



# G. D. GOENKA PUBLIC SCHOOL, SRINAGAR

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: 9th

Subject: English Roll No: \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION-A (READING)

**Q1:** Read the poem and answer the questions that follow:

*A free bird leaps on the back of the wind  
And floats downstream till the current ends  
And dips his wing in the orange Sun's rays  
And dares to claim the sky*

*But a bird that stalks down his narrow cage  
Can seldom see through his bars of rage  
His wings are clipped and his feet are tied  
So he opens his throat to sing*

*The caged bird sings with a fearful trill  
Of things unknown but longed for still  
And his tune is heard on the distant hill for  
The caged bird sings of freedom*

a) In what does the free bird dip its wings?

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b) What has been done to the caged bird?

c) What is the rhyme scheme of the poem?

d) Give a suitable title to the poem.

**Q2:** Read the passage and answer the questions that follow:

As the rivers wither away, millions who depend on them for their livelihood are finding their way of life changing. And worse is that they find their very lives in peril.

Each of India's 13 major river basins- making up to 80 percent of total surface water and home to nearly 85 per cent of the population- is so polluted, mainly in stretches near town and industrial belts, that bacteria feeding on the waste are only things that have proliferated, their counts are anywhere between 20 times and 1,000 times over safe levels.

There are no precise figures but skin diseases and dermatologists are flourishing in towns on poisoned stretches of rivers. Contaminated river water is also blamed for the rising incidences of water borne diseases like dysentery and jaundice in small towns and villages, where household water is drawn directly from rivers without treatment. In July 1996, water supply to the town of Vidisha in Madhya Pradesh was stopped for two days after horrified residents saw thousands of dead fish floating on the Betwa, their only source of drinking water. Fish have died by millions. In the 70's there were more than 570 fishing villages along the Yamuna between Agra and Allahabad. Rare is the day that you now see a fishing boat on that stretch of the river, depleted of water and fouled. The fisherman now eke out a living driving cycle-rikshaws, toiling as daily labour or simply begging.

- a) What is changing the lifestyle of people who depend on rivers?
- b) Why there are few fishing boats between Agra and Allahabad?
- c) Give the synonyms of the words from the above passage:
  - i) Danger
  - ii) polluted
  - iii) working hard
- d) Give a suitable title to the passage?