

# OSWAAL CBSE QUESTION BANK

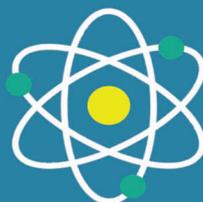
with complete solutions



Class  
**8**



# ENGLISH



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Strictly as per the NCERT Curriculum
- Chapterwise Synopsis for clarity of concepts
- Variety of questions from NCERT Textbooks
- Typology of Questions includes MCQs, VSA, SA and Long Answer types
- Include HOTS & Value Based Questions
- Answers follow the marking scheme and the prescribed word limit



 **OSWAAL**  
**QUESTION BANK**  
WITH COMPLETE SOLUTIONS

***English***

**Class**  
**8**

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# PREFACE

Year after year CBSE has been introducing changes in the curriculum of various classes. We, at Oswaal Books, closely follow every change made by the Board and endeavor to equip students with the latest study material to prepare for the Examinations.

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- Question Bank strictly as per the NCERT Curriculum
- Variety of Questions from NCERT Textbooks
- A synopsis of the important points from every chapter
- Value Based Questions as specified by CBSE Board
- Answers follow the marking scheme and the prescribed word limit

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We wish you good luck for the forthcoming academic year!!

*-Publisher*



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# Unseen Passages

Section A comprises of three unseen passages and an unseen poem. There are two types of passages : Type I with Very Short Answer Type Questions (VSAQs) out of which one will test Vocabulary. Type II with Five MCQ out of which one will test Vocabulary.

## Let Revise

### Some Important tips to solve Section A

- ❖ Read the passage carefully and try to understand the contents.
- ❖ Try to understand the meaning of every word in context to the passage.
- ❖ After reading the passage thoroughly, turn to the questions that follow. Try to find the answers.
- ❖ Check your answers before writing them.
- ❖ Answer should be in the same tense, in which the question is given.
- ❖ Answer the questions on the basis of the information given in the passage. Do not add your own views, expressions and imagination.
- ❖ Try to answer the questions in your own words but strictly to the point and as briefly as possible.
- ❖ See that every answer is clear and complete in itself.
- ❖ Revise your answers carefully to avoid any mistake.
- ❖ Most importantly time management should be followed.

## Type - I

### PASSAGE - 1

**Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :**

**5**

The culture of nuclear families is in fashion. Parents are often heard complaining about the difficulties in bringing up children these days. Too much of freedom in demand, too much independence; over night parties; excessive extravagance, splurging pocket money; no time for studies and family all this is a common cry of such families. Aren't parents, themselves, responsible for this pitiful state ? The basic need of a growing youth is the family, love, attention and bonding along with moral values. One should not forget that 'charity begins at home'.

Independence and individuality both need to be respected, in order to maintain the sanctity of family. Children, today are to be handled with tact in order to bridge the ever widening generation gap. Only the reasonable demands need to be fulfilled, as there are too many expenses to be met and too many social obligations to be taken care of by the parents. Our forefathers lived happily in joint families. Children loved to

live with their cousins, learnt to adjust within means. There was perfect harmony between the generations. There never existed the concept of old-age homes. There was deep respect for the family elders and love, care and concern for the youngsters. Even the minor family differences were solved amicably.

- (a) **Mention any two major common concerns of a nuclear family.** (1 × 5 = 5)  
 (b) **Who, according to the passage, are responsible for them ?**  
 (c) **Explain the expression 'charity begins at home'.**  
 (d) **Describe the atmosphere in joint families.**  
 (e) **Which word in the passage means 'Holiness of life' ?**

- Ans.** (a) Too much independence and no time for studies and family.  
 (b) Parents themselves.  
 (c) The parent should not forget that it is in giving that one receives.  
 (d) In joint families, children get a friendly atmosphere and they also learn to adjust within means.  
 (e) Sanctity.

### PASSAGE - 2

**Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.**

**5**

When we enter New York harbour, the first thing we see is the Statue of Liberty. What impresses us the most is its size and magnificence. Have you ever wondered how it came to be there ? The Statue of Liberty was a gift from the people of France to mark the one hundred year anniversary of American Independence. In 1869, sculptor Frederic Auguste Bartholdi began to plan his concept for the monument.

