

CBSE Class 6 – English

Reading Comprehension / Unseen Passages

Name: _____ Class: VI Section: _____ Date: _____

General Instructions

1. This worksheet has 15 unseen passages. Each passage has 3 paragraphs and 10 questions.
2. Read each passage carefully at least twice before answering.
3. Each passage has: 8 Multiple Choice Questions (Q1–Q8) and 2 Vocabulary Questions (Q9–Q10).
4. For every question, choose the correct option (a), (b), (c) or (d).
5. For vocabulary questions, read the sentence in the passage to understand how the word is used.
6. Check your answers with the Answer Key at the end only after you have finished.

Passage 1: The Tiger

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

The tiger is the national animal of India and the largest member of the cat family. Its orange coat is marked with dark stripes, and no two tigers have exactly the same pattern of stripes, just as no two humans have the same fingerprints. The stripes help the tiger to hide in tall grass while it waits for its prey.

Tigers usually live and hunt alone. They hunt mostly at night, and they can leap long distances and creep silently towards deer or wild boar. Unlike many other cats, tigers love water. They are strong swimmers and often rest in ponds and rivers to keep cool in summer. In the Sundarbans, tigers even swim across the rivers of the mangrove forests.

About a hundred years ago, there were many more tigers in India than there are today. Hunting and the loss of forests reduced their number. In 1973, India began Project Tiger to save them, and special tiger reserves such as Jim Corbett National Park were set up. Thanks to these efforts, the number of tigers has slowly risen.

Questions

1. Which animal is the national animal of India?
 - (a) Lion
 - (b) Elephant
 - (c) Tiger
 - (d) Leopard
2. How do the stripes help a tiger?
 - (a) They help it hide in tall grass
 - (b) They keep it warm
 - (c) They help it swim
 - (d) They scare other animals

3. When do tigers mostly hunt?
 - (a) At noon
 - (b) At sunrise only
 - (c) In the early evening only
 - (d) At night
4. In what way are tigers unlike many other cats?
 - (a) They live alone
 - (b) They love water
 - (c) They eat meat
 - (d) They have stripes
5. What do tigers do in the Sundarbans?
 - (a) Climb tall trees
 - (b) Swim across rivers
 - (c) Sleep all day
 - (d) Dig holes
6. What reduced the number of tigers in India?
 - (a) Diseases from cats
 - (b) Lack of water
 - (c) Heavy rain
 - (d) Hunting and loss of forests
7. When did India begin Project Tiger?
 - (a) 1947
 - (b) 1973
 - (c) 1985
 - (d) 2001
8. Which tiger reserve is mentioned in the passage?
 - (a) Kaziranga
 - (b) Ranthambore
 - (c) Jim Corbett National Park
 - (d) Gir National Park
9. Choose the word closest in meaning to “prey” as used in paragraph 1.
 - (a) A pet
 - (b) A friend
 - (c) A hunter
 - (d) An animal hunted for food
10. Choose the word closest in meaning to “reduced” as used in paragraph 3.
 - (a) Increased
 - (b) Made smaller
 - (c) Protected
 - (d) Counted

Passage 2: Rabindranath Tagore

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Rabindranath Tagore was born on 7 May 1861 in Kolkata. He was the youngest child in a family of artists and thinkers. He did not like the strict classroom teaching of his time and preferred to learn from nature and from the stories told by the servants at home. He started writing poems when he was only eight years old.

Tagore became famous as a poet, story writer, painter and composer. His collection of poems, *Gitanjali*, was translated into English, and in 1913 he became the first non-European to win the Nobel Prize in Literature. He composed the national anthem of India, *Jana Gana Mana*, and also that of Bangladesh.

Tagore believed that children should learn in the open air among trees and birds. To put this idea into practice, he set up a school at Santiniketan in West Bengal, which later became Visva-Bharati University. He passed away on 7 August 1941, but his songs, poems and stories are still loved by millions.

Questions

1. In which city was Rabindranath Tagore born?
 - (a) Mumbai
 - (b) Delhi
 - (c) Kolkata
 - (d) Chennai
2. From what did young Tagore prefer to learn?
 - (a) Nature and stories
 - (b) Strict teachers
 - (c) Newspapers
 - (d) Only textbooks
3. At what age did Tagore start writing poems?
 - (a) Five
 - (b) Eight
 - (c) Twelve
 - (d) Sixteen
4. Which of his works was translated into English?
 - (a) *Gitanjali*
 - (b) *Panchatantra*
 - (c) *Wings of Fire*
 - (d) *Discovery of India*
5. What special honour did Tagore receive in 1913?
 - (a) Padma Shri
 - (b) Olympic medal
 - (c) Bharat Ratna
 - (d) Nobel Prize in Literature

6. Tagore composed the national anthems of which countries?
 - (a) India and Nepal
 - (b) India and Bangladesh
 - (c) India and Sri Lanka
 - (d) India and Pakistan
7. Where, according to Tagore, should children learn?
 - (a) In big classrooms
 - (b) In the open air among trees and birds
 - (c) At home only
 - (d) In factories
8. Which school did Tagore set up?
 - (a) Doon School
 - (b) La Martiniere
 - (c) Nalanda
 - (d) Santiniketan
9. Choose the word closest in meaning to “composed” as used in paragraph 2.
 - (a) Created or wrote
 - (b) Read
 - (c) Destroyed
 - (d) Sold
10. Choose the word closest in meaning to “strict” as used in paragraph 1.
 - (a) Funny
 - (b) Friendly
 - (c) Very firm and rigid
 - (d) Careless

Passage 3: The Moon

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

The Moon is Earth's only natural satellite. It moves around our planet in a path called an orbit and takes about a month to go around once. The Moon has no light of its own. It shines because it reflects the light of the Sun, just as a mirror reflects the light that falls on it.

