

# SCO INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH OLYMPIAD

## CLASS 8 QUESTION PAPER

Official Set B

Designed from the official Class 8 English Olympiad paper and aligned with SCO's academic assessment format for guided preparation, practice, reporting, and future-ready language growth.

- middle-stage English readiness for Grade 8 learners globally
- grammar accuracy, vocabulary, idioms, clauses, reading comprehension, spoken and written expression
- compact question-number format, clear answer key, explanations, and PDF-ready layout for website publication

Grammar	Vocabulary	Reading	Writing	Expression
Modals	Clauses	Idioms	Reasoning	Olympiad Skills

Exam Name	SCO International English Olympiad
Class / Grade	Class 8
Question Paper Set	Set B
Duration	60 minutes
Type of Exam	Objective Type
Total Questions	50

**Guidelines for Candidates**

- Read each question carefully and select only one correct option.
- All questions are compulsory. There is no negative marking.
- Use the question paper for practice, review and self-improvement. Schools may adapt the paper for internal preparation sessions.
- Passage-based and context-based questions must be answered from the information given in the question block.
- For website PDF conversion, use the original Word layout without adding large side number boxes.

**Question Paper****General English and Language Reasoning**

Q1. He \_\_\_ (must/may/can) have reached home by now, considering he left an hour ago.

- A. must
- B. may
- C. can
- D. might

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** "Must have" is used to express strong probability or certainty about a past event.

**Q2.** The meeting has been scheduled \_\_\_ Monday, \_\_\_ 3 PM.

- A. in, on
- B. at, at
- C. on, at
- D. at, in

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** "On" is used for days, and "at" is used for specific times

**Q3.** Which of the following sentences correctly uses the idiom "a blessing in disguise"?

- A. Losing my job was a blessing in disguise because it led me to start my own business.
- B. He was a blessing in disguise when he found my lost keys.
- C. She gave me a blessing in disguise as a birthday gift.
- D. My teacher is a blessing in disguise because she always helps me.

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** "A blessing in disguise" means something that seems bad at first but turns out to be good.

**Q4.** Which sentence is grammatically correct?

- A. She bought a few milk from the store.
- B. I have little friends to help me.
- C. There are fewer people in the room than yesterday.
- D. Much cars were parked outside.

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** "Fewer" is used with countable nouns, while "less" is used with uncountable nouns

**Q5.** Convert the sentence into passive voice: "They will complete the project next week."

- A. The project will be completed by them next week.
- B. The project is completed by them next week.
- C. The project was completed by them next week.
- D. The project had been completed by them next week.

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** In future passive voice, we use "will be + past participle."

**Q6.** Choose the correct synonym for the word "Ephemeral."

- A. Everlasting
- B. Temporary
- C. Substantial
- D. Complicated

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** "Ephemeral" means lasting for a very short time.

**Q7.** By the time you arrive, I \_\_\_ my homework.

- A. will finish
- B. will be finishing
- C. will have finished
- D. had finished

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** "Will have finished" is used for an action that will be completed before a certain point in the future.

**Q8.** Choose the correct sentence.

- A. This is the most funniest movie I have ever watched.
- B. She is more taller than her sister.
- C. This cake is tastier than the one we had yesterday.
- D. He is the bestest player in the team.

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** "Tastier" is the correct comparative form, while "most funniest" and "bestest" are incorrect.

**Q9.** Identify the type of clause in the following sentence:

"I know where she lives."

- A. Adjective clause
- B. Noun clause
- C. Adverb clause
- D. Independent clause

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** "Where she lives" functions as a noun and is the object of the verb "know."

**Q10.** What does the idiom "bite the bullet" mean?

- A. To take a brave or difficult decision
- B. To act quickly without thinking
- C. To make an easy choice
- D. To waste time on trivial matters

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** "Bite the bullet" means to endure pain or face a difficult situation bravely.

**Q11.** You \_\_\_ have seen a ghost, as there is no such thing.

- A. must
- B. can't
- C. shouldn't
- D. wouldn't

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** "Can't have" is used for expressing strong disbelief about past events.

**Q12.** The manager had no choice but to comply \_\_\_ the board's decision.

- A. on
- B. with
- C. for
- D. to

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** "Comply with" is the correct phrase meaning to follow rules or decisions.

**Q13.** Fill in the blank:

- A) quantitative
- B) migratory
- C) sustainable
- D) predatory

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** Researchers use quantitative methods to monitor species populations, measure biodiversity and assess ecosystem health. "Sustainable" describes conservation goals, but the sentence asks about research methods.