Bartholdi chose the look of classic Greek and Roman figures. He envisioned Liberty as a strong and proud figure, one who personified not only the majestic Greek goddesses of the past, but also the working men and women of the present. Finally, in 1884, the work was finished, and Liberty was packed into 214 crates and sent to New York city. Only one problem stood in the way. While the French had raised a lot of funds to build the statue, New York had not secured the funds to build its foundation. It was not until a New York newspaper implored people for donations that money became available. Finally, on 28th October 1886, Americans celebrated the unveiling of the Statue of Liberty.

- (a) **Why was the Statue of Liberty given as a gift to America by France ?** (1 × 5 = 5)  
 (b) **What is the name of the sculptor of the monument 'the Statue of Liberty' ?**  
 (c) **What did the sculptor imagine the Statue of Liberty to be ?**  
 (d) **How many years did it take to unveil the Statue of liberty ?**  
 (e) **Trace the word from the passage which means the same as "imagined".**

- Ans.** (a) The Statue of Liberty was given as a gift to America by France to mark the one hundred year anniversary of American Independence.  
 (b) Frederic Auguste Bartholdi.  
 (c) The sculptor imagined the Statue of Liberty as the majestic Greek Goddesses of the past and also as the working men and women of the present.  
 (d) It took about 2 years to unveil the Statue of Liberty.  
 (e) envisioned.

### PASSAGE - 3

**Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.**

**5**

An elderly carpenter was ready to retire. He told his employer of his plans to leave the house building business and live a more leisurely life with his family. He would miss the pay cheque, but he needed to retire. The employer was sorry to see his good worker go and asked if he could build just one more house as a personal favour. The carpenter said 'yes', but in time it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work. He resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior material. It was an unfortunate way to end his career.

When the carpenter finished his work, his employer handed over the key of the house to the carpenter—  
 "This is your house, my gift to you."

What a shock ! What a shame ! If he had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently ! Now he had to live in a poorly built house. So it is with us. We build our lives, a day

at a time, often putting less than our best into the building. Then, with a shock, we realize we have to live in the house we have built. If we could do it over, we would do it much differently. But, you cannot go back. You are the carpenter, and every day you hammer a nail, place a board, or erect a wall. Someone once said, your attitude, and the choices you make today, help build the "house" you will live in tomorrow. Therefore, build wisely!

- (a) What did the carpenter tell his employer ? (1 × 5 = 5)
- (b) What favour did his employer ask from the carpenter ?
- (c) What surprise did the employer have for the carpenter ?
- (d) Why was the surprise a 'shame' for the carpenter ?
- (e) Which word in the first paragraph means the same as 'art of skill of a workman' ?

- Ans.** (a) The carpenter told his employer of his plans to retire from his house building business and live a leisurely life with his family.
- (b) The employer asked if he could build just one more house as a favour.
- (c) The employer handed over the keys of the new house to the carpenter.
- (d) As the carpenter resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior material.
- (e) workmanship.

**PASSAGE - 4**

**Read the following passage and answer the questions/complete the statements that follow. Write your answers in your answer sheet :** 5

**THE WONDERS OF TEA**

Next to water, tea is the most commonly consumed beverage in the world. This is a good news because tea offers important health benefits. Its benefits were first discovered by the Chinese Emperor Shen Nung who declared that it gave one vigour of body, contentment of mind and determination of purpose. Today there is ample proof that tea in its many forms possesses a number of health benefits from supporting the immune system to reducing the risk of cancer, to helping prevent tooth decay.

What makes tea such a healthy drink ? The star compounds are called catechins. Those are antioxidants that help prevent cell damage by harmful molecules called free radicals.

Tea can be black, green and red and is derived from a warm-weather evergreen tree known as Camelia Sinensis. The more processing, tea leaves undergo, the darker they become. Green tea is the least processed tea. It is simply steamed quickly and offers the maximum healing powers because it isn't fermented. It also helps prevent tooth decay and aids weight loss.

