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# Sanjiv Refresher

# English

**Class - VII**

**Based on Latest NCERT Textbooks**

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## SYLLABUS

No.	SECTION	TOPIC	OBJECTIVES
1.	<b>Section A</b> <i>Reading Skills</i>	<b>Passage Reading</b> <b>Poetry Reading</b> <b>Story Reading</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To develop fluency and accuracy in reading and speaking English.</li> <li>To understand and infer the meaning and type of the given text.</li> <li>To develop ability to answer questions in an accurate and coherent manner.</li> </ul>
2.	<b>Section B</b> <i>Writing Skills</i>	<b>Message Writing</b> <b>Letter Writing</b> <b>Email Writing</b> <b>Notice Writing</b> <b>Paragraph Writing</b> <b>Short story Writing</b> <b>Dialogue Writing</b> <b>Article Writing</b> <b>Speech Writing</b> <b>Debate Writing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To understand and write the basic components and relationships between sentences.</li> <li>To learn how sentences work together to create meaningful text.</li> <li>To learn the various forms of writings for both formal and informal situations.</li> <li>Learn to self-edit and construction of writing texts.</li> </ul>
3.	<b>Section C</b> <i>Grammar</i>	<b>The Sentence</b> <b>Nouns</b> <b>The Pronouns and Possessive Adjectives</b> <b>Articles</b> <b>Verbs</b> <b>Subject Verb Agreement</b> <b>Adjectives</b> <b>Adverbs</b> <b>Prepositions</b> <b>Conjunctions</b> <b>Punctuation</b> <b>Question Tags</b> <b>Tenses</b> <b>Modals</b> <b>Voice</b> <b>Reported Speech</b> <b>Integrated Grammar</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Every student from different background will develop ability to communicate comfortably and effectively in both spoken and written Standard English.</li> <li>To be able to analyze the grammatical structure of sentences within English texts, using grammatical terminology.</li> <li>Students will self-edit their oral and written production.</li> </ul>
	<i>Word Power</i>	<b>Antonyms</b> <b>Synonyms</b> <b>One Words for Many</b> <b>Idioms and Proverbs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To learn words and their correct usage according to the meanings.</li> </ul>



## SYLLABUS

### Section - D

No.	Text Book – Honeycomb (Prose & Poem)	OBJECTIVES
1. 1A. 2. 2A. 3. 3A. 4. 4A. 5. 5A. 6. 6A. 7. 7A. 7B. 8. 8A.	<b>Three Questions</b> <b>The Squirrel (Poem)</b> <b>A Gift of Chappals</b> <b>The Rebel (Poem)</b> <b>Gopal and the Hilsa-Fish</b> <b>The Shed (Poem)</b> <b>The Ashes that made Trees Bloom</b> <b>Chivvy (Poem)</b> <b>Quality</b> <b>Trees (Poem)</b> <b>Expert Detectives</b> <b>Mystery of the Talking Fan (Poem)</b> <b>The Invention of Vita-Wonk</b> <b>Dad and the Cat and the Tree (Poem)</b> <b>Garden Snake (Poem)</b> <b>A Homage to our Brave Soldiers</b> <b>Meadow Surprises (Poem)</b>	The general objectives are : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning self-study and promoting reading for information and pleasure.</li> <li>• Speak accurately with appropriate pauses and clear words/sentences.</li> <li>• To be able to articulate individual/personal responses effectively.</li> <li>• To use language and vocabulary appropriately in different contexts of prose and poetry.</li> <li>• To be able to organise and structure thoughts.</li> </ul>
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# Section - A

## READING SKILLS

# 1

### PASSAGE READING

Reading comprehension exercise consists of a passage and questions based on it. This is to test the ability of the students to understand and infer the meaning of the given text. Additionally, the object of a comprehension exercise is to test the students' ability to answer questions in an accurate and coherent manner.

Few points to be kept in mind while attempting comprehension exercises :

- (i) Read the passage quickly to get the general idea and then read again slowly to know the details and for better understanding.
- (ii) Make an effort to rephrase the passage in your own words and think in pictures.
- (iii) Do not look at the questions before the first reading of the passage.
- (iv) Study the questions thoroughly and answer precisely.
- (v) Try to work out the probable meaning of new words.
- (vi) Finally, go over the passage, its questions and answers once more.



#### PASSAGE #1

*Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow -*

#### **The Parrot Who Wouldn't Talk**

Aunt Ruby always insisted on keeping the parrot and teaching it to talk so finally she purchased one. But the parrot took an instant dislike towards her and resisted all her blandishments.

'Kiss, kiss!' Aunt Ruby would coo putting her face close to the bars of the cage. But the parrot would back away its beady little eyes getting even smaller with anger at the idea of being kissed by Aunt. On one occasion it lunged forward and knocked off her spectacles. After that Aunt Ruby gave up all her warmth and became quite unfriendly towards the little bird, making faces at it and calling out. You're no beauty, can't talk and can't sing.