**Q14.** Which sentence is grammatically incorrect?

- A. Neither of the answers is correct.
- B. Each of the boys are playing outside.
- C. Every student in the class is intelligent.
- D. None of the guests was late.

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** "Each" is singular, so it should be "Each of the boys is playing outside."

**Q15.** Change the sentence to indirect speech:

He said, "Where have you been all this while?"

- A. He said where had I been all this while.
- B. He asked where I had been all that while.
- C. He asked where had I been all that while.
- D. He said where I had been all this while.

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** The reporting verb changes "said" to "asked," the pronoun changes, and "this" changes to "that."

**Q16.** Which word means "a person who opposes official policy, especially that of an authoritarian state"?

- A. Dissident
- B. Delegate
- C. Dictator
- D. Devotee

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** A dissident is someone who strongly opposes the government or an authority.

**Q17.** By the time we arrived at the station, the train \_\_\_\_ (leave) already.

- A. leaves
- B. had left
- C. will leave
- D. is leaving

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** "Had left" is past perfect, which is used to show an action that happened before another past event.

**Q18.** Choose the correct sentence.

- A. This is the more difficult exam I have ever taken.
- B. This is the most difficult exam I have ever taken.
- C. This is the difficultest exam I have ever taken.
- D. This is the most difficultest exam I have ever taken.

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** "Most difficult" is the superlative form.

**Q19.** Identify the type of clause in the following sentence:

"I will wait here until you return."

- A. Noun clause
- B. Adverbial clause of time
- C. Adjective clause
- D. Conditional clause

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** "Until you return" tells when the action will happen, so it's an adverbial clause of time.

**Q20.** The phrase "to throw in the towel" means:

- A. To clean up after a fight
- B. To surrender or give up
- C. To start an argument
- D. To be careless

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** "Throw in the towel" comes from boxing, meaning to accept defeat.

**Q21.** "You \_\_\_ have seen Mr. Roberts at the conference yesterday," Sarah said. "He was in London the whole week."

- A. must
- B. can't
- C. should
- D. might

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** The phrase "He was in London" contradicts the possibility, making "can't have seen" the correct choice.

**Q22.** "When I told Rachel we lost the competition, she said, 'Well, there's no use crying over spilt milk.'"

How should this be reported in indirect speech?

- A. Rachel said there was no point in crying over spilt milk.
- B. Rachel told me that it was no use for crying on spilt milk.
- C. Rachel exclaimed that crying over spilt milk will not be useful.
- D. Rachel said that crying over spilt milk is not of any use.

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** The idiom remains unchanged, "there's no use" shifts to "there was no point," and tense agreement is maintained.

**Q23.** " \_\_\_ of the two novels do you find \_\_\_ compelling?"

- A. Which; more
- B. What; most
- C. Which; most
- D. Either; much

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** "Which" is used when choosing between two options, and "more" is used for comparative degree between two choices.

**Q24.** "I have been working on this project for six months, and now my manager wants me to start from scratch. I feel like all my efforts have gone \_\_\_ the drain."

- A. down
- B. into
- C. over
- D. through

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** "Gone down the drain" is an idiom meaning wasted efforts.

**Q25.** "The book \_\_\_ I was reading last night is much more interesting than the one you recommended."

- A. which
- B. whom
- C. where
- D. what

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** "Which" is a relative pronoun used to refer to things (books in this case).

**Q26.** "A solution to the issue \_\_\_ by the board before the deadline."

- A. must be found
- B. must found
- C. must finds
- D. must have found

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** The sentence is passive voice, requiring "must be" + past participle ("found").

**Q27.** "I wouldn't trust that guy. He has a habit of changing his story to suit his needs – he speaks with \_\_\_."

- A. a silver spoon
- B. a rolling stone
- C. a forked tongue
- D. an empty cup

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** "To speak with a forked tongue" means to lie or be deceitful.

**Q28.** "By the time the guests arrive, we \_\_\_ dinner."

- A. will prepare
- B. had prepared
- C. will have prepared
- D. are preparing

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** "By the time" indicates future perfect tense, requiring "will have" + past participle.

**Q29.** "Despite his reputation for being ruthless in business, Mr. Clarke is actually as \_\_\_ as a lamb when he's with his grandchildren."

- A. bold
- B. timid
- C. gentle
- D. strong

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** "As gentle as a lamb" is an idiom meaning extremely kind and soft-spoken.

**Q30.** "\_\_\_ who attended the seminar found it extremely informative."

- A. Those
- B. That
- C. This
- D. The one

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** "Those who" is used to refer to a group of people in a general sense.

