzuki's Speech' and answer the questions that follow. One score each. (6x1=6)

I am here to speak for all generations to come. I am here to speak on behalf of the starving children around the world whose cries go unheard. I am here to speak for the countless animals dying across this planet because they have nowhere left to go.

We cannot afford to be not heard. I am afraid to go out in the sun now because of the holes in the ozone. I am afraid to breathe the air, because I don't know what chemicals are in it.

I used to go fishing in Vancouver with my dad until just a few years ago when we found the fish full of cancers. And now we hear about animals and plants going extinct every day - vanishing forever.

In my life, I have dreamt of seeing the great herds of wild animals, jungles, and rainforests full of birds and butterflies, but now I wonder if they will even exist for my children to see.

Did you have to worry about these little things when you were my age?

All this is happening before our eyes and yet we act as if we have all the time we want and all the solutions.

I'm only a child and I don't have all the solutions, but I want you to realise, neither do you!

- 1) What is happening to animals due to environmental degradation?
- 2) Why is the speaker afraid to go out in the sun?
- 3) What is the speaker's concern about the air they breathe?
- 4) What was the speaker's experience while fishing with her Dad in Vancouver?
- 5) Pick out a word from the passage that means 'not now existing'.
- 6) Why the speaker doesn't have all the solutions?

Questions 7-10: Read the lines from the poem, 'Still I Rise' and answer the questions that follow. One score each.

(4x1=4)

You may write me down in history
With your bitter, twisted lies,
You may trod me in the very dirt
But still, like dust, I'll rise.

Did you want to see me broken?
Bowed head and lowered eyes?
Shoulders falling down like teardrops,
Weakened by my soulful cries?

You may shoot me with your words,

You may cut me with your eyes,
You may kill me with your hatefulness,
But still, like air, I'll rise.

7. What does the phrase "I'll rise" symbolize in the poem?
 - a) Defeat
 - b) Resilience
 - c) Surrender
 - d) Indifference
8. Which line shows that the speaker remains strong despite adversity?
 - a) You may shoot me with your words
 - b) You may cut me with your eyes
 - c) But still, like dust, I'll rise
 - d) Weakened by my soulful cries
9. What might others use to harm the speaker's reputation, according to the poem?
 - a) Truthful words
 - b) Bitter, twisted lies
 - c) Silent indifference
 - d) Friendly advice
10. What does the speaker imply by saying, "Shoulders falling down like teardrops"?
 - a) Strength
 - b) Sadness
 - c) Joy
 - d) Anger

Questions 11-15: Read the passage and answer the questions that follow. One score each.
(5x1=5)

Birds are fascinating creatures with so much to teach us about the natural world. By studying them, we can learn about the ecology of our mother earth and the importance of conserving our environment. The study of birds is called ornithology, and bird diversity is so immense that no one can even guess the exact number and variety of birds in the world. There are approximately 10,000 different types of birds in the world. Scientists believe that there are even more that may not yet be discovered or classified. Birds are found in every continent and in every type of habitat, from the Arctic to the tropical regions. Their colours are also diverse and awesome. Birds are one of the most important species on our planet. Birds play a crucial role in the ecosystem and are responsible for pollinating plants, dispersing seeds, and controlling pests. They also provide us with food and feathers and are a source of inspiration and enjoyment.

Despite their importance, birds are declining worldwide due to various factors, including habitat loss, pollution, and climate change. It is up to us to take action to protect birds and their habitats.

11. What can we learn from studying birds?
12. According to the passage, how many different types of birds are there?
13. Where do birds live?

14. Why are birds important to our planet?

15. Why are birds disappearing?

Questions 16-19: Answer any two questions from the following. Six score each.

(2x6=12)

16. Prepare a **paragraph** on how the old man made use of the lessons he had learnt to save the lives of many people in the story, 'The Burning of the Rice Fields'.

(Hints: old man lives with grandson- sees something strange- remembers his grandfather's words- sets fire to dry paddy fields- people ran to save the fields-huge waves rolled in from the sea – people saved from tsunami.)

17. Prepare a **text of a speech** on the topic, 'Empowering Women in the Workplace' in the light of reading of the passage, 'Gender Equality - Make it a Habit'.

(Hints: Gender bias and stereotypes - Limited opportunities for advancement - Pay inequality Leadership training and development - Flexible work arrangements)

18. When people become too engrossed in social media, they often neglect to appreciate and notice the world around them, missing out on the beauty and experiences that exist beyond their screens.

Based on your reading the story 'A Hundred Likes', prepare a **narrative**.

(Hints: Suma travels on train -engrossed in her mobile phone- touches like for each messages- an old woman boards the train- struggles with her bag- suma unaware- continues with scrolling the messages)

19. The rise of social media has led to a decline in reading habits, as people increasingly spend more time scrolling through their screens than turning the pages of a book. Prepare a **write up** on the topic. 'The Role of Village Libraries in revitalising Rural communities.'

(Hints: Meeting spaces for local groups and events - Access to information and resources - Opportunities for socialization and connection- Access to books, online resources, and digital learning platforms - Literacy programs and workshops)

Questions 20-26: Answer any four questions from the following. Five score each.

(4x5=20)

20. Imagine you get an opportunity to interview Laxmi Agarwal, the acid attack campaigner. Prepare **five questions** that you may ask her.