The shape of the Moon appears to change every night. Sometimes we see a thin curved shape, and on some nights we see a full, round disc. These different shapes are called the phases of the Moon. They occur because we see different parts of the sunlit side of the Moon as it moves around the Earth. The Moon does not actually change its shape.

There is no air or water on the Moon, and its surface is covered with dust, rocks and large holes called craters. Because the Moon has weaker gravity than Earth, things weigh much less there. In 1969, Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the Moon. In 2023, India's Chandrayaan-3 landed near the Moon's south pole, becoming the first spacecraft to do so.

Questions

1. What is the Moon to the Earth?
 - (a) A star
 - (b) A planet
 - (c) A comet
 - (d) A natural satellite
2. What is the path of the Moon around the Earth called?
 - (a) Phase
 - (b) Orbit
 - (c) Crater
 - (d) Disc
3. Why does the Moon shine?
 - (a) It has its own light
 - (b) It is covered with ice
 - (c) It reflects the light of the Sun
 - (d) It burns gas
4. Why does the shape of the Moon seem to change?
 - (a) We see different parts of its sunlit side
 - (b) Clouds cover it
 - (c) The Moon really shrinks and grows
 - (d) The Earth's shadow always covers it
5. What are craters?
 - (a) Dry rivers
 - (b) Tall mountains
 - (c) Large holes on the Moon's surface
 - (d) Bright stars
6. Why do things weigh less on the Moon?
 - (a) The Moon has weaker gravity
 - (b) There is no air
 - (c) The Moon is very cold
 - (d) The Moon is far away

7. Who was the first man to walk on the Moon?
- (a) Yuri Gagarin
 - (b) Rakesh Sharma
 - (c) Buzz Lightyear
 - (d) Neil Armstrong
8. What did Chandrayaan-3 achieve in 2023?
- (a) It reached Mars
 - (b) It landed near the Moon's south pole
 - (c) It brought back Moon rocks
 - (d) It flew around the Sun
9. Choose the word closest in meaning to “reflects” as used in paragraph 1.
- (a) Absorbs
 - (b) Throws back
 - (c) Hides
 - (d) Makes
10. Choose the meaning of “satellite” as used in paragraph 1.
- (a) A very bright star
 - (b) A kind of telescope
 - (c) A spaceship
 - (d) An object that moves around a planet

Passage 4: The Postman

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Ramu the postman starts his day very early. By seven o'clock he is at the post office, sorting letters, parcels and postcards according to the streets in his area. He then puts them in his big brown bag, wears his khaki uniform and sets off on his old bicycle. Rain or shine, he never misses a day.

In the village, everybody knows Ramu and waits for him eagerly. Old Kamala Devi waits at her gate for letters from her son who lives in a distant city. Children wait for birthday cards and story magazines. Since many villagers cannot read, Ramu sometimes reads the letters aloud to them and helps them write replies.

Nowadays, people use mobile phones and emails more than letters, but the postman's work is still important. He delivers official papers, money orders and important parcels to remote places where there is no other service. Ramu says he is proud of his job because it brings happiness to people every day.

Questions

1. By what time does Ramu reach the post office?
 - (a) Five o'clock
 - (b) Six o'clock
 - (c) Seven o'clock
 - (d) Nine o'clock
2. What does Ramu do first at the post office?
 - (a) Repair his bicycle
 - (b) Read the newspapers
 - (c) Sort the letters and parcels
 - (d) Have breakfast
3. How does Ramu travel to deliver the post?
 - (a) By scooter
 - (b) By bus
 - (c) On foot
 - (d) By bicycle
4. Why does Kamala Devi wait at her gate?
 - (a) To sell vegetables
 - (b) For letters from her son
 - (c) To meet her neighbours
 - (d) To greet the children
5. Why does Ramu sometimes read letters aloud?
 - (a) The letters are secret
 - (b) He likes reading aloud
 - (c) Many villagers cannot read
 - (d) The letters are in English
6. What does the postman deliver to remote places even today?
 - (a) Official papers, money orders and parcels
 - (b) Vegetables and fruits
 - (c) Newspapers only
 - (d) Mobile phones

7. Why is Ramu proud of his job?
- (a) It gives him a lot of money
 - (b) It lets him travel abroad
 - (c) It brings happiness to people every day
 - (d) It is an easy job
8. Which word best describes Ramu?
- (a) Hardworking and dutiful
 - (b) Lazy
 - (c) Forgetful
 - (d) Careless
9. Choose the word closest in meaning to “eagerly” as used in paragraph 2.
- (a) Angrily
 - (b) Sadly
 - (c) Slowly
 - (d) With great interest
10. Choose the word closest in meaning to “remote” as used in paragraph 3.
- (a) Nearby
 - (b) Far away
 - (c) Crowded
 - (d) Rich

Passage 5: Why Trees Matter

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Trees are our best friends. During the day, they take in carbon dioxide from the air and give out oxygen, the gas that we need to breathe. Because of this, forests are often called the lungs of the Earth. One large tree can provide enough oxygen for a few people.

Trees give us many useful things. We get fruits, wood, paper, rubber, medicines and gum from them. Their roots hold the soil firmly, which stops the soil from being washed away during heavy rain. Trees also keep the surroundings cool, and a leafy street can be several degrees cooler than a street without trees.

