

PRACTICE MATERIAL FOR SA1

ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE

CLASS IX

READING

Creative children usually possess strong creative needs, their interests are unexplainable and are naturally deeply hidden in them. These children are inquisitive in questioning, show interest in explaining things of fancy and test novel ideas that strike them. They do not accept ideas without questioning and verifying.

Creative children in most schools in India feel neglected. Many children are unable to withstand pressure from parents and teachers, to be like other children in school. Parents, in particular, want their children to fare well in studies, secure good marks and grades. In these days of competition they force them to get along with the school work and prevent these children in using their creative abilities. We often hear from the parents of gifted children that they would be happy to see their children being the normal achieving children. Even the teachers in the schools admit that their aim is to reduce variations among their children in the classroom.

Creative children look to the school and teachers for guidance and encouragement. Teachers should feel that creative children are of great value and they can become assets of the institutions. Creativity is the ability which is most valued in all societies. It appears that constant encouragement given by the schools helped these children in exhibiting their inborn abilities and skills.

The creative child's hidden talent can be identified from an early age itself. His choice of friends, hobbies, activities and dresses exhibits his/her inborn abilities. Creative and gifted children could master fundamental skills even with minimum level of training and they need help in understanding their strengths. These children believe that they are pursuing what they presume to be really worthwhile. If there is a teacher who can play the positive role of a facilitator, to kindle the creativity at an early age, wonderful results can be achieved. The school environment provides positive stimulus in exciting the creativity among these children.

The school counsellor (if any) may also help the parents to orient their attitudes towards these children. No doubt the curious questioning of these children is very inconvenient to the parent. Now-a- day's many parents do intentionally prevent these children to learn on their own. One of the dominant personality traits among the creative children is independence. Independence in doing what they believe. These children possess the skill to improvisation and are always open to new experiences. These creative children are not able to make something out of nothing. Act of creation involves a reshaping of a given material, either physically or mentally.

A non-authoritarian, preferably pervasive, stimulating, school environment is a positive input in nurturing creativity. Teachers must set challenging tasks and encourage pupils towards working for unusual solutions. Guiding children systematically to test new ideas is also very essential. Teachers should encourage the acquisition of new knowledge from diversified areas to develop constructive criticism.

In these days of scientific, technological advancement and information technology, they may definitely feel that creative pupils do have scope for creative use of their abilities. If the creative child is to maintain his/her creativity and continues to grow, he/she would need help in understanding and accepting his divergence by parents and teachers.

1. On the basis of your reading the passage, answer the questions that follow-(1x5=5)

- (a) The qualities of creative children are----- and -----.
- (b) They test novel ideas and-----.
- (c) In these days of competition, creative children are forced to pursue their studies to the detriment of-----.
- (d) Development of constructive criticism should be encouraged by -----.
- (e) Independence is a -----.

2. Find the words from the passage which mean the same as---- (1x3=3)

- (a) A useful or a valuable thing-----
- (b) Something that promotes activity, interest or enthusiasm-----
- (c) Produce or make something from whatever is available -----

2. THE LEADER

Patient and steady with all he must bear
Ready to meet every challenge with care
Easy in manner, yet solid at steel,
String in his faith, refreshingly real,
Isn't afraid to propose what is bold,
Doesn't conform to the usual mould,
Eyes that have foresight, for hindsight won't do
Never backs down when he sees what is true,
Tells it all straight and means it all too,
Going forward and knowing he's right,
Even when doubted for why he would fight

Over and over he makes his case clear,
 Reaching to touch the ones who won't hear,
 Growing in strength, he would not be unnerved,
 Ever assuring he'll stand by his word.
 Wanting the world to join his firm stand,
 Bracing for war, but praying for peace,
 Using his power so evil will cease :
 So much a leader and worthy of trust,
 Here stands a man who will do what he must.

Read the poem carefully and answer the questions that follow-(1x8=8)

1. The above poem refers to-----.
2. 'Doesn't conform to the usual mould' suggests the person being described is-----.
3. The qualities of a true leader are ----- and -----.
4. The leader would fight war bravely but -----.
5. 'Using his powers so evil will cease:' here cease means -----.
6. Find antonyms of the following words from the passage-(1x2=2)

(i) insight (lines 5-7)

(ii) conflict (lines 15 to 17)

7. Find a synonym of 'accurate' from the passage. (1)

3. **The Innocence of Father Brown — Gilbert K Chesterton**

If you meet a member of that select club, "The Twelve True Fishermen," entering the Vernon Hotel for the annual club dinner, you will observe, as he takes off his overcoat, that his evening coat is green and not black. If (supposing that you have the star-defying audacity to address such a being) you ask him why, he will probably answer that he does it to avoid being mistaken for a waiter. You will then retire crushed. But you will leave behind you a mystery as yet unsolved and a tale worth telling.

