

Annual Examination, 2025

Dakhl Class Eight

English First Paper

Time: 3 hours

Full Marks: 100

[N. B. : The figures in the right margin indicate full marks.]

Part – A : Reading (Marks – 70)

Read the text and answer the questions 1 and 2 :

Human beings conquered the distance on earth by discovering wheels. They endeavored further. Then on December 17, 1903, the Wright brothers in America made the first experiment of flying in a plane. In the experiment, a machine carried a man and rose above by its own power. *The machine was called 'aka airplane'*. It flew naturally in a smooth speed, and finally landed without damage. That was human being's first real take-off. And now, they have got a supersonic speed. In a supersonic speed, something travels faster than sound! *So the sky's the limit now!*

Modern aircraft companies are making revolutions in aviation technology. Boeing as well as Airbus is producing modern passenger airplanes. These planes fly very fast. Boeing 787 flies 950 km/h. However, Airbus 350 is expected to fly at a speed of 945 km/h.

You find attractive ads on the websites of both Boeing and Airbus planes. Both have excellent features. But in speed, neither could beat the Concorde. It is the world's *fastest* supersonic passenger aircraft. Its normal speed was 2,170 km/h. The Concorde was a joint project by France and Britain. It started passenger flight in 1976. Unfortunately, the Concorde fleet was grounded forever in 2003 after a major accident.

1. Choose the best answer from the alternatives : 1 × 7 = 7
 - (a) The Wright brothers were the citizens of —
 - (i) Britain
 - (ii) America
 - (iii) France
 - (iv) China
 - (b) The distance on earth was conquered by discovering —
 - (i) Boeing
 - (ii) Airbus
 - (iii) the Concorde
 - (iv) wheels
 - (c) The Wright brothers first flew in a plane in —
 - (i) 1903
 - (ii) 1803
 - (iii) 1904
 - (iv) 1804
 - (d) The word 'distance' means —
 - (i) remoteness
 - (ii) shortness
 - (iii) smallness
 - (iv) greatness
 - (e) Which was the fastest airplane?
 - (i) Aka airplane
 - (ii) Concorde
 - (iii) Boeing
 - (iv) Airbus
 - (f) Which countries jointly made the Concorde?
 - (i) France and Germany
 - (ii) Britain and Italy
 - (iii) Italy and France
 - (iv) France and Britain
 - (g) Which country did the Wright brothers belong to?
 - (i) UK
 - (ii) USA
 - (iii) France
 - (iv) Italy
2. Answer the following questions : 2 × 5 = 10
 - (a) How could man conquer the distance on earth?
 - (b) Why do people remember the 'aka airplane'?
 - (c) What do you mean by 'supersonic speed'?
 - (d) Name two modern aircraft companies.
 - (e) Why is the Concorde no more in operation?

Read the text and answer the questions 3 and 4.

Thousands of years ago, the first pearl was probably discovered while human beings were searching for food at the sea shore. Throughout history, the pearl with its shine has been one of the most highly valued gems. Pearls have been mentioned many times in religious texts and mythologies from the earliest times. The ancient Egyptians valued pearls so much that they were buried with them. It is said that the famous queen of Egypt, Cleopatra would dissolve a pearl in a glass and drink it as a sign of love and respect for the entire nation. The Greeks thought of pearls as a sign of wealth and social position. The beauty of pearls was associated with love and marriage. In ancient Rome, pearls were considered the greatest sign of wealth and social status. At that time the young women of noble families loved to wear beautiful pearl necklaces. The brave knights used to wear them in the battles for good luck.

3. Fill in the gaps using the information from the text. 1 × 5 = 5

The pearl is a highly valued (a) —. In the earliest time, its name was (b) — in the religious books. The ancient Egyptians, the Greeks and the Romans (c) — the pearl as a sign of wealth and social position. The Egyptian queen Cleopatra would (d) — it in a glass and drink it for the nation's welfare. The brave knights used it as a sign of good (e) —.

4. Read the text again and write synonyms/antonyms of the words following the instructions. 1 × 5 = 5
 (a) probably (synonym); (b) highly (antonym); (c) famous (synonym); (d) greatest (antonym); (e) brave (synonym).