Sadly, forests are being cut down to build houses, roads and factories. This causes floods, soil erosion and loss of homes for animals. To protect trees, we can plant a sapling on our birthdays, avoid wasting paper and water the plants regularly. Remember, if we take care of trees, trees will take care of us.

Questions

1. Which gas do trees give out?
 - (a) Carbon dioxide
 - (b) Oxygen
 - (c) Smoke
 - (d) Nitrogen
2. Why are forests called the lungs of the Earth?
 - (a) They look like lungs
 - (b) They are shaped like the Earth
 - (c) They make the air smoky
 - (d) They take in carbon dioxide and give out oxygen
3. What do the roots of trees do?
 - (a) Hold the soil firmly
 - (b) Make fruits
 - (c) Give shade
 - (d) Make paper
4. Which of these is NOT obtained from trees according to the passage?
 - (a) Rubber
 - (b) Gum
 - (c) Plastic
 - (d) Medicines
5. Why is a leafy street cooler?
 - (a) It gets less sunlight because of buildings
 - (b) It has more shops
 - (c) It has more roads
 - (d) Trees keep the surroundings cool
6. What are the effects of cutting down forests?
 - (a) More rain and fewer floods
 - (b) Floods, soil erosion and loss of animal homes
 - (c) Cleaner air
 - (d) More fruits

7. What does the passage suggest we do on our birthdays?
- (a) Cut a cake
 - (b) Distribute paper
 - (c) Plant a sapling
 - (d) Water the roads
8. What is the main message of the passage?
- (a) Trees are useful, so we must protect them
 - (b) Roads are more important than trees
 - (c) Only forests need trees
 - (d) Paper should not be used
9. Choose the word closest in meaning to “sapling” as used in paragraph 3.
- (a) A dry log
 - (b) A big forest
 - (c) A young tree
 - (d) A seed
10. Choose the word closest in meaning to “firmly” as used in paragraph 2.
- (a) Tightly
 - (b) Lightly
 - (c) Loosely
 - (d) Slowly

Passage 6: The Taj Mahal

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

The Taj Mahal, located in Agra on the bank of the Yamuna river, is one of the most beautiful buildings in the world. It was built by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his beloved wife, Mumtaz Mahal. It is made of shining white marble, and its main dome is surrounded by four tall minarets.

The construction began around 1632 and took about twenty-two years to complete. Thousands of skilled workers, including stone cutters, painters and calligraphers, worked on the monument. The walls are decorated with delicate carvings and flowers made of coloured precious stones. Marble and other materials were carried from far away on carts pulled by bullocks and elephants.

The Taj Mahal looks different at different times of the day. It appears pinkish in the morning, milky white in the afternoon and golden under the moonlight. In 1983, it was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Millions of visitors from India and abroad come to see it every year, and it is seen as a symbol of love.

Questions

1. On the bank of which river is the Taj Mahal located?
 - (a) Ganga
 - (b) Narmada
 - (c) Godavari
 - (d) Yamuna
2. Who built the Taj Mahal?
 - (a) Akbar
 - (b) Shah Jahan
 - (c) Babur
 - (d) Aurangzeb
3. In whose memory was the Taj Mahal built?
 - (a) Noor Jahan
 - (b) Mumtaz Mahal
 - (c) Jodha Bai
 - (d) Razia Sultan
4. Of which material is the Taj Mahal mainly made?
 - (a) Red sandstone
 - (b) Bricks
 - (c) Granite
 - (d) White marble
5. How long did it take to complete the Taj Mahal?
 - (a) About twenty-two years
 - (b) About ten years
 - (c) About two years
 - (d) About fifty years
6. Which of these workers is NOT mentioned in the passage?
 - (a) Stone cutters
 - (b) Painters
 - (c) Sailors
 - (d) Calligraphers

7. When does the Taj Mahal look golden?
- (a) In the morning
 - (b) During rain
 - (c) At noon
 - (d) Under the moonlight
8. In which year was it declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site?
- (a) 1632
 - (b) 1947
 - (c) 1983
 - (d) 2000
9. Choose the word closest in meaning to “delicate” as used in paragraph 2.
- (a) Heavy
 - (b) Rough
 - (c) Fine and finely made
 - (d) Plain
10. Choose the word closest in meaning to “symbol” as used in paragraph 3.
- (a) A sign that stands for something
 - (b) Cost
 - (c) A tourist
 - (d) A wall

Passage 7: The Honest Rickshaw Puller

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Ganesh pulled a rickshaw in a busy city. Every day, he worked from dawn till dusk to earn just enough money to feed his wife and two children. One evening, a well-dressed man took his rickshaw to the railway station. In a hurry to catch his train, the man got down quickly and forgot his leather bag on the seat.

When Ganesh noticed the bag, he opened it to find the owner's address. He was shocked to see bundles of money and some important papers inside. Ganesh was very poor and could have used the money, but he did not even think of keeping it. He rushed to the station and looked for the man in the crowd, but the train had already left.

Ganesh took the bag to the nearest police station and handed it over. The next day, the owner, Mr Sharma, arrived, overjoyed to receive his bag. He thanked Ganesh warmly and offered him a reward. Ganesh politely refused and said that he had only done his duty. Moved by his honesty, Mr Sharma paid for the education of Ganesh's children.

