

St. Mary's School, Dwarka
Holiday Homework
Class XI
Subject-English
Week 1
Worksheet 1

1. Read the following passage carefully.

It would be more accurate to say that discourse, rather than language, plays a crucial part in structuring our experience. The whole idea of 'language' is something of a fiction: what we normally refer to as 'language' can more realistically be seen as heterogeneous collection of discourses. Each of us has access to a range of discourses, and it is these different discourses which give us access to, or enable us to perform, different 'selves'. A discourse can be conceptualised as a 'system of statements which cohere around common meanings and values'. So for example, in contemporary Britain there are discourses which can be labelled 'conservative' - that is discourses which emphasize values and meanings where the status quo is cherished: and there are discourses which can be labelled 'patriarchal' - that is, discourses which emphasise meanings and values which assume the superiority of males. Dominant discourses such as these appear 'natural': they are powerful precisely because they are able to make invisible the fact that they are just one among many different discourses.

Theorising language in this way is still new in linguistics (to the extent that many linguists would not regard analysis in terms of discourses as being part of linguistics). One of the advantages of talking about discourses rather than about language is that the concept 'discourse' acknowledges the value-laden nature of language. There is no neutral discourse: whenever we speak we have to choose between different systems of meaning and different sets of values. This process allows us to show how language is implicated in our construction of different 'selves': differently discourses position us in different ways in relation to the world.

On the basis of your reading of the above passage, answer the questions that follow: (0.5X5=2.5)

(a) Which of the following is **TRUE** in the light of the above passage?

- i. Language is inaccurate
- ii. Discourse is accurate
- iii. Language comprises discourse
- iv. Discourse comprises language

(b) What words/phrases suggest the **plurality** of discourse in the passage?

- 1. different selves
 - 2. range
 - 3. system of statements
 - 4. heterogeneous collection
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- i. 2 and 4
 - ii. 2 and 3
 - iii. 3 and 4
 - iv. 1 only

(c) Having called language “something of a fiction”, how does the author suggest its opposite?

He uses the phrase _____.

- i. conceptualised as a system
- ii. more accurate to say
- iii. range of discourses
- iv. more realistically be seen

(d) Which among the following statements is **NOT TRUE**?

- i. Conservative discourses plead for the status quo.
- ii. Patriarchal discourses privilege male values.
- iii. Dominant discourses are natural.
- iv. Dominant discourses seem natural.

(e) What does this passage **plead for**?

- i. Theorising language in a new way.
- ii. Theorising language in terms of discourses.
- iii. Studying language as discourse.
- iv. Studying discourse as language.

2. You are Nakul Purohit, the President, Cultural Forum of your school. Your school is going to organize an Inter-School Singing Competition on the fourth Saturday of May for the students of classes IX-XII. Draft a notice in about 50 words informing the students about the same and inviting them to participate in it. Include all the necessary details. (2)

3. You are an animal lover and want to educate people on the need to be kind to animals. Make an appeal to the people through a poster to be displayed in your locality. (2)

4. You are Jeevan Santhalia, Sports Instructor, Convent of Jesus and Mary, Dhanbad. The Principal of the school has asked you to place an order to buy sports goods and equipment. Write a letter to Messrs Lahore Sports, Kolkata to place the order in not more than 150 words. (3)

5. Choose the correct options to complete the following passage. (0.5X5=2.5)

On the occasion of Christmas, a roaring trade had been made by the shops. Lots of gifts and presents (a) _____ by people. In the cold and foggy afternoon, Christmas carols (b) _____ by children. There was fun and frolic in the air. But, the unfeeling heart of Mr. Scrooge (c) _____ by the warmth of the festival. No gift had been purchased by him for anyone. He (d) _____ by Fred who had come to wish him ‘Merry Christmas’. Fred (e) _____ by the cold response of Mr. Scrooge.

(a)

- i. being purchased
- ii. were purchased
- iii. having purchased
- iv. are purchased

(b)

- i. were sung
- ii. have been sung
- iii. is being sung
- iv. were being sung

(c)

- i. were touched
- ii. have been touched
- iii. was untouched
- iv. being untouched

(d)

- i. was rather irritated
- ii. has rather irritated
- iii. had rather being irritated
- iv. had rather been irritated

(e)

- i. shocked
- ii. been shocked
- iii. was shocked
- iv. being shocked

6. Use the correct form of the words given in brackets to complete the following passage. **(0.5X5=2.5)**

Primates (a) ____ (be) the order of mammals that (b) ____ (include) apes, which (c) ____ (be) the closest living relatives to humans, monkeys and some less familiar mammals. Humans and other primates (d) ____ (share) a common evolutionary descent. For this reason, primates (e) ____ (has) always fascinated scientists because their physical features, social organization, behavioural patterns, and fossil remains (f) ____ (provide) clues about our earliest human ancestors.

7. The following questions have four sentences. Arrange them in a proper sequence to make a meaning passage. **(0.5X2=1)**

a)

- 1. 18th Asian Games will be held in the year 2018.
- 2. The motto of Asian Games is 'Ever Onward'.
- 3. The first Asian Games were held in 1951.
- 4. 17th Asian Games were held in the year 2014.

- i. 1243
- ii. 1234
- iii. 2134
- iv. 2341

b)

- 1. The language of the people here is Bengali.
- 2. Kolkata is the capital of West Bengal.
- 3. It is on the banks of the river Hooghly.
- 4. It is an important metropolitan city of India.

- i. 2341
- ii. 1432
- iii. 3124
- iv. 1234

8. Complete the following paragraph by filling in the blanks with the help of the given options. **(0.5X5=2.5)**

(a) _____ can deny that it is human nature when we read (b) _____ a happy person we smile, (c) _____ if the character (d) _____ angry, we frown.