21. The Residents Association in your locality is launching a community awareness initiative to educate citizens on disaster preparedness and risk reduction strategies, empowering them to take proactive measures to minimize the impact of natural and human-induced disasters. Prepare a **notice** to inform the members about the programme.

22. Prepare **five slogans** to raise awareness about increasing domestic violence, action to protect women and empower change.

23. You are a reporter and have been assigned to cover the devastating landslide in Wayanad and produce a news story on the tragic incident.' Prepare the **likely news report**.

24. The old woman in the story, 'A Hundred Likes' was sad and depressed about her experience in the train and Suma's behaviour. She wrote down her feelings in a diary. Prepare the **likely diary entry**.

25. Prepare a **letter** to one of your friends on the increasing cybercrimes in the state and their impact on the society.

26. Prepare a **profile** of Maya Angelou using the hints given.

Born : April 4, 1928, St. Louis, Missouri, U.S
Original name : Marguerite Annie Johnson
Famous as : American poet, memoirist, and actress
Awards And Honours: Presidential Medal of Freedom (2011)
Grammy Award (2002), Grammy Award (1995)
Notable works : 'Down in the Delta', 'His Day Is Done', 'I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings'.
Died : May 28, 2014, Winston-Salem, North Carolina

27. Fill in the blanks using *have / has*.

(2x1=2)

The company a a new policy for employees, and I b a lot of work to do today.

28. Fill in the blanks using the appropriate forms of words given in brackets (2x1=2)

We should hurry inside because the sky a (get) darker, and we won't be able to finish b (plant) the flowers if it starts raining.

29. Edit the following passage. Errors are underlined.

(4x1=4)

Children should grow up in an envirenment (a) where both parents work and share a (b) household work. Then they will also learn natural (c) that respect and freedom should not be connect (d) to your gender, social status or financial security.

Questions 30-34: Read the following headlines and answer the questions that follow.

(5x1=5)

Four Indian nationals killed in multiple-vehicle road accident in Texas

Anuya Prasad wins air pistol gold in World Deaf Championship

Mice study claims to have found long COVID's 'real' perpetrator

Telegram messaging app CEO Durov arrested in France

Amazon, the largest river in the world, is drying

30. Identify the headline that is related to an environment crisis.

31. The headline that is related to sports is _____

32. Identify the headline that tells us about a scientific invention.

33. Which headline tells us about a development in the field of technology.

34. The headline that is related to a tragic event is _____

ANSWER KEY

Question Number	Scoring Indicators	Score	Total score
1	Countless animals are dying across the planet	1	1
2	The speaker is afraid to go out in the sun because of the holes in ozone.	1	1
3	The speaker is afraid to breathe the air, because it contains harmful chemicals.	1	1
4	They found the fish full of cancers	1	1
5	extinct	1	1
6	For all future generations She is only a child.	1	1
7	b) Resilience	1	1
8	c) But still, like dust, I'll rise	1	1
9	b) Bitter, twisted lies	1	1
10	b) Sadness	1	1
11	We can learn about the ecology of our mother earth and the importance of conserving our environment.	1	1
12	There are approximately 10,000 different types of birds in the world.	1	1
13	Birds are found in every continent and in every type of habitat, from the Arctic to the tropical regions.	1	1
14	Birds play a crucial role in the ecosystem and are responsible for pollinating plants, dispersing seeds, and controlling pests.	1	1
15	Birds are declining worldwide due to various factors, including habitat loss, pollution, and climate change.	1	1
16	Paragraph		6x2=12
	Begins with a striking idea	3	
	Ideas presented using clear language	1	
	Appropriate use of linkers	1	
	Language and style	1	
17	Speech		
	Introduces the topic well	3	
	Organisation of ideas	1	
	Language and style	1	
	Effective conclusion	1	
	Narrative		
18	Idea conveyed	1	
	Organisation of ideas	3	

	Language and style	1	
	Appropriate use of linkers	1	
19	Write up		
	Message conveyed	3	
	Organisation of ideas based on hints	1	
	Appropriate use of linkers	1	
	Language and style	1	
20	Five meaningful questions using appropriate question words	5	5x4=20
21	Notice		
	Gives details about the programme	1	
	Uses proper salutation	1	
	Mentions the date, time and venue of the programme	2	
	Use appropriate layout and format	1	
22	Slogans		
	Catchy	2	
	Rhythmic	1	
	New Ideas and originality	1	
	Language	1	
23	News Report		
	Message conveyed	2	
	Organisation of ideas	1	
	Appropriate use of linkers	1	
	Language and style	1	
24	Diary		
	Idea expressed	2	
	Appropriate use of language	1	
	Use of first person narrative	1	
	Expression of personal feelings/ emotions	1	
25	Letter		
	Message conveyed	3	
	Language and style	1	
	Keeping the format of a letter	1	
26	Profile		
	Interpretation of the given Data	3	
	Use of cohesive devices	2	

	Sequencing of ideas	1	
	a) has	1	
27	b) have	1	2
28	a) is getting	1	2
	b) planting	1	
29	a) environment b) the c) naturally d) connected	4	4
30	12 Amazon, the largest river in the world, is drying	1	
31.	23 Anuya Prasad wins air pistol gold in World Deaf Championship	1	5
32.	34 Mice study claims to have found long COVID's 'real' perpetrator	1	
33.	45 Telegram messaging app CEO Durov arrested in France	1	
34.	56 Four Indian nationals killed in multiple-vehicle road accident in Texas	1	

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