Questions

1. What was Ganesh's work?
 - (a) He was a teacher
 - (b) He drove a taxi
 - (c) He pulled a rickshaw
 - (d) He sold vegetables
2. Why did the man forget his bag?
 - (a) He was in a hurry to catch his train
 - (b) He was angry
 - (c) He was sleepy
 - (d) He did not need it
3. What did Ganesh find inside the bag?
 - (a) Books and clothes
 - (b) Toys
 - (c) Food and water
 - (d) Money and important papers
4. Why did Ganesh open the bag?
 - (a) To take the money
 - (b) To find the owner's address
 - (c) To find some food
 - (d) To look for a key
5. Where did Ganesh finally take the bag?
 - (a) To his home
 - (b) To the nearest police station
 - (c) To the railway station master
 - (d) To a shop

6. How did Ganesh respond to the reward?
 - (a) He happily accepted it
 - (b) He got angry
 - (c) He asked for more
 - (d) He politely refused it
7. What did Mr Sharma finally do for Ganesh's family?
 - (a) Paid for the education of his children
 - (b) Gave him a new rickshaw
 - (c) Gave him a house
 - (d) Took him abroad
8. Which quality of Ganesh is shown in the story?
 - (a) Greed
 - (b) Laziness
 - (c) Honesty
 - (d) Anger
9. Choose the word closest in meaning to “overjoyed” as used in paragraph 3.
 - (a) Worried
 - (b) Puzzled
 - (c) Tired
 - (d) Extremely happy
10. Choose the word closest in meaning to “refused” as used in paragraph 3.
 - (a) Agreed
 - (b) Said no
 - (c) Forgot
 - (d) Asked

Passage 8: Penguins

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Penguins are birds, but they cannot fly. Their wings have become flat flippers that help them swim rapidly through the water. On land, they waddle awkwardly or slide on their bellies over the snow. Their black and white colouring helps to protect them from enemies while swimming.

Most penguins live in the Southern Hemisphere, and the coldest place of all, Antarctica, is home to the emperor penguin, the tallest of all penguins. To keep warm, penguins have thick layers of fat and tightly packed waterproof feathers. They also stand together in large groups, taking turns to stand on the outer edge where it is the coldest.

Emperor penguins take very special care of their eggs. The female lays one egg, and then the father balances it on his feet under a warm flap of skin for about two months, while the mother goes to sea to find food. During this time, he does not eat anything, even in freezing winter storms. When the mother returns, the pair share the work of feeding their chick.

Questions

1. What have the wings of penguins become?
 - (a) Sharp claws
 - (b) Strong legs
 - (c) Flat flippers
 - (d) Long tails
2. How do penguins move on land?
 - (a) They waddle or slide on their bellies
 - (b) They run fast
 - (c) They fly short distances
 - (d) They hop like frogs
3. What does the black and white colouring of penguins do?
 - (a) Helps them fly
 - (b) Keeps them warm
 - (c) Helps to protect them from enemies while swimming
 - (d) Attracts fish
4. Which is the tallest of all penguins?
 - (a) Emperor penguin
 - (b) King penguin
 - (c) Little penguin
 - (d) Adelie penguin
5. How do penguins keep warm?
 - (a) By wearing snow
 - (b) By living in caves
 - (c) By running around
 - (d) By thick fat, waterproof feathers and standing together
6. Who balances the egg on his feet?
 - (a) The mother
 - (b) The father
 - (c) The chick
 - (d) An elder penguin

7. What does the mother do while the father looks after the egg?
 - (a) Sleeps beside him
 - (b) Goes to sea to find food
 - (c) Builds a nest
 - (d) Teaches other penguins
8. For about how long does the father keep the egg on his feet?
 - (a) Two days
 - (b) Two weeks
 - (c) Two months
 - (d) Two years
9. Choose the meaning of “waddle” as used in paragraph 1.
 - (a) Walk with short steps, swaying from side to side
 - (b) Fly high
 - (c) Dive deep
 - (d) Sleep for a long time
10. Choose the word closest in meaning to “rapidly” as used in paragraph 1.
 - (a) Slowly
 - (b) Quietly
 - (c) Quickly
 - (d) Carefully

Passage 9: Kalpana Chawla

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Kalpana Chawla was born on 17 March 1962 in Karnal, Haryana. As a child, she loved to gaze at the sky and watch aeroplanes flying over her town. She often drew pictures of planes and asked her father many questions about them. Her parents supported her dreams, though few girls of that time studied engineering.

After finishing school, Kalpana studied aeronautical engineering at a college in Chandigarh. She then moved to the United States for higher studies and later joined NASA. In 1997, she flew aboard the space shuttle Columbia and became the first woman of Indian origin to go to space. During her first mission, she travelled over ten million kilometres and orbited the Earth 252 times.

In 2003, she went on her second space mission. Sadly, the shuttle broke apart while returning to Earth on 1 February 2003, and all seven astronauts on board were lost. Kalpana's courage continues to inspire young people, especially girls, to follow their dreams. Many institutions, a satellite and a scholarship have been named in her honour.