If (to pursue the same vein of improbable conjecture) you were to meet a mild, hard-working little priest, named Father Brown, and were to ask him what he thought was the most singular luck of his life, he would probably reply that upon the whole his best stroke was at the Vernon Hotel, where he had averted a crime and, perhaps, saved a soul, merely by listening to a few footsteps in a passage. He is perhaps a little proud of this wild and wonderful guess of his, and it is possible that he might refer to it. But since it is immeasurably unlikely that you will ever rise high enough in the social world to find "The Twelve True Fishermen," or that you will ever sink low enough among slums and criminals to find Father Brown, I fear you will never hear the story at all unless you hear it from me.

The Vernon Hotel at which The Twelve True Fishermen held their annual dinners was an institution such as can only exist in an oligarchical society which has almost gone mad on good manners. It was that topsy-turvy product -- an "exclusive" commercial enterprise. That is, it was a thing which paid not by attracting people, but actually by turning people away. In

the heart of a plutocracy tradesmen become cunning enough to be more fastidious than their customers. They positively create difficulties so that their wealthy and weary clients may spend money and diplomacy in overcoming them. If there were a fashionable hotel in London which no man could enter who was under six foot, society would meekly make up parties of six-foot men to dine in it. If there were an expensive restaurant which by a mere caprice of its proprietor was only open on Thursday afternoon, it would be crowded on Thursday afternoon. The Vernon Hotel stood, as if by accident, in the corner of a square in Belgravia. It was a small hotel and a very inconvenient one. But its very inconveniences were considered as walls protecting a particular class. One inconvenience, in particular, was held to be of vital importance: the fact that practically only twenty-four people could dine in the place at once. The only big dinner table was the celebrated terrace table, which stood open to the air on a sort of veranda overlooking one of the most exquisite old gardens in London. Thus it happened that even the twenty-four seats at this table could only be enjoyed in warm weather; and this making the enjoyment yet more difficult made it yet more desired. The existing owner of the hotel was a Jew named Lever; and he made nearly a million out of it, by making it difficult to get into. Of course he combined with this limitation in the scope of his enterprise the most careful polish in its performance.

The wines and cooking were really as good as any in Europe, and the demeanor of the attendants exactly mirrored the fixed mood of the English upper class. The proprietor knew all his waiters like the fingers on his hand; there were only fifteen of them all told. It was much easier to become a Member of Parliament than to become a waiter in that hotel. Each waiter was trained in terrible silence and smoothness, as if he were a gentleman's servant. And, indeed, there was generally at least one waiter to every gentleman who dined.

On the basis of reading the passage answer the questions that follow.

- 3.1 What does the word 'Select Club' stand for?
- 3.2 The proprietor knew all the waiters because-----.
- 3.3 Mention one convenience faced by the people at Veron Hotel.
- 3.4 What did Father Brown boast of?
- 3.5 Find a word in the passage which means the same as-'precisely'.

WRITING

1. You are Romit / Romita, CCA Captain of Students' council of Sacred Heart School, Jamshedpur. The school has invited Prof. G. Sagar, an eminent Mathematician from I.I.T Kanpur to deliver a lecture on Vedic Mathematics for the students of classes IX and X on the occasion of International year of Mathematics. Draft a notice supplying necessary details of the programme within 50 words.
2. You have travelled for the first time on a train and that too alone. Write an e-mail to a friend in about 120 words describing your experiences.
3. Your teacher has assigned you a project on Child Labour in FA-2. You interviewed a child of a slum near your locality and were greatly moved to see his/ her interest to study in spite of the circumstances. Write a diary entry sharing your thoughts and feelings.

4. Write a speech to be delivered in the morning assembly of your school explaining the importance of technology in education.

5. You recently visited the forests of Assam during a holiday. You were alarmed to see the bald patches of forests where once rhinos and elephants had freely moved. The forest cover is fast decreasing. Write a brief report taking ideas from the unit 'Environment' as well as your own in about 150 words.