- (a) The most commonly consumed beverage in the world is ..... (1 × 5 = 5)
- (b) Benefits of tea were first discovered by .....
- (c) Tea turns out to be a healthy drink due to the presence of.....
- (d) Green tea leaves offer maximum healing powers because it is .....
- (e) The word to the last para which means the same as helps is .....

- Ans.** (a) tea
- (b) the Chinese Emperor Shen Nung
- (c) catechins
- (d) not fermented
- (e) aids.

**POEM - 1**

**Read the poems given below and answer the questions/complete the statements that follow :** 5

Be the Best  
 If you can't be a pine on the top of the hill,  
 Be a scrub in the valley—but be  
 The best little scrub by the side of the rill,  
 Be a bush if you can't be a tree

If you can't be a bush be a bit of the grass,  
 And some highway happier make;  
 If you can't be a muskie then just be a bass  
 But be the liveliest bass in the lake !  
 We can't all be captains, we've got to be crew,  
 There's something for all of us here  
 There's big work to do and there's lesser to do,  
 And the task we must do is the near.  
 If you can't be a highway then just be a trait  
 If you can't be the sun, be a star,  
 It isn't by size that you win or you fail  
 Be the best of whatever you are !

- (a) What is the poet's tone in the poem ? (1 × 5 = 5)  
 (b) What should be our attitude towards our work ?  
 (c) What is the message of the poem ?  
 (d) Winning does not depend on .....  
 (e) Which word in the poem means the same as "piece of work is difficult" ?

- Ans. (a) Optimistic  
 (b) Whatever we do, we should do it whole-heartedly.  
 (c) One should try to do one's best with whatever one is.  
 (d) Size  
 (e) task.

### POEM - 2

Read the following poem carefully and answer the questions complete the statements given below : 5

Oh! Defenders of borders  
 You are great sons of my land  
 When we are all asleep  
 You still hold on to your deed.

Windy season or snowy days  
 Or scorching sun's sweltering rays  
 You are there guarding all the time awake  
 Treading the lonely expanses as Yogis.

Climbing the heights or striding the valleys  
 Defending the deserts and guarding the marshes  
 Surveillance in seas and by securing the air  
 Prime of your youth given to the nation !!

Wind chimes of my land vibrate your feat  
 We pray for you brave men !!  
 May the Lord bless you all !!

**Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam**

- (a) The poem is dedicated to..... (1 × 5 = 5)  
 (b) What do they sacrifice for the nation ?  
 (c) Which figure of speech is used in the last line of the second stanza ?

(d) What does Dr. Kalam express through the last two lines ?

(e) 'Scorching' in the poem means .....

- Ans. (a) The soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the nation.  
 (b) Their lives, their youth and everything.  
 (c) Simile.  
 (d) Dr. Kalam expresses his tribute through the last two lines.  
 (e) Burning.

**POEM - 3**

Read the poem given below and complete the sentences that follow.

5

**BALOONS**

Whenever I see  
 Gas balloons go up  
 I wonder where we'd end up  
 If we're balloons.  
 Would we go far away  
 To some unknown destiny ?  
 Or will it be carefully decided goal  
 We would work our way to ?  
 Balloons ! How much they're  
 like human beings-  
 so different from each other  
 in colours, shapes, design and sizes  
 Some live long and some don't  
 Just like us some find  
 A pair of loving hands and some don't  
 They get lost, burst or destroyed  
 Like we do  
 At times  
 They rub cheeks affectionately  
 Occasionally you can hear  
 them whisper secrets  
 As only friend will  
 And once in a while, in the chill  
 of the night, or mist of dawn  
 you may find one tear  
 flowing down  
 silently

- (a) The poem describes the similarities between.....  
 (b) Just as we are unaware about the fate of balloons, we are also.....  
 (c) Outwardly balloons are different from each other in.....  
 (d) The line used to describe the rustling sound of balloons is.....  
 (e) The word from the poem that comes closest in meaning to 'fate' is

(1 × 5 = 5)