Questions

1. Where was Kalpana Chawla born?
 - (a) Chandigarh
 - (b) Shimla
 - (c) Delhi
 - (d) Karnal
2. What did Kalpana love to do as a child?
 - (a) Sing songs
 - (b) Gaze at the sky and watch aeroplanes
 - (c) Play cricket
 - (d) Collect stamps
3. What did she study in Chandigarh?
 - (a) Law
 - (b) Medicine
 - (c) Aeronautical engineering
 - (d) Music
4. Which organisation did she join in the United States?
 - (a) NASA
 - (b) ISRO
 - (c) UNESCO
 - (d) WHO
5. What was her achievement in 1997?
 - (a) She built a spaceship
 - (b) She won a Nobel Prize
 - (c) She became the first woman of Indian origin to go to space
 - (d) She landed on the Moon

6. How many times did she orbit the Earth during her first mission?
 - (a) 252 times
 - (b) 100 times
 - (c) 500 times
 - (d) 12 times
7. What happened in 2003?
 - (a) She retired
 - (b) She started a school
 - (c) She reached Mars
 - (d) The space shuttle broke apart on its return
8. What does her life inspire young people to do?
 - (a) Avoid risks
 - (b) Follow their dreams
 - (c) Stay at home
 - (d) Become pilots only
9. Choose the word closest in meaning to “gaze” as used in paragraph 1.
 - (a) Shout
 - (b) Look steadily
 - (c) Ignore
 - (d) Cover
10. Choose the meaning of “in her honour” as used in paragraph 3.
 - (a) To make fun of her
 - (b) To punish her
 - (c) To forget her
 - (d) To show respect for her

Passage 10: The Monsoon

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

In India, the arrival of the monsoon is eagerly awaited by everyone. The word “monsoon” comes from an Arabic word meaning “season”. During the summer months, the land becomes very hot, and moist winds blow in from the sea towards the land. These winds carry water vapour and bring heavy rain. The southwest monsoon usually reaches Kerala in the first week of June.

The monsoon is important for our farmers. Crops such as rice, sugarcane and cotton depend on the rains, and a good monsoon means a good harvest. Rivers and ponds fill up with water, and the parched earth turns green. Rain also refills the wells and dams, which provide drinking water and electricity.

However, too much rain can cause floods, damage crops and disrupt life in towns and cities. Children enjoy the season, sailing paper boats in the puddles, but they should be careful about falling sick. It is wise to drink boiled water, avoid roadside food and keep the surroundings free from stagnant water, where mosquitoes multiply.

Questions

1. What does the word “monsoon” mean?
 - (a) Season
 - (b) Rain
 - (c) Wind
 - (d) Cloud
2. From where do the moist winds blow during the summer months?
 - (a) From the mountains to the sea
 - (b) From the desert to the sea
 - (c) From the sea towards the land
 - (d) From the north to the south
3. Where does the southwest monsoon usually reach first?
 - (a) Rajasthan
 - (b) Punjab
 - (c) Assam
 - (d) Kerala
4. Which of these crops depends on the monsoon rains?
 - (a) Wheat only
 - (b) Rice, sugarcane and cotton
 - (c) Apples only
 - (d) Tea only
5. What does a good monsoon mean for farmers?
 - (a) Floods in fields
 - (b) Less work
 - (c) A good harvest
 - (d) No crops
6. What do dams provide, according to the passage?
 - (a) Drinking water and electricity
 - (b) Only fish
 - (c) Only farmland
 - (d) Tourists

7. What is one problem caused by too much rain?
 - (a) Drought
 - (b) Cold winds
 - (c) Floods
 - (d) Snowfall
8. Which precaution should we take during the monsoon?
 - (a) Drink boiled water
 - (b) Eat roadside food
 - (c) Drink unboiled water
 - (d) Store water in open pots
9. Choose the word closest in meaning to “parched” as used in paragraph 2.
 - (a) Soft
 - (b) Wet
 - (c) Cold
 - (d) Very dry
10. Choose the word closest in meaning to “disrupt” as used in paragraph 3.
 - (a) Help
 - (b) Disturb
 - (c) Improve
 - (d) Decorate

Passage 11: Healthy Eating

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

What we eat has a great effect on our health. A balanced diet contains all the food groups in the right amount: carbohydrates for energy, proteins for growth, fats in small amounts, vitamins and minerals to fight diseases, and plenty of water. If we eat only one kind of food, our body cannot get everything it needs.

Fruits and vegetables should be an important part of every meal. Green leafy vegetables like spinach give us iron, and citrus fruits like oranges give us vitamin C. Milk, eggs, pulses and nuts are rich in protein. On the other hand, junk foods such as chips, burgers and fizzy drinks have too much salt, sugar and oil but very few useful nutrients.

Along with eating right, some good habits are necessary. We should wash our hands before meals, chew our food properly and eat at regular times. Skipping breakfast is a bad habit because breakfast gives us the energy to start the day. Children should also play outdoors every day, because exercise keeps the body strong and the mind alert.

Questions

1. What is a balanced diet?
 - (a) A diet with only fruits
 - (b) A diet with all food groups in the right amount
 - (c) A diet of only proteins
 - (d) A diet without water
2. Which nutrient gives us energy?
 - (a) Vitamins
 - (b) Minerals
 - (c) Water
 - (d) Carbohydrates
3. What are proteins needed for?
 - (a) Growth
 - (b) Sleep
 - (c) Taste
 - (d) Colour
4. Which food gives us iron?
 - (a) Oranges
 - (b) Burgers
 - (c) Spinach
 - (d) Chips
5. Which food gives us vitamin C?
 - (a) Milk
 - (b) Eggs
 - (c) Nuts
 - (d) Oranges

6. Which of these are rich in protein?
 - (a) Chips and burgers
 - (b) Milk, eggs, pulses and nuts
 - (c) Fizzy drinks
 - (d) Sugar and salt
7. Why are junk foods harmful?
 - (a) They are too expensive
 - (b) They are too hot
 - (c) They contain too much salt, sugar and oil but few nutrients
 - (d) They are too healthy
8. Why should we not skip breakfast?
 - (a) It gives us the energy to start the day
 - (b) It saves time
 - (c) It is very tasty
 - (d) It is free
9. Choose the word closest in meaning to “nutrients” as used in paragraph 2.
 - (a) Cooking tools
 - (b) Kinds of medicine
 - (c) Substances that nourish the body
 - (d) Types of spices
10. Choose the word closest in meaning to “alert” as used in paragraph 3.
 - (a) Wide awake and attentive
 - (b) Sleepy
 - (c) Tired
 - (d) Silent

Passage 12: The Value of Time

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Time is more valuable than money. If we lose money, we can earn it again, but time that has passed never returns. A wise person, therefore, uses every hour carefully. The old saying “Time and tide wait for none” reminds us that time keeps moving whether or not we are ready.