## Reason and Assertion

**Q31.** Assertion: "In English, modal verbs used in conditional sentences always indicate uncertainty."

Reason: "Modal verbs express varying degrees of certainty, possibility, or obligation depending on the context."

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:** The assertion is false because modal verbs in conditionals do not always indicate uncertainty (they can express obligation or necessity as well). The reason is true, explaining that modal verbs have multiple functions based on context.

**Q32.** Assertion: "Prepositional phrases in English can only serve as adjectives and never function as adverbials."

Reason: "Only adverbs and adverbial clauses can modify verbs by providing information about time, place, or manner."

**Answer: E**

**Explanation:** The assertion is false because prepositional phrases can and often do function as adverbials (e.g., "in the morning," "at home"). The reason is also false because adverbial functions are not limited to adverbs or adverbial clauses.

**Q33.** Assertion: "Idioms and proverbs are interchangeable in everyday language."

Reason: "Since both idioms and proverbs convey traditional wisdom, they have identical meanings and usage."

**Answer: E**

**Explanation:** The assertion is false; idioms are fixed expressions with figurative meanings that are not necessarily logical, while proverbs are short sayings expressing general truths. The reason is also false because their meanings and contexts differ.

**Q34.** Assertion: "Determiners always precede the noun they modify in every context."

Reason: "The placement of determiners in English is fixed and cannot be altered for emphasis or stylistic reasons."

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The assertion is generally true for standard usage, but there are exceptions in stylistic or poetic contexts. The reason is false because, while determiners usually precede nouns, their placement can vary for emphasis in some expressions.

**Q35.** Assertion: Passive voice in English is commonly formed using the appropriate form of the auxiliary verb "be" with the past participle of the main verb.

Reason: In perfect passive constructions, "have" marks the perfect aspect while "been" carries the passive auxiliary function.

- A. Both Assertion and Reason are true, and Reason is the correct explanation of Assertion.
- B. Both Assertion and Reason are true, but Reason is not the correct explanation of Assertion.
- C. Assertion is true but Reason is false.

- D. Assertion is false but Reason is true.
- E. Both Assertion and Reason are false.

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** Examples such as "is written," "was completed" and "has been reviewed" show that passive voice depends on a form of "be" plus the past participle. In the perfect passive, "have" adds perfect aspect and "been" keeps the passive structure.

**Q36.** Assertion: "Word power tests measure only the breadth of one's vocabulary."

Reason: "These tests also evaluate the ability to use words appropriately in context and understand subtle nuances in meaning."

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:** The assertion is false because word power is not limited to vocabulary size; it also measures usage and context. The reason is true and clarifies that effective word power encompasses deeper linguistic skills.

**Q37.** Assertion: "English tenses are formed by a fixed, inflexible formula without any irregularities."

Reason: "Standardized patterns apply uniformly across all verbs in English."

**Answer: E**

**Explanation:** Both the assertion and the reason are false. Although there are standard patterns, English has many irregular verbs and exceptions that require special forms.

**Q38.** Assertion: "Adjectives in English always follow the regular pattern of adding '-er' and '-est' for comparatives and superlatives."

Reason: "Many adjectives form their comparative and superlative degrees irregularly."

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:** The assertion is false because many adjectives do not follow a regular pattern; they change irregularly. The reason is true, explaining the variation in adjective forms.

**Q39.** Assertion: "Every complex clause in English must begin with a subordinating conjunction."

Reason: "Relative clauses, a type of complex clause, can also be introduced by relative pronouns or omitted when referring to objects."

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:** The assertion is false because not every complex clause starts with a subordinating conjunction (relative clauses can use relative pronouns or be reduced). The reason is true and clarifies the diversity in clause introductions.

**Q40.** Assertion: Many idioms are non-compositional, meaning that their meanings cannot be fully deduced from the meanings of their individual words.

Reason: Idioms are fixed expressions whose figurative meanings are learned as complete expressions within context.

- A. Both Assertion and Reason are true, and Reason is the correct explanation of Assertion.
- B. Both Assertion and Reason are true, but Reason is not the correct explanation of Assertion.
- C. Assertion is true but Reason is false.
- D. Assertion is false but Reason is true.
- E. Both Assertion and Reason are false.

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** Idioms such as "bite the bullet" or "down the drain" carry figurative meanings that cannot be understood by translating each word literally.

## Achievers Section

**Q41.** P. finish the project in two days

Q. we should not delay any longer

R. we must work diligently

S. if we want to

T. to meet the deadline

A. QSPR

B. SRPQ

C. RSPTQ

D. QSRPT

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:** The sentence begins with "we should not delay any longer," followed by "if we want to," then "finish the project in two days," leading to "to meet the deadline." The logical sequence creates a meaningful statement.

