

Model Questions and Answers for English (Second Language) – Part I

(All answers have been provided by Subhajit Ghosh, a student of Class XI, Paharhati Golapmani High School. Memary, Burdwan. He secured the 8th rank in Madhyamik 2008 scoring 795/800.)

1. Read the following Unit and do the tasks that follow :
 1. His resentment against the animal began to show when others started admiring it. He suspected that they found it better looking than its owner. Two days later when I called at the house, I found his mother looking very upset. She told me how Suresh in a sudden and uncontrollable rage, had thrown a brick at the kid, breaking its skull.
 2. "I'll talk to him", I said and went out looking for him. I found him near the stream, lying flat on his belly in the soft mud, chasing tadpoles with a stick.
 3. "Why did you kill the goat?", I asked. He shrugged his shoulders.
 4. "How very cruel!", I said.
 5. He took a pen-knife from his shirt pocket and held it out to me by the blade. He pointed to his bare stomach and motioned me to thrust the blade into his belly.
 6. "You are a funny fellow", I said, taking the knife and throwing it into the stream. "Come, let's have a swim". We swam all afternoon and Suresh went home smiling.

(a) Supply the information in the following sentences: **1x3=3**

(i) His resentment against the animal began to show.

Here the animal is a _____

Ans: Kid (goat)

(ii) I found him near the stream.

Here 'I' refers to _____

Ans: narrator, Ruskin Bond himself

(iii) and held 'it' out to me.....

Here it refers to _____

Ans: pen knife which Suresh had taken out from his shirt pocket

(b) Pick out appropriate statements from the text to match the following functions.

1x3=3

(i) Asking for explanation _____

Ans: "Why did you kill the goat", I asked.

(ii) Expressing disgust _____

Ans: "How very cruel", I said.

(iii) Making a comment on a person _____

Ans: You are a funny fellow.

(c) Pick out relevant sentences from the text to justify that the following statements are true : **1x2=2**

(i) The other could, at, last, make Suresh Happy.

Ans: 'We swam all afternoon and Suresh went home smiling.'

(ii) Suresh made no verbal reply to the author's query.

Ans: He shrugged his shoulders.

(d) Fill in the following chart :

1x2=2

Cause	Effect
(i) The goat drew the admiration of others.	
(ii)	His mother was very upset.

Ans:

Cause	Effect
(i) The goat drew the admiration of others.	Suresh's resentment against the animal began to show.
(ii) In a sudden and uncontrollable rage Suresh had thrown a brick towards the kid which broke its skull.	His mother was very upset.

2. Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow :

Loveliest of Trees

Loveliest of trees, the cherry now
Is hung with bloom along the bough,
And stands about the woodland ride
Wearing white for Eastertide.

Now, of my threescore years and ten,
Twenty will not come again,
And take from seventy springs a score,
It only leaves me fifty more.

And since to look at things in bloom
Fifty springs are little room,
About the woodlands I will go
To see the cherry hung with snow.

[– Alfred Edward Housman]

(a) Underline the correct alternatives:

1x3=3

(i) The poet thinks that to enjoy the beauty of nature fifty springs are (enough/not required/not sufficient).

Ans: not sufficient.

(ii) When the poet saw 'the loveliest of trees' he was (fifty/seventy/twenty)

Ans: twenty.

(iii) The poet saw the "loveliest of trees" in (summer/winter/spring)

Ans: spring.

(b) Quote the sentences where the poet (i) speaks of his age. 1x2=2

Ans: 'Now, of my threescore years and ten, Twenty will not come again,'

(ii) makes a Biblical reference.

Ans: 'Wearing white for Eastertide.'

(c) Answer the following questions briefly:

(i) Why is the tree wearing white? 2

Ans: The tree is wearing white in order to join the celebration of holy Easter festival.

(ii) What does 'white' signify here? 2

Ans: 'White' signifies peace and purity.

(iii) What according to the poet, is the normal span of human life? 1

Ans: Seventy years

3. Read the following text and do the tasks that follow :

Asghar, my youngest son, is the most precious stone in the treasure trove of memories. He was quite handsome, well behaved and studious. One day, when he was in the fifth standard, he brought home a feeble, black kitten with two white stripes on her back.

Though I reserved my opinion, the whole household gave a red-carpet welcome to Asghar's cat. My wife named her Muezza, after prophet Mahammad's beloved cat.

To Asghar, Muezza was his dearest pet, and neither could bear each other's absence. She watched for Asghar to return from school and rolled around purring at his feet when he arrived. Asghar would take her to his room and tell her about his day. We would hear either Asghar's laugh or Muezza's mewing.