Students who value time do well in life. They make a daily timetable for study, play and rest. They complete their homework on time and revise their lessons regularly instead of leaving everything for the last night before the examination. Such children also find time for hobbies like painting or reading, since they do not waste hours doing nothing.

On the other hand, some children delay their work and say, “I will do it tomorrow.” This habit is called procrastination, and it leads to stress and poor results. To avoid it, we can divide big tasks into small parts and finish one part at a time. Remember, a minute lost can never be found again.

Questions

1. According to the passage, what is more valuable than money?
 - (a) Books
 - (b) Food
 - (c) Friends
 - (d) Time
2. Why can time not be compared with money?
 - (a) Time is free
 - (b) Lost money can be earned again, but lost time never returns
 - (c) Money is heavy
 - (d) Time is unlimited
3. What does the saying “Time and tide wait for none” mean?
 - (a) Tides are slow
 - (b) Time keeps moving whether or not we are ready
 - (c) Tide is stronger than time
 - (d) Time can be stopped
4. What do students who value time make?
 - (a) Excuses
 - (b) Noise
 - (c) Costly gifts
 - (d) A daily timetable
5. When should students revise their lessons?
 - (a) Regularly
 - (b) Only on the last night
 - (c) Never
 - (d) Only after the examination
6. Why do such students find time for hobbies?
 - (a) They study less
 - (b) They have no homework
 - (c) They do not waste hours doing nothing
 - (d) They avoid school

7. What is “procrastination”?
- (a) Working very fast
 - (b) Planning a timetable
 - (c) Helping others
 - (d) Delaying work for later
8. How can we avoid procrastination?
- (a) By sleeping more
 - (b) By dividing big tasks into small parts
 - (c) By doing all work at the end
 - (d) By avoiding difficult work
9. Choose the word closest in meaning to “valuable” as used in paragraph 1.
- (a) Cheap
 - (b) Useless
 - (c) Precious
 - (d) Ordinary
10. Choose the word closest in meaning to “delay” as used in paragraph 3.
- (a) Put off
 - (b) Finish
 - (c) Hurry
 - (d) Start

Passage 13: The River Ganga

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

The Ganga is the longest river in India and is considered sacred by millions of people. It begins as a small stream called the Bhagirathi from the Gangotri glacier in the Himalayas. After it is joined by the Alaknanda river at Devprayag, it is known as the Ganga. From there it flows down through Haridwar into the plains.

For about 2,500 kilometres, the Ganga flows across several states, including Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal, before joining the Bay of Bengal. Its fertile plains are among the most densely populated regions in the world, and its water is used to irrigate crops, generate electricity and quench the thirst of millions. Cities such as Haridwar, Prayagraj and Varanasi lie on its banks.

Unfortunately, the river has become polluted due to factory waste, sewage and the dumping of garbage. To clean it, the government launched a programme called Namami Gange. Everyone can contribute by not throwing plastic, flowers or waste into the river. A clean Ganga means a healthier life for the people who depend on it.

Questions

1. Which is the longest river in India?
 - (a) Yamuna
 - (b) Godavari
 - (c) Ganga
 - (d) Brahmaputra
2. By what name does the Ganga begin as a small stream?
 - (a) Bhagirathi
 - (b) Alaknanda
 - (c) Yamuna
 - (d) Saraswati
3. From which glacier does the Ganga begin?
 - (a) Siachen
 - (b) Pindari
 - (c) Zemu
 - (d) Gangotri
4. At which place is the Bhagirathi joined by the Alaknanda?
 - (a) Haridwar
 - (b) Devprayag
 - (c) Varanasi
 - (d) Prayagraj
5. Into which water body does the Ganga finally flow?
 - (a) Arabian Sea
 - (b) Bay of Bengal
 - (c) Indian Ocean
 - (d) Lake Chilika

6. For which of these purposes is the Ganga's water NOT mentioned as used?
- (a) Irrigation
 - (b) Generating electricity
 - (c) Quenching thirst
 - (d) Making plastic
7. What has caused pollution of the Ganga?
- (a) Factory waste, sewage and garbage
 - (b) Too many fish
 - (c) Heavy rain
 - (d) Floating boats
8. What can everyone do to help clean the Ganga?
- (a) Throw flowers into it
 - (b) Build more factories
 - (c) Not throw plastic, flowers or waste into it
 - (d) Collect water in bottles
9. Choose the word closest in meaning to “fertile” as used in paragraph 2.
- (a) Cold
 - (b) Dry
 - (c) Rocky
 - (d) Rich and productive
10. Choose the meaning of “irrigate” as used in paragraph 2.
- (a) To harvest
 - (b) To supply water to crops
 - (c) To plough
 - (d) To sell

Passage 14: Learning to Swim

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Ishaan was ten years old, but he had never been in a swimming pool. Whenever his friends jumped into the water during a school picnic, he stood at the edge and pretended that he was busy tying his shoelaces. The truth was that Ishaan was terrified of deep water. Once, when he was small, he had slipped into a pond and had to be rescued.