**Q42.** Rearrange the following to form a meaningful sentence:

P. in the deep forest

Q. when the sun sets

R. the travelers lost their way

S. since there were no signs

T. and no mobile network

A. PRSQT

B. RPSQT

C. QRPST

D. SPQRT

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The sentence starts with "when the sun sets," leading to "the travelers lost their way," followed by "in the deep forest," then "since there were no signs" and "and no mobile network."

**Q43.** Rearrange the following to form a meaningful sentence:

P. is worth two in the bush

Q. a bird in the hand

R. meaning that

S. something you already have

T. is more valuable than uncertain gains

A. RSPTQ

B. QPRST

C. QSRPT

D. PQRST

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The phrase "A bird in the hand" should come first, then the explanation follows logically.

**Q44.** Rearrange the following to form a meaningful sentence:

P. there was no space

Q. in the room

- R. every corner was filled
  - S. with old furniture
  - T. making it impossible to walk
- A. PRSTQ
  - B. QRPST
  - C. RSPQT
  - D. PQRST

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:** The sentence starts with "There was no space," then "in the room," followed by "every corner was filled," "with old furniture," and finally, "making it impossible to walk."

**Q45.** Rearrange the following to form a meaningful sentence:

- P. she asked me
  - Q. if I had seen her notebook
  - R. and wanted to know
  - S. whether it was on the table
  - T. or in her bag
- A. PRQST
  - B. PQSRT
  - C. QPRST
  - D. RSPQT

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** The sentence starts with "She asked me," followed by "if I had seen her notebook," then "and wanted to know," "whether it was on the table," and finally, "or in her bag."

**Q46.** Rearrange the following to form a meaningful sentence:

- P. with great enthusiasm
  - Q. he accepted the challenge
  - R. knowing that
  - S. the task was difficult
  - T. but possible
- A. QPRST
  - B. QSRPT
  - C. QPSRT
  - D. PQSRT

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The sentence flows logically when it begins with "he accepted the challenge," followed by "with great enthusiasm," then "knowing that," "the task was difficult," and "but possible."

**Q47.** Rearrange the following to form a meaningful sentence:

- P. by the time we arrived
  - Q. the concert
  - R. had already started
  - S. and people were
  - T. enjoying the music
- A. PQSRT
  - B. PRQST
  - C. QPRST

D. PQRTS

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** The sentence begins with "By the time we arrived," then "the concert," followed by "had already started," then "and people were," and "enjoying the music."

**Q48.** Rearrange the following to form a meaningful sentence:

- P. is much higher
  - Q. than it was
  - R. last year
  - S. the cost of living
  - T. making it difficult to manage
- A. SPRQT
  - B. SQPRT
  - C. QSPRT
  - D. SRPQT

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** The sentence starts with "The cost of living," then "is much higher," followed by "than it was," "last year," and finally, "making it difficult to manage."

**Q49.** Rearrange the following to form a meaningful sentence:

- P. he managed to escape
  - Q. although he was trapped
  - R. in a locked room
  - S. by using his intelligence
  - T. and a little bit of luck
- A. PRQST
  - B. QRPST
  - C. QPRST
  - D. QSRPT

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The sentence begins with "Although he was trapped," then "in a locked room," followed by "he managed to escape," "by using his intelligence," and finally, "and a little bit of luck."

**Q50.** Rearrange the following to form a meaningful sentence:

- P. he finally succeeded
  - Q. despite facing
  - R. several obstacles
  - S. and proved that
  - T. hard work pays off
- A. PQSRT
  - B. QPRST
  - C. QSRPT
  - D. PRQST

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:** The sentence starts with "He finally succeeded," then "despite facing," followed by "several obstacles," "and proved that," and "hard work pays off."

Q.No.	Ans.	Q.No.	Ans.	Q.No.	Ans.	Q.No.	Ans.	Q.No.	Ans.
1	A	2	C	3	A	4	C	5	A
6	B	7	C	8	C	9	B	10	A
11	B	12	B	13	A	14	B	15	B
16	A	17	B	18	B	19	B	20	B
21	B	22	A	23	A	24	A	25	A
26	A	27	C	28	C	29	C	30	A
31	D	32	E	33	E	34	C	35	A
36	D	37	E	38	D	39	D	40	A
41	D	42	C	43	C	44	D	45	A
46	C	47	B	48	B	49	C	50	D