Read the following passage and answer the questions 5, 6 and 7.

Mount Everest which is in the Himalayan Mountains north of India between Tibet and Nepal is the highest mountain in the world. It is over 29,000 feet above sea level. It was named after an Englishman George Everest who was the first to survey the Himalayas in 1841. Many expeditions had been led to conquer Mount Everest. Some of them had to be abandoned. Many climbers who took part in them lost their lives. Sir Edmund Hillary from New Zealand and his companion Tenzing Norgay from Nepal led an expedition in 1953. The expedition was set out on March 10. As the climbers were going up, they set up camps at different places. They left some of their men and supplies in those camps. The highest camp was set up at 27,000 feet. Only Hillary and Tenzing reached that height on March 25. But the top was still 2000 feet away. They went up and up. After two months of difficult and dangerous climbing, they succeeded in reaching the top on May 10. They must have felt excited when they stood there. They have gone down in history as the conquerors of the highest mountain in the world. They were given a hearty welcome in 1954. Hillary went to Britain with Tenzing in 1955. There they were given tribute in 1956. In 1957 they were recorded in the Greenwitch book. In 1958 both of them were given the honour of world hero.

5. Complete the following table with the information given in the passage : 1 × 5 = 5

Who/ What	Event	Time
(i)	was the first to survey the Himalayas	in 1841
An expedition	was led in	(ii)
The expedition	(iii)	on March 10, 1953
(iv)	were given tribute	in 1956
Hillary and Tenzing	(v)	in 1957

6. Write whether the following statements are true or false. If false, give the correct answer : 1 × 5 = 5

(a) The Mount Everest is over 27000 feet above the sea level.

(b) The Himalayas were first surveyed by an Italian.

(c) Sir Edmund Hillary led an expedition in 1953.

(d) Tenzing and Hillary reached the top of Mount Everest on July 10.

(e) It took Tenzing and Hillary two months to climb the last 2000 feet.

7. Write a summary of the above passage in your own words.

8. The phrases in column A are the beginning of some sentences. The phrases of column B are the ending. Match the phrases in column A with the phrases in column B to make complete sentences. 1×5

Column A	Column B
(a) Mobile phone is one of the	(i) by contact with friends and relatives.
(b) A mobile phone is a cellular	(ii) money for their parents and a great blow to their future.
(c) It can be carried and used anywhere	(iii) greatest inventions of modern science.
(d) Many young students are using it which is a great loss of	(iv) us it according to necessity.
(e) So, we should	(v) phone that does not have wires.

9. Rearrange the following sentences in correct order to make it a meaningful story. 1×1

- And he took shelter in a remote cave.
- Then he saw a spider trying hard to reach the ceiling of the cave.
- Robert Bruce was a famous king.
- One day he was lying in the cave.
- The king fought bravely but lost the battle.
- The king was always in a gloomy state for his unhappy condition.
- Enemies invaded his kingdom.
- He had to flee from his kingdom to save his life.

10. Answer the questions that follow. (Any five) $2 \times$

- How does the poet describe the woman's emotions in his poem 'The Field of the Embroidered'?
- When does the woman wish the quilt to be placed on her grave?
- Why does the woman want the quilt on her grave?
- How does the poet use the quilt to reflect human emotions?
- What is the poem 'The children's song' about?
- Which literary items are used in the poem 'The children's song'? How does the poet use describe the poem?
- When does the speaker mention sacrifices in the poem 'The children's song'?
- What is the theme of the poem 'The children's song'?

Part - B : Writing (Marks - 30)

11. Read the beginning of the story and complete it in your own words.
Sheikh Sa'adi was a great poet in Iran. He used to lead a very simple life. Once on his visit to the court of the king of Iran, he took shelter in a nobleman's house for a night. He was then in a simple dress. The nobleman could not recognize him and
12. Write a paragraph on 'Price Hike' in about 200 words based on the answers to the questions.
- What is price hike/spiral/rise?
 - What are the causes of price hike?
 - How do we suffer for it?
 - How can the govt control it?
 - What should we do when there is price hike?
13. Write a dialogue between father and son on the choice of future career.