It was my routine task to feed the parrot who always enjoyed green chillies and ripe

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tomatoes from my hands. Sometimes, treated him with his best loved dessert a mango. One afternoon I managed to free the bird when everyone was sleeping.

Aunt Ruby was upset at first but gradually came over the loss.

After a few days I saw parrot sitting at veranda railing. I gave half of my mango. Just then Aunt Ruby emerged from her room and cried with surprise “Look my parrot is back” as she was about to reach for bird, with a loud squawk the parrot flew out of her reach perching on the nearest rose bush. He looked at her angrily and shrieked in aunts familiar tone :

'You're no beauty, can't talk and can't Sing.

Aunt Ruby went Ruby red and dashed indoors.

*Adapted – Ruskin Bond (The Parrot Who Wouldn't Talk).*

### Questions :

- Q. 1.** Why did Aunt Ruby become unfriendly towards her little pet bird?
- Q. 2.** How did the parrot escape from the cage?
- Q. 3.** Do you think the narrator liked the bird?
- Q. 4.** Which word in the passage means 'a flattering statement to please someone'?

### Answers :

- Ans.1** One day when Aunt Ruby was about to kiss the parrot, it knocked off her spectacles in extreme anger. After that Aunt Ruby became very unfriendly towards the parrot.
- Ans.2** The narrator purposely left the cage door opened one afternoon to let the bird escape from it.
- Ans.3** Yes, the author liked the parrot because he helped the parrot escape from the cage. He also shared his mango with the parrot.
- Ans.4** Blandishment.



## PASSAGE #2

*Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow -*

### A Glass of Milk

One day a poor boy was selling goods from door to door to pay his school fees. He was very tired and hungry so he decided to ask for a meal at the next house. However he lost his nerve. when a lovely woman opened the door. Instead of meal he just requested for a glass of water. She thought he looked hungry, so she bought him a large glass of milk. He drank it slowly and then asked “How much do I owe you?” “You don't owe me anything,” she replied “Mother has taught us never to accept pay for a kindness.”

He said, “Then I thank you from my heart.”



As Kelly left that house he was not only feeling physically stronger but his faith in God and mankind also rejuvenated.

Years later that young woman lay critically ill in a city hospital, quite confused by her rare disease. Dr. Howard Kelly was called for consultation. When he heard the name of the town she came from, a strange light filled his eyes. He immediately went to see her and recognized her at once.

He went back to his consultation room with a determination to do his best to save her life. He gave special attention to the case and eventually after a period of time she completely recovered. Dr. Kelly called for the final bill from office for his approval. He looked at it and wrote something. The bill was sent to the woman. She feared opening it, for she was sure won't be able to pay it. Finally she looked and something caught her attention. She read these words. "Paid in full with one glass of milk" signed by Dr. Howard Kelly.

*(The Tribune) Modified*

#### Questions :

- Q. 1.** What did the boy decide to ask for at the next house? Why couldn't he ask for it?
- Q. 2.** Why did Dr. Kelly immediately go to see the lady in hospital?
- Q. 3.** This story teaches us an important lesson. What is it?
- Q. 4.** What made Kelly's faith in God and mankind stronger than ever before?

#### Answers :

- Ans.1** The boy decided to ask for a meal but he could not gather the courage to ask for it.
- Ans.2** When Dr. Kelly heard the name of the town the lady had come from, he wondered if she was the same woman who had offered him milk. So he immediately went to see the lady.
- Ans.3** 'Be kind to others and they will be kind to you.'
- Ans.4** Kelly never expected that the young woman would be kind enough to serve him a glass of milk but she had an empathetic heart and God was with him to save him for starvation. This episode strengthened his faith in mankind and God.



### PASSAGE #3

#### What a great president - Abraham Lincoln

*Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow -*

In the White House, Abraham Lincoln quietly, sadly and ably guided the nation. Men complained about him, and he did not turn against them. His great heart was full of

grief, he loved peace; he was strong and determined to go on to the end. Slowly, the ordinary people of the country began to know that in the White House there was a great president and a great man.

Lincoln had one serious fault—one which often troubled the officers of the army very much. He loved people, and he could understand and forgive their weaknesses perhaps more than was best. He found it difficult, for example, to permit the army courts to have a soldier shot for running away during a battle or for falling asleep while on guard duty. He wanted to forgive them and give them a second chance, and their officers didn't like it. A mother's tears, a baby's cry, a story of misfortune these touched his heart.

**Questions :**

- Q. 1.** Give the central idea of the above passage.
- Q. 2.** Find the words from the passage which mean the same as - (i) Defect (ii) Bad luck.
- Q. 3.** Write the sentence from the above passage which shows that Lincoln was not a revengeful man.
- Q. 4.** Choose the correct answer :  
The army officers were often troubled because -  
(a) Lincoln did not love them.  
(b) Lincoln's great heart was full of grief.  
(c) Lincoln pardoned the ordinary weaknesses of the soldiers.  
(d) Lincoln was not a man of strong determination.
- Q. 5.** Why did Lincoln not allow the army courts to shoot a soldier for an ordinary fault?
- Q. 6.** What qualities of Lincoln's character does the passage describe?