One day, his uncle, who was a swimming coach, noticed his fear and gently offered to teach him. On the first day, Ishaan only stood in the shallow end and splashed water on his face. Slowly, he learnt to blow bubbles, float on his back and kick his legs. His uncle kept encouraging him and never laughed at his mistakes.

After a month, Ishaan swam a full length of the pool without stopping. He could not believe it! His friends cheered loudly and hugged him. Ishaan realised that fear becomes smaller when we face it bravely, one small step at a time. He now wants to join the school swimming team.

Questions

1. How old was Ishaan?
 - (a) Eight
 - (b) Ten
 - (c) Twelve
 - (d) Fourteen
2. Why did Ishaan pretend to tie his shoelaces?
 - (a) He was terrified of deep water
 - (b) He wanted to leave early
 - (c) His shoes were loose
 - (d) He did not like his friends
3. What had happened to Ishaan when he was small?
 - (a) He fell off a bicycle
 - (b) He lost his way in a forest
 - (c) He slipped into a pond and had to be rescued
 - (d) He was bitten by a dog
4. Who offered to teach Ishaan to swim?
 - (a) His uncle, a swimming coach
 - (b) His father
 - (c) His teacher
 - (d) His elder brother
5. What did Ishaan do on the first day?
 - (a) Swam the full pool
 - (b) Dived from the board
 - (c) Watched from the side
 - (d) Stood in the shallow end and splashed water on his face
6. How did his uncle behave with him?
 - (a) He scolded him
 - (b) He encouraged him and never laughed at his mistakes
 - (c) He ignored him
 - (d) He teased him gently

7. What did Ishaan achieve after a month?
- (a) He won a race
 - (b) He swam a full length of the pool without stopping
 - (c) He taught his friends
 - (d) He joined the school team
8. What lesson does the story teach us?
- (a) Swimming is difficult
 - (b) Uncles are always helpful
 - (c) Avoid deep water
 - (d) Fear becomes smaller when we face it bravely
9. Choose the word closest in meaning to “terrified” as used in paragraph 1.
- (a) Very frightened
 - (b) Very tired
 - (c) Curious
 - (d) Pleased
10. Choose the word closest in meaning to “encouraging” as used in paragraph 2.
- (a) Scolding
 - (b) Stopping
 - (c) Giving support and confidence
 - (d) Teasing

Passage 15: Say No to Plastic

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Plastic is cheap, light and strong, so we use it everywhere: in bags, bottles, toys and packaging. But the same qualities that make plastic useful also make it dangerous for the environment. Plastic does not rot like leaves or fruit peels. A plastic bottle thrown on the ground can remain there for hundreds of years.

Every year, millions of tonnes of plastic waste end up in rivers and oceans. Sea turtles mistake plastic bags for jellyfish and eat them, while birds and fish get trapped in plastic nets and rings. Cows on the streets sometimes swallow plastic bags along with food waste and fall ill. Plastic also blocks drains and causes water to collect on roads during the rains.

The best way to fight plastic pollution is to follow the three Rs: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. We can carry cloth bags to the market, use steel water bottles and say no to single-use plastic items like straws and cups. Sorting waste at home and giving plastic for recycling also help. Small steps by each of us can make a big difference.

Questions

1. Why is plastic used everywhere?
 - (a) It is made of leaves
 - (b) It is heavy and rare
 - (c) It rots quickly
 - (d) It is cheap, light and strong
2. Why is plastic dangerous for the environment?
 - (a) It rots very fast
 - (b) It does not rot like leaves or fruit peels
 - (c) It is very costly
 - (d) It is very light in colour
3. For how long can a plastic bottle remain on the ground?
 - (a) A few days
 - (b) A few months
 - (c) Hundreds of years
 - (d) One year
4. What do sea turtles mistake plastic bags for?
 - (a) Jellyfish
 - (b) Seaweed
 - (c) Crabs
 - (d) Small fish
5. What happens when cows swallow plastic bags?
 - (a) They grow stronger
 - (b) They give more milk
 - (c) They fall ill
 - (d) Nothing happens

6. What problem does plastic cause in cities during the rains?
 - (a) It blocks drains and causes water to collect on roads
 - (b) It burns easily
 - (c) It makes roads dry
 - (d) It attracts birds
7. What are the three Rs?
 - (a) Repair, Return, Remove
 - (b) Read, Write, Recite
 - (c) Run, Rest, Relax
 - (d) Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
8. Which of these is a good habit to reduce plastic use?
 - (a) Using plastic straws
 - (b) Carrying cloth bags to the market
 - (c) Buying packaged water daily
 - (d) Throwing waste in drains
9. Choose the word closest in meaning to “trapped” as used in paragraph 2.
 - (a) Freed
 - (b) Caught and unable to escape
 - (c) Helped
 - (d) Hidden
10. Choose the word closest in meaning to “recycle” as used in paragraph 3.
 - (a) To bury
 - (b) To throw away
 - (c) To burn
 - (d) To use waste to make new things

ANSWER KEY

CBSE Class 6 – English

Passage 1: The Tiger

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	(c) Tiger	6	(d) Hunting and loss of forests
2	(a) They help it hide in tall grass	7	(b) 1973
3	(d) At night	8	(c) Jim Corbett National Park
4	(b) They love water	9	(d) An animal hunted for food
5	(b) Swim across rivers	10	(b) Made smaller