GRAMMAR

1. Read the notes given below and complete the paragraph by choosing the correct option.

It is a fact that cleanliness (a) _____ on mosquito breeding. Mosquitoes (b) _____ if there is no water logging. While sleeping we (c) _____ and get our house sprayed with DDT. There is no need of saying that we must wear shirts with full sleeves and trousers.

- (a) i. may ensure some check
ii. has ensured some check
iii. ensure some check
iv. can ensure some check

- (b) i. can't breed
ii. don't breed
iii. may not breed
iv. will not breed

- (c) i. must use mosquito coil
ii. may use mosquito coil
iii. should use mosquito coil
iv. will use mosquito coil

2. Complete the dialogue using the correct options given below-

Shyam: What are you doing this weekend, Rahim?

Rahim: I don't have any special plans.

Shyam: How do you like the idea (a) _____?

Rahim: That's wonderful, but have (b) _____ some other friends as well?

Shyam: Yes, I have already talked to David and Karim and both are willing.

Rahim: I think we should try to make it more interesting.

Shyam: But I am not able to think of any more names. (c) _____ some names?

Rahim: I think you may include my cousins Ali, Farhan and Shahina also.

- (a) i. to be on a picnic
ii. to stand for picnicking
iii. to join a picnic
iv. of going on a picnic

- (b) i. they not invited
ii. you not invited
iii. you also invited
iv. you sent invitation

- (c) i. will you nominate

- ii. can you tell us
- iii. can you suggest
- iv. will you reveal

3. Complete the newspaper headlines by choosing the correct answer from the options given below-

1. Animals flee flooded Kaziranga

Flood waters of the Brahmaputra entered Kaziranga National Park (a) ----- scores of endangered animals to escape to safer areas.

2. Football crying for change; Federer

Wimbledon champion Roger Federer insists it is time football followed tennis' (b) ----- to avoid a repeat of the disallowed goal scandal raised in the World Cup.

- a) i. having forced
 - ii. forcing
 - iii. forced
 - iv. is forcing
- b) i. and introduced technology
 - ii and was introducing technology
 - iii. and will be introducing technology
 - iv. and the introduction of technology

4. Rearrange the words and phrases to form meaningful sentences-

- a). the spiders/ are/ not/most of/dangerous
- b). every/ spiders/found/ are/ continent/ on/ almost
- c). very/ helpful/ they/ are/eat/ they/ because/ flies/ other/ and/ insects
- d). don't/ get/ caught/ spiders/ own/ in/ their/ webs

5. The following passages have not been edited. There is an error in each of the lines against which a blank is given. Write the incorrect word and the correction in the space provided---

All of us enjoy an excitement of the cinema. (a)-----
 We don't think about how a film is created (b)-----
 While we are watching them. However, behind every (c) -----
 Success film there is a lengthy, creative process (d)-----
 Who involves a variety of different activities. (e)-----
 Usually the process begins by what is called the (f)-----
 'treatment'. This is the basic outline off the film story. (g)-----

6. In the passage given below, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and after it in your notebook against the correct blank numbers. Ensure that the word that forms your answer is underlined.

Education can taken to adults in (a)-----
 different ways .In India, example television (b)-----
 has played an important role in bringing education (c)-----
 to rural areas. Educational television programmes

that do not require the learners to be able to read
or write broadcast using satellite transmission.
The programme are about how to have better health,
how to improve farming, and how to make small
businesses work better.

(d)-----
(e)-----
(f)-----

LITERATURE

1. HOW I TAUGHT MY GRANDMOTHER TO READ

a. 'For a good cause if you are determined you can overcome any obstacle'

1. Name the speaker of the given lines.
2. What is the 'good cause' mentioned here.
3. What light does this remark throw on the character of the speaker?

b. How do we know that the grandmother was determined to read?

c. The narrator's grandmother identifies herself as the protagonist of the novel, 'Kashi Yatre'.
Justify your answer with instances from the story.

d. Describe the character of the grandmother.

e. Grandmother is literate now. She wants to carry out this message to all illiterate women of all ages. She wants an adult school to be opened in the village. She writes a letter to the Gram Pradhan stating her desire. As grandmother write a letter in about 150 words

2. A DOG NAMED DUKE

a. 'But Chuck did not make much headway.'