**Answers :**

- Ans.1** The passage highlights the greatness of Abraham Lincoln's character. The main purpose is to make us aware of the importance of the qualities such as forgiveness, benevolence, strong determination and calmness.
- Ans.2** (i) Fault, Weaknesses (ii) Misfortune
- Ans.3** The sentence from the above passage which shows that Lincoln was not a revengeful man is "Men worked against him and he did not turn against them".
- Ans.4** (c) Lincoln pardoned the ordinary weaknesses of the soldiers.
- Ans.5** He loved people and he understood and forgave their weaknesses to give them a second chance.
- Ans.6** He was a strong and a determined man who stood against all odds. He was an understanding, forgiving and benevolent person.

## LET'S PRACTISE



## Unsolved Passage #1

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow -

## Forests

When most of us think of forests, we think of trees. True, trees are the most prominent form of life in a forest. But there's much more to a forest than the eye can see. Each forest is a growing, changing community made up of many different plants and animal that interact with each other in a variety of ways.

Associated with trees are thousands of other kinds of plants – shrubs, vines, leaves, herbs, ferns and mosses. These use tree for support, for shade and for moisture to grow. It is all the green plants that make food for the animals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and insects, in return pollinate flowers distribute seeds, aerate the soil and carry out many other functions. Even fungi, bacteria and other microscopic organisms play a vital role in the forest. They break down plant and animal material and turn it into a rich layer of soil called humus. Thus all are tied together in many way interdependent for food, living conditions and cooperation for survival.

The different kinds of plants in a forest make up layers of forest stores. The branches and leaves of the tallest trees make up the roof or the canopy. This is the food factory where photosynthesis takes place. Growing in the shadow under the canopy are the shorter trees and shrubs. These form the understorey. On the forest floor where it is darker and more humid grows the grasses, ferns wild flowers, lichens and mosses. With the fallen leaves and rotting logs, these make up the forest floor.

Each layer has its own special set of residents – birds, animals, insects that find food and shelter there. Together they weave the rich tapestry of forest life.

## Questions :

**Q. 1.** Choose the correct option -

- (a) What is the prominent form of life in a forest?  
 (i) Animals      (ii) Trees      (iii) Insects      (iv) None of these
- (b) What it is that make food for the animals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and insects?  
 (i) Green plants   (ii) Ants      (iii) Lizards      (iv) None of these
- (c) What is it that makes the roof or the canopy of a forest?  
 (i) The branches      (ii) Leaves of the tallest trees  
 (iii) The stems of the small plants   (iv) Both (i) and (ii)

**Q. 2.** What makes up layer of forest stores?

**Q. 3.** What vital role is played by fungi, bacteria and other microscopic organisms?

**Q. 4.** What functions do the animals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and insects have in a forest?

**Q. 5.** What forms 'the understory of the forest'?



## Unsolved Passage #2

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow -

### The Father of the Nation

India is now a free country. It became free on 15th August 1947. Gandhiji fought bravely like a soldier for India's freedom for many years. At last, he made his country free in 1947. He is, therefore, called 'The Father of the Nation'.

Gandhiji loved ahimsa and truth all his life. He never told a lie. At school, he always tried to speak the truth. He always tried to be at school on time. He always tried to do his lessons well.

Gandhiji tried to help Dalits all his life. He always fought for their rights. Dalits have now the same rights as others. All people are now equal in the eyes of the Government. Gandhiji was a great friend of the poor and the down trodden. He loved them as much as he loved his own flesh and blood. He always tried to help them the most. He wanted to root out all evils in the country. He wanted to set up Ram Rajya in the country. His chief mission was to 'wipe every tear from every eye'. He believed in Hindu-Muslim unity. He wanted all people to live together in peace because he knew that union is strength.

Gandhiji knew that India was a poor country. He tried to make it a great country in the world. He lived, worked and died for Mother India.

#### Questions :

#### Q. 1. Choose the correct option -

- (a) What did Gandhiji love all his life?  
 (i) Ahimsa      (ii) Truth      (iii) Lie      (iv) Both (i) and (ii)
- (b) For whose rights did Gandhiji fight all his life for?  
 (i) Dalits      (ii) Nobles      (iii) Women      (iv) None of these
- (c) How did Gandhiji treat the poor and down trodden?  
 (i) He was a great friend of them.  
 (ii) He loved them as his own flesh and blood.  
 (iii) He despised them.  
 (iv) Both (i) and (ii)

Q. 2. How did Gandhiji try to help Dalits, the poor and the down trodden?

Q. 3. What did Gandhiji want for the country? What was his mission?

Q. 4. What did Gandhiji live for and die for?

Q. 5. What were Gandhiji's views about Hindu-Muslim relationship?