(a)

- i. A few
- ii. The few
- iii. Few
- iv. Some

(b)

- i. off
- ii. about
- iii. from
- iv. on

(c)

- i. as
- ii. because
- iii. whereas
- iv. when

(d)

- i. is
- ii. became
- iii. are
- iv. am

9. CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Classified advertisements are advertisements placed by individuals wishing to advertise goods and services available or needed. They are generally brief and written in short phrases. The language is simple and concise, factual and formal. They express the idea clearly. They are small messages grouped under a specific heading (classification) such as automobiles, employment, real estate, in a separate section of a newspaper or magazine. These relatively inexpensive ads are usually a column wide, do not include any graphics, and are typeset by the printer or publisher of the publication.

Read the newspaper and cut and paste two sample of each of the following types of classified advertisements in your notebook: **(0.5X7=3.5)**

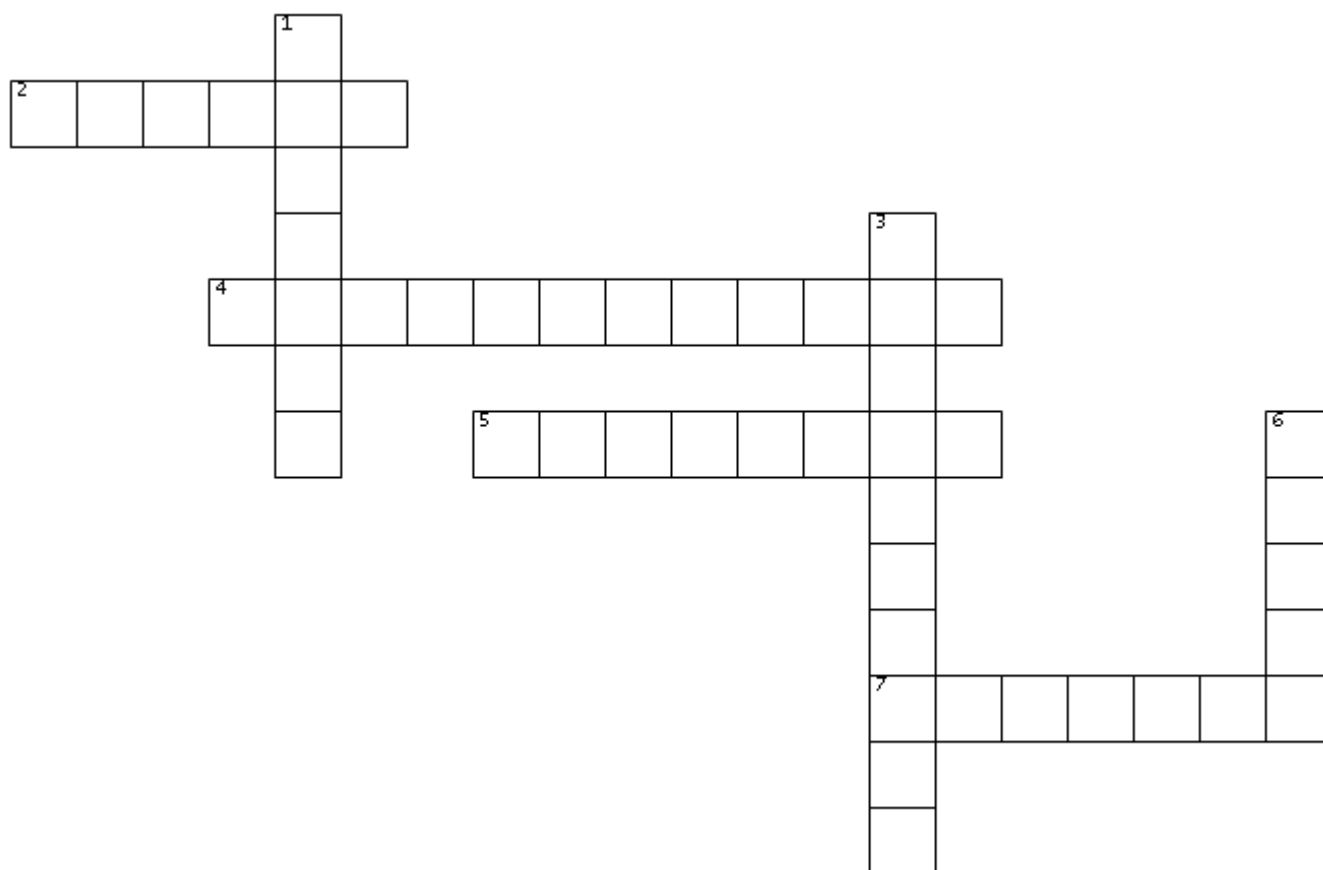
- Situation Vacant/ Wanted
- To let/ Accommodation Wanted
- Sale and Purchase (Property, Vehicle, Household Goods)
- Lost and Found
- Missing Person
- Educational
- Travel and Tours

Underline/ highlight the important details mentioned in each of the advertisement.

10. Complete the following puzzle using the hints given below.

(1/2 x 7=3.5)

The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse (Snapshots)



ACROSS

- 2. natural inclination
- 4. an Armenian tribe
- 5. a plantation of grapevines, typically producing grapes used in winemaking.
- 7. adj. (ostentatiously costly and luxurious)

DOWN

- 1. someone who wanders aimlessly
- 3. given to sudden and unaccountable changes of mood or behaviour
- 6. to force air violently through the nose with a rough harsh sound

PROJECT

Read the lesson 'Albert Einstein in School' and prepare a two-minute video speech focusing on the life and works of Einstein.