1. What was wrong with Chuck?
2. What does 'did not make much headway' mean?
3. How did Chuck regain his enthusiasm for life?

b. In the story 'A Dog Named Duke' who is the actual hero? Justify your answer with reference to the story.

c. Duke was an extraordinary dog. What special qualities of Duke support the above statement?

d. Why did Chuck not show much improvement in the hospital?

e. How did Chuck's life change after Duke's death?

f. Briefly give a character sketch of Chuck Hooper.

3. THE BROOK

a. "And out again I curve and flow
To join the brimming river,
For men may come and men may go,
But I go on forever"

1. Where does the brook meander 'out'?
2. Where does the brook flow from?
3. Mention the two poetic devices used in the third line.

b. How does the poet use the brook to draw a parallel with the life of a man?

c. Explain the lines, 'For men may come and men may go but I go on forever'.

4. THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

- a. Describe the theme of the poem?
- b. Bring out the symbolism in the poem.
- c. What made the narrator doubt whether he 'should come back one day'.
- d. What impact has the path trodden by the poet made on his life?
- e. Which road does the poet choose and why?

5. THE SOLITARY REAPER

- a. What drew the attention of the narrator towards the reaper?
- b. How does the narrator bring out the beauty of the song of the solitary reaper?
- c. Why did the narrator bear the song of the solitary reaper in his heart?
- d. What guesses does the poet make about the theme or the subject of the reaper's song?

6. LORD ULLIN'S DAUGHTER

- a. What was the cause of Lord Ullin's wrath?
- b. What does the boatman say to assure the lovers?
- c. Explain the dual meanings of the word 'stormy' as occurred in the poem.
- d. What does the repetition of the words such as: 'Come back! Come back!' and 'My daughter! O my daughter!' suggest?

7. VILLA FOR SALE

- a. How did Juliette's neighbourhood react to the 'for sale' sign?
- b. What sort of relationship existed between Juliette and the maid?
- c. According to Juliette, what advantages does the villa have to please a customer?
- d. According to Mrs. Al Smith how do the French differ from the Americans?
- e. As Juliette, write a diary entry of the day you find out how Gaston has tricked you in about 150 words.

THREE MEN IN A BOAT (SUPPLEMENTARY READER)

Chapter 1

1. Why did the narrator suspect that his liver was not well? What made him feel that he was an interesting medical case?
2. Why did George suggest that they could go on a boating trip? Why was Montmorency not too keen to go on the boat?

Chapter 2

1. What were the difficulties described by the narrator about camping out in the open when it was raining?
2. What was the major point of discussion while planning a trip? What was their final decision?

Chapter 3.

1. How does Uncle Podger involve the whole family in the simple task of hanging a picture?
2. What was the narrator's advice for those who load their boat with useless things?

3. What items and clothing did the men finally decide to take along with them on the trip?

Chapter 4.

1. Describe the cheese episode in the novel. Does the author's presentation of the episode in such exaggerated manner create true humour and laughter?
2. How did the people in the train and the friend's wife react to the smell of the cheese? What attempts did the narrator's friend make to get rid of the cheese?
3. Discuss the packing episode and why did the author have to open his bags? How did Montmorency help in packing?

Chapter 5.

1. Who was Biggs and who were his boys? Why did the narrator get irritated with Biggs's latest boy?
2. How and why does the author make fun of the people in charge of the railway station?
3. Describe the journey of the three friends from Waterloo to Kingston?

Chapter 6.

1. Who was Stivvings? What was strange about him?
2. What was funny about the story of the maze as recounted by Harris?
3. What examples does the narrator cite to prove his viewpoint that each person has what he doesn't want and wants that he doesn't have?

Chapter 7.

1. How did the river look on a Sunday? What did the narrator mean by 'boating costume' and how did it affect the atmosphere?
2. Why did Harris get upset with George and the bald man?
3. Jim takes pride of his appearance and taste of clothes. Describe incidents to justify the statement.

Chapter 8.

1. Describe the comic song sung by Harris. Why did the narrator say that he had done a great service to mankind by preventing Harris from singing?
2. Why did the German singer, Herr Slossenn Boschen get upset at the party? Why did the party end so quietly?

Chapter 9.

1. What is the narrator's view about the tow lines?
2. Why did the narrator think it was exciting to be towed by girls?

Chapter 10.

1. Why did the men decide to put up the canvas before supper? What were the difficulties faced by them while putting up the canvas?
 2. Give two instances to reveal Jim's love for History and old buildings.
 3. What was the method employed by the boatmen to make a cup of tea?
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