1999 was the most horrible year of my life. Asghar started experiencing pain in his knees in July, which worsened quickly before doctors could diagnose the disease. By August, he had lost his voice and ability to swallow food. However, he kept trying to smile, so that we did not lose hope.

Muezza remained with him day in and day out as he cried and sobbed in his bed. Her presence, in fact, helped him bear the agony. After a long and painful round of medical tests,

doctors declared that he had Wilson Disease, i.e. storage of too much copper in the body tissues, which is curable only at the initial stage.

We were shattered. Our son was inching towards towards his end. Muezza, however, never left Asghar except for a few minutes at a time during the heart-rending four months. She would sit silently, gazing at Asghar's face. She understood, perhaps, that her presence consoled him.

[Source: May / June-2008 SPAN]

(a) Some of the following statements are True and some are False. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false in the boxes provided. Also, write sentences in support of your answer: 2x4=8

(i) Asghar's cat Muezza got a very cold reception from the narrator's family.

Supporting sentence: _____

Ans: F

Supporting sentence: Though I reserved my opinion, the whole household gave a red-carpet welcome to Asghar's cat.

(ii) Asghar was affected by a very painful disease.

Supporting sentence: _____

Ans: T

Supporting sentence: Asghar started experiencing pain in his knees in July, which worsened quickly before doctors could diagnose the disease.

(iii) Asghar did not survive one year after he had fallen ill.

Supporting sentence: _____

Ans: T

Supporting sentence: during the heart-rending four months.

(iv) Muezza, Asghar's cat, stayed away from him during his illness.

Supporting sentence: _____

Ans: F

Supporting sentence: Muezza, however, never left Asghar except for a few minutes at a time during the heart-rending four months.

(b) Answer the following questions with information from the text. You need not write full sentences : 2x5=10

(i) How is the boy related to the narrator?

Ans: Narrator's (own) son.

(ii) In which class did Asghar read when he brought the cat?

Ans: Fifth standard [class-V]

(iii) What did Muezza do when Asghar returned home from school?

Ans: Rolled around purring at Asghar's feet.

(iv) What is 'Wilson Disease'?

Ans: A disease due to storage of too much copper in the body tissues.

(v) What did Muezza do during Asghar's illness?

Ans: She would sit silently, gazing at Asghar's face.

(c) Find information from the text and write briefly what happened to Asghar: 1x2=2

(i) In July ,1999 _____

(ii) In August ,1999 _____

Ans:

(i) Asghar started experiencing pain in his knees in July.

(ii) He lost his voice and ability to swallow food.

4. Replace the underlined word / words with appropriate word / words from the text given in question no. 3 2x4=8

(i) The boy of twelve , a child labour in the tea-stall is becoming weak day by day.

Ans: feeble

(ii) She studied very hard all the time to attain success.

Ans: day in and day out

(iii) The patient is gradually moving towards death.

Ans: inching towards

(iv) The little girl cried noisily when she could not find her parents in the fair.

Ans: sobbed

5. Do as directed: 1x5=5

(a) A renowned Tagore singer sang a song. [change the voice]

Ans: A song was sung by a renowned Tagore singer.

(b) He ran all the way to school. He was late. [Join the sentences using an -ing participle]

Ans: Being late, he ran all the way to school.

(c) As soon as she heard the news she fainted.[Begin with “No sooner …………….]

Ans: No sooner had she heard the news than she fainted.

(d) Margie asked Tommy, ‘Where did you find it?’ [change into indirect]

Ans: Margie asked Tommy where he had found that.

(e) Cricket is the most popular sport in India. [Rewrite using the comparative degree]

Ans: Cricket is more popular than any other sport in India.

6. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles and prepositions: 4

He rose _____ his feet, hesitated _____ a moment and listened. He walked straight and opened _____ window. There was _____ full moon in the sky.