Passage 2: Rabindranath Tagore

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	(c) Kolkata	6	(b) India and Bangladesh
2	(a) Nature and stories	7	(b) In the open air among trees and birds
3	(b) Eight	8	(d) Santiniketan
4	(a) Gitanjali	9	(a) Created or wrote
5	(d) Nobel Prize in Literature	10	(c) Very firm and rigid

Passage 3: The Moon

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	(d) A natural satellite	6	(a) The Moon has weaker gravity
2	(b) Orbit	7	(d) Neil Armstrong
3	(c) It reflects the light of the Sun	8	(b) It landed near the Moon's south pole
4	(a) We see different parts of its sunlit side	9	(b) Throws back
5	(c) Large holes on the Moon's surface	10	(d) An object that moves around a planet

Passage 4: The Postman

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	(c) Seven o'clock	6	(a) Official papers, money orders and parcels
2	(c) Sort the letters and parcels	7	(c) It brings happiness to people every day
3	(d) By bicycle	8	(a) Hardworking and dutiful
4	(b) For letters from her son	9	(d) With great interest
5	(c) Many villagers cannot read	10	(b) Far away

Passage 5: Why Trees Matter

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	(b) Oxygen	6	(b) Floods, soil erosion and loss of animal homes
2	(d) They take in carbon dioxide and give out oxygen	7	(c) Plant a sapling
3	(a) Hold the soil firmly	8	(a) Trees are useful, so we must protect them
4	(c) Plastic	9	(c) A young tree
5	(d) Trees keep the surroundings cool	10	(a) Tightly

Passage 6: The Taj Mahal

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	(d) Yamuna	6	(c) Sailors
2	(b) Shah Jahan	7	(d) Under the moonlight
3	(b) Mumtaz Mahal	8	(c) 1983
4	(d) White marble	9	(c) Fine and finely made
5	(a) About twenty-two years	10	(a) A sign that stands for something

Passage 7: The Honest Rickshaw Puller

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	(c) He pulled a rickshaw	6	(d) He politely refused it
2	(a) He was in a hurry to catch his train	7	(a) Paid for the education of his children
3	(d) Money and important papers	8	(c) Honesty
4	(b) To find the owner's address	9	(d) Extremely happy
5	(b) To the nearest police station	10	(b) Said no

Passage 8: Penguins

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	(c) Flat flippers	6	(b) The father
2	(a) They waddle or slide on their bellies	7	(b) Goes to sea to find food
3	(c) Helps to protect them from enemies while swimming	8	(c) Two months
4	(a) Emperor penguin	9	(a) Walk with short steps, swaying from side to side
5	(d) By thick fat, waterproof feathers and standing together	10	(c) Quickly

Passage 9: Kalpana Chawla

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	(d) Karnal	6	(a) 252 times
2	(b) Gaze at the sky and watch aeroplanes	7	(d) The space shuttle broke apart on its return
3	(c) Aeronautical engineering	8	(b) Follow their dreams
4	(a) NASA	9	(b) Look steadily
5	(c) She became the first woman of Indian origin to go to space	10	(d) To show respect for her

Passage 10: The Monsoon

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	(a) Season	6	(a) Drinking water and electricity
2	(c) From the sea towards the land	7	(c) Floods
3	(d) Kerala	8	(a) Drink boiled water
4	(b) Rice, sugarcane and cotton	9	(d) Very dry
5	(c) A good harvest	10	(b) Disturb

Passage 11: Healthy Eating

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	(b) A diet with all food groups in the right amount	6	(b) Milk, eggs, pulses and nuts

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
2	(d) Carbohydrates	7	(c) They contain too much salt, sugar and oil but few nutrients
3	(a) Growth	8	(a) It gives us the energy to start the day
4	(c) Spinach	9	(c) Substances that nourish the body
5	(d) Oranges	10	(a) Wide awake and attentive

Passage 12: The Value of Time

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	(d) Time	6	(c) They do not waste hours doing nothing
2	(b) Lost money can be earned again, but lost time never returns	7	(d) Delaying work for later
3	(b) Time keeps moving whether or not we are ready	8	(b) By dividing big tasks into small parts
4	(d) A daily timetable	9	(c) Precious
5	(a) Regularly	10	(a) Put off

Passage 13: The River Ganga

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	(c) Ganga	6	(d) Making plastic
2	(a) Bhagirathi	7	(a) Factory waste, sewage and garbage
3	(d) Gangotri	8	(c) Not throw plastic, flowers or waste into it
4	(b) Devprayag	9	(d) Rich and productive
5	(b) Bay of Bengal	10	(b) To supply water to crops

Passage 14: Learning to Swim

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	(b) Ten	6	(b) He encouraged him and never laughed at his mistakes
2	(a) He was terrified of deep water	7	(b) He swam a full length of the pool without stopping
3	(c) He slipped into a pond and had to be rescued	8	(d) Fear becomes smaller when we face it bravely
4	(a) His uncle, a swimming coach	9	(a) Very frightened
5	(d) Stood in the shallow end and splashed water on his face	10	(c) Giving support and confidence

Passage 15: Say No to Plastic

Q	Answer	Q	Answer
1	(d) It is cheap, light and strong	6	(a) It blocks drains and causes water to collect on roads
2	(b) It does not rot like leaves or fruit peels	7	(d) Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
3	(c) Hundreds of years	8	(b) Carrying cloth bags to the market
4	(a) Jellyfish	9	(b) Caught and unable to escape
5	(c) They fall ill	10	(d) To use waste to make new things