- Ans. (a) balloons and human beings  
 (b) unaware of our destiny  
 (c) colour and size  
 (d) 'They rub cheeks affectionately'  
 (e) 'destiny'

## Type - II

### PASSAGE - 1

Read the following passage carefully :

5

For the mobility—impaired, highly trained canines called ‘service dogs’ can pick up dropped keys, open and close drawers, retrieve prepared meals, help a person in and out of bathtub, dial 911, push and pull wheelchairs, help operate a car or van and pull off gloves, shoes, socks and jackets. Other dogs provide specific assistance to those who suffer seizures (sudden attacks of illness) and require special medication. And, of course, the helping dogs provide companionship, play and give unconditional love to the people they assist.

It is thirty odd years now since the placement of the first assistance dog. But only in recent years, with the rising independent movement among disabled people has the idea begun to spread widely.

While most service–dogs are trained to work with people who rely on wheelchairs, other categories of helping dogs include hearing–dogs who alert their owners to sounds, such as doorbells, phones, cooking timers, alarm clocks, smoke alarms and seizure dogs which carry medication in their packs and are trained to dial 911 on large keypad phones.

Answer the following questions by selecting the most appropriate option :

(1 × 5 = 5)

1. The service-dogs were :

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| (a) paid highly      | (b) less in number |
| (c) multiple taskers | (d) employees      |

2. The idea of assistance dogs became popular due to the :

- (a) independent movement among the disabled  
 (b) awareness by the hospitals  
 (c) independence of the country  
 (d) both (a) and (c)

3. The categories of helping–dogs are :

- (a) domestic dogs, service dogs & seizure dogs  
 (b) service, hearing and seizure dogs  
 (c) hunting and domestic dogs  
 (d) None of the above

4. There is a difference between :

- (a) the service dogs and the helping dogs  
 (b) the serving dogs and canines  
 (c) the canines and ordinary dogs  
 (d) both (b) and (c)

5. Give the noun form of ‘trained’ :

- |              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| (a) train    | (b) trains  |
| (c) training | (d) trainee |

Ans. 1. (c) multiple taskers

2. (a) independence movement among the disabled

3. (b) service, hearing and seizure dogs

4. (c) The canines and ordinary dogs

5. (d) trainee

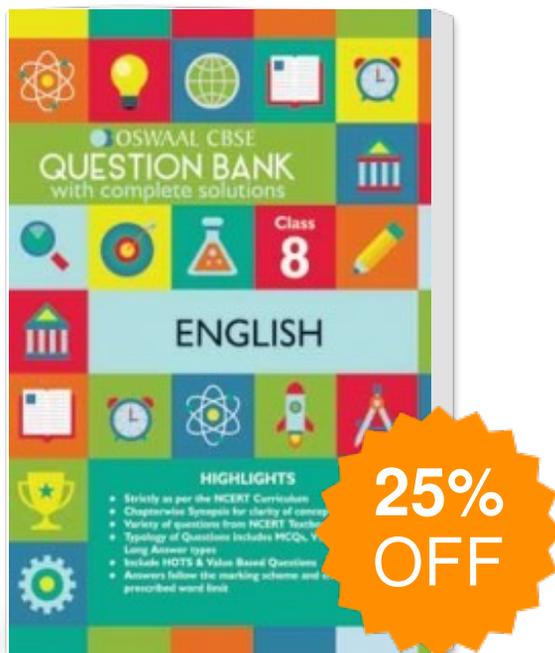
### PASSAGE - 2

Read the following passage carefully :

5

An owl is a bird. There are two basic types of owls : typical owls and barn owls. Owls live in almost every country of the world. Owls are mostly nocturnal, meaning they are awake at night. Owls are **predators**—they hunt the food that they eat. Owls hunt for mice and other small mammals, insects and even fish. Owls are well adapted for hunting. Their soft, fluffy feathers make their flight nearly silent. They have very good hearing

# Oswaal CBSE Question Banks English For Class 8



Publisher : **Oswaal Books**

ISBN : 9789386681591

Author : **Panel Of Experts**

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