

Himalaya International School

Practice Assignment-2

Class-8

Subject-English

Section-A Reading

In 1912, the British explorer Captain Robert Falcon Scott and his men were caught in a fierce blizzard while returning to their base camp. After reaching the South Pole, all of them perished. Their tent, buried under snow, was discovered the following year by Sir Earnest Shackleton Scott. Robert Scott was found holding in his dead hand an unfinished letter addressed to his author friend James Barrie. After describing the blizzard and their impending doom, Scott wrote that he and his colleagues were spending their time singing songs and making pleasant conversation. Beneath these lines, he had written in bold letters one COURAGE. When he returned to England, Shackleton handed over the letter to Sir James Berrie who read it and kept it in a box. A few years later, Sir James developed some defect in his right hand because of which he could not hold a pen with that hand. The author despaired of ever being able to write again. One day in a despondent mood, he took out Scott's letter and read it again. It lifted his spirits, and set him thinking. If Scott and his men could remain cheerful in the face of certain death, could he not learn to face adversity bravely? He picked up his pen and began practicing writing with his left hand. In a few weeks, he could write perfectly well with it.

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

- 1. When did the British explorer Captain Robert Scott and his men die?
a) 1921
b) 1912**

- c) 1192
- d) 1292

2. A blizzard is a

- a) snow storm
- b) larger version of the house lizard
- c) typhoon
- d) cyclone

3. Where were the men returning from?

- a) South Pole
- b) North Pole
- c) North America
- d) South America

4. When the men knew for sure that they were going to die, they spend their time

- a) thinking of ways to escape the blizzard
- b) feeling sad and depressed
- c) singing songs and making pleasant conversation
- d) praying to God

5. The human quality highlighted by the behaviour of these men was

- a) cowardice in the face of adversity
- b) courage in the face of adversity
- c) gloom in the face of adversity
- d) belief in God almighty in the face of adversity

6. When Sir James took out Scott's letter from the box, he was

- a) dejected
- b) joyous
- c) angry
- d) furious

7. The letter

- a) lifted his spirits
- b) reminded him to act bravely in the face of adversity
- c) motivated him to write with his left hand

d) all of the above

Section- C Grammar

Q2. Write a message cautioning students and parents not to take the garden path to the school gate because of construction work on the site.

Q3. Inform the members of the music club of your school that the club will hold its meetings every Friday in the music room.

Section C Grammar

Q4. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the given verbs.

- a) I _____ for my skating classes every day last week. (go)
- b) Please see who _____ on the door. (knock)
- c) By the time I arrived at the bus stop, the bus _____ already _____. (leave)

Q5. Insert the adverbs in the appropriate places in the sentences.

- a) We go to the library during weekends. (often)
- b) He comes out of his room when guests are there. (seldom)
- c) She misses her music class. (frequently)

Section D Literature

Q6. What is the meaning of the word 'grin'?

Q7. Name the poet of the poem 'It couldn't be done'.

Q8. What kind of people would you come across while tackling a difficult situation?

Q9. How will you prepare yourself before tackling a difficult situation?

Q10. Who started to sing while tackling the things?