Ans: to, for, the, a

7. Choose the appropriate phrasal verb from the pairs given within brackets to fill in the blanks. You may change the form where necessary. 1x3=3

(a) He came to me asking for a favour but I _____ his request.[turn away; turn down]

Ans: turned down

(b) I read the notice which had been _____ on the notice board. [put up; put off]

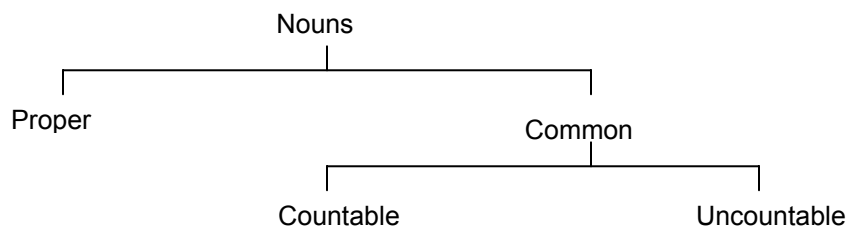
Ans: put up

(c) Plants _____ oxygen in the morning and carbon dioxide at night. [give off; give in]

Ans: give off

8.

(a) Study the following chart :



Countable nouns: (i) used with ‘a’, ‘an’ or one
(ii) can be used in the plural form.

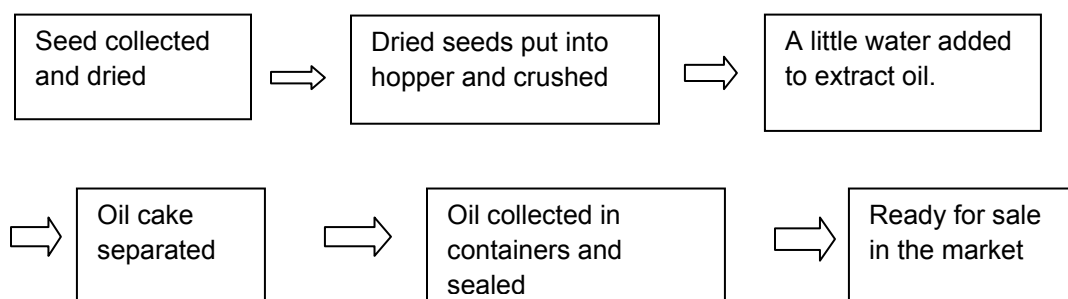
Uncountable nouns: (i) cannot be used with ‘a’ ‘an’ or one
(ii) cannot be used in the plural

(b) Now with the help of the above chart write in 60 words, a paragraph with examples and explanations on the classification of nouns. 8

Ans:

Nouns are classified in two groups – proper nouns, representing unique entities like 'India', 'Rahim' etc. and common nouns which describe a class of entities like 'country', 'man'. Common nouns are further classified into countable and uncountable nouns. These two nouns have some contrary characteristics. Unlike countable nouns (e.g. a man, an egg, one chair), uncountable nouns (e.g. 'news', 'furniture' etc.), cannot be used with 'a', 'an' or 'one', and cannot be used in the plural.

9. Use the following flow-chart to write in about 80 words , a paragraph on how mustard oil is extracted from mustard seeds. Use necessary linkers. 10



Ans:

Preparation of Mustard Oil

Mustard Oil is a very common item in the kitchen. We mainly use it for frying. Extraction of mustard oil from mustard seeds undergoes some coordinating stages. First of all mustard seeds are collected and dried in the sun. Then the dried seeds are put into a hopper and crushed. Next a little water is added to the extracted oil. After that the oil cake is separated and pure oil is collected in the containers and sealed. Thus the oil is made ready for sale in the market.

10. Develop in 100 words the following outline into a story. Give a suitable title to it. 12

A fox fell into a well ----unable to get out of it ----a goat peeped inside ---- the fox invited the goat to taste its sweet water ---- the goat jumped ---- the fox leapt upon its horns ----escaped - --- the goat remained inside.

Ans:

A Clever Fox

Once upon a time, there lived a clever fox in a forest. One day the fox fell into a well. The well was quite deep. He tried several times but failed to get out of it. Just then a goat was passing by the side of the well. Hearing the sound of water he peeped into the well and saw the fox in the water. He asked the fox what he was doing there. The fox hit upon a plan. He told him

that the water of the well was very sweet and he invited the goat to join him. The foolish goat was unable to understand the trick of the fox. So he jumped into the well. Just then the fox leapt upon its horns and come out of the well. The goat remained inside the well to taste the sweet water.

Moral: Look before you leap.

11. Fill in the blanks below with correct words from the list. One is given extra : 1x3=3

(i) The telephone _____

Ans: rings

(ii) The clock _____

Ans: ticks

(iii) The tiger _____

Ans: roars

[List: ticks, rings, barks, roars]

12. Fill in the blanks below with correct words from the list. One is given extra : 1x3=3

(i) a _____ of cows.

Ans: herd

(ii) a _____ of papers.

Ans: pile

(iii) a _____ of cards.

Ans: pack

[List: pack, herd, group, pile]