

TestGenie
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English — Class 8

Chapter(s): Feathered Friend

Maximum Marks: 39

Time Allowed: 1 Hour 10 Minutes

Section A — MCQ & Assertion-Reason (1 mark each)

Q1. In the conversation "Feathered Friend", Toby's claim that he can see "beyond mountains and clouds, wood and even metals" is best understood as the writer's way of showing that Toby- [1 mark]

- A) exaggerates to entertain Monika, but his details stay untestable
- B) has an extraordinary kind of vision that can reveal hidden objects inside solid things
- C) has memorised Monika's habits, so he guesses correctly without seeing
- D) uses hearing rather than sight to know what Monika is carrying

Q2. Monika's response "(gasps in disbelief) Oh my goodness!" most strongly suggests that she feels- [1 mark]

- A) amused because Toby is telling a joke
- B) irritated because Toby is being rude
- C) shocked because Toby's claim is unexpectedly specific and personal
- D) uninterested because she already knows the information

Q3. Which detail from "Feathered Friend" best supports the idea that Toby and Monika's worlds operate by different rules of survival? [1 mark]

- A) Toby thanks Monika for being his friend
- B) Monika wishes she could do something about Toby missing his planet
- C) Toby says Martians do not need to eat and get energy from the Sun
- D) Monika asks Toby to tell her something more about himself

Q4. When Monika says, "I can't think of life without [ice creams and chocolates]!", Toby replies, "We are made of different stuff." This line mainly indicates- [1 mark]

- A) Toby is refusing politely because he dislikes Earth food
- B) Toby's body and needs are fundamentally different from humans'
- C) Toby is hiding the fact that Martians actually eat sweets
- D) Toby is changing the topic because he feels embarrassed

Q5. Toby says, "In fact, I can see even with my eye closed." Which interpretation best fits this claim within the context of the dialogue? [1 mark]

- A) Toby's 'seeing' is presented as a non-ordinary ability, not limited to physical sight
- B) Toby is claiming he can sleepwalk safely because his eye stays half-open
- C) Toby is describing an optical illusion caused by bright sunlight
- D) Toby is admitting he has poor eyesight and compensates by guessing

Q6. Assertion (A): In "Feathered Friend", Toby's repeated "I can see..." statements make the dialogue shift from casual chat to a sense of wonder.

Reason (R): Toby supports his claims with specific, checkable details about Monika's hidden toy and what is inside her stomach. [1 mark]

- A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C) A is true but R is false.
- D) A is false but R is true.

Q7. Assertion (A): Monika's stage direction "(gasps in disbelief)" suggests she doubts Toby's claim at first.

Reason (R): The words "in disbelief" indicate that she finds what Toby says hard to accept immediately. [1 mark]

- A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C) A is true but R is false.
- D) A is false but R is true.

Q8. Assertion (A): Toby's line "We are made of different stuff" mainly communicates a difference in taste preferences between Earthlings and Martians.

Reason (R): Toby has already stated that Martians do not need to eat and get energy from the Sun. [1 mark]

- A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C) A is true but R is false.
- D) A is false but R is true.

Q9. Assertion (A): In the dialogue, Monika acts as a stand-in for the reader by asking questions that a curious person would naturally ask.

Reason (R): Monika's questions move from daily life (breakfast) to physical difference (one eye), guiding the listener step-by-step. [1 mark]

- A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C) A is true but R is false.
- D) A is false but R is true.

Q10. Assertion (A): Toby's dialogue suggests he respects Monika's privacy because he only answers what she asks.

Reason (R): Toby voluntarily reveals private information (the toy and the apple in her stomach) without being asked for those exact details. [1 mark]

- A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C) A is true but R is false.
- D) A is false but R is true.

Section B — Very Short Answer (2 marks each)

Q11. In exactly two sentences, explain what Toby means by "We are made of different stuff" and how the earlier lines in the dialogue support this meaning. [2 marks]

Q12. Answer in exactly two sentences: What is the effect of the stage direction "(gasps in disbelief)" on how we read Monika's reaction, and why is it placed right after Toby's detailed claims? [2 marks]

Q13. In exactly two sentences, write one inference about Toby's ability from the line "I can see even with my eye closed" and one piece of dialogue evidence that supports your inference. [2 marks]

Section C — Short Answer (3 marks each)

Q14. Answer in exactly 3 numbered points with headings (total 130-160 words): Analyse how the writer builds Toby as 'extraordinary' using (a) structure of the conversation, (b) type of evidence given, and (c) Monika's reaction. [3 marks]

Q15. In "Science and Curiosity", explain in 3-4 numbered points how Claribel functions as a 'living instrument' on the space station, and evaluate why her warning succeeds when the station's engineered safety system fails. Your points must each include one specific textual detail (action/event) and one inference. [3 marks]

Q16. Connect "Feathered Friend" and "Magnifying Glass" in 3-4 numbered points: analyse how each text uses dialogue to make scientific ideas feel 'wonder-like' while still promoting inquiry. Include at least one point about (a) a stage direction or emotion cue and (b) a speaker correcting/complicating a common belief. [3 marks]

Section D — Long Answer (5 marks each)

Q17. Sven smuggles Claribel onto the space station "out of sheer scientific curiosity", but the act also creates safety and ethical questions. Write a critical response that evaluates Sven's decision from two angles: (a) scientific value and (b) responsibility to the crew. Answer in the following structure: Introduction (1 sentence) + 5 numbered

headed points (2 sentences each) + Conclusion (1 sentence). [5 marks]

Q18. The narrator realises there is "something wrong with the air" only after seeing Claribel repeatedly faint, and then connects it to miners carrying canaries. Explain how the author builds suspense and then delivers a logical revelation. Answer in this structure: Introduction (1 sentence) + 5 numbered headed points (2 sentences each) + Conclusion (1 sentence). [5 marks]

Section E — Case Study (4 marks each)
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Q19. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: [4 marks]

A student-led space-habitat club runs a simulation called "Mini-Station" in a sealed room. The team uses one CO₂ sensor (Alarm A) and plans to add a backup sensor (Alarm B) later. During a 40-minute trial, the room lights are turned off for 10 minutes to imitate an eclipse cooling effect. After that, a small air-filter fan slows down. The log below is recorded.

Time (min): 0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 35 | 40

CO₂ ppm: 600 | 700 | 900 | 1400 | 1800 | 2000

Alarm A: OFF | OFF | OFF | OFF | OFF | OFF

Alarm B: [N] / [A] | [N] / [A] | [N] / [A] | [N] / [A] | [N] / [A] | [N] / [A]

Team notes: Normal | Quiet | Mild headache (2 members) | Bird model whistle audio "glitches" | 1 member dizzy | Trial stopped; windows opened

Later, they discover Alarm A had a loose connection, and Alarm B was never installed. The club mentor asks them to connect the situation to the episode of Claribel on the space station and to propose a safer plan for the next trial.

- (i) Identify one clear warning sign in the log (other than the CO₂ numbers) that should have made the team suspect a problem with air quality, and state why it matters. (1 mark)
- (ii) Using the Claribel episode as a parallel, explain why relying only on Alarm A was risky in this simulation. (1 mark)
- (iii) Propose two specific safety improvements for the next trial—one technical and one human-procedure change—each justified in one sentence. (2 marks)

English — Class 8
Chapter(s): Feathered Friend

Section A — MCQ & Assertion-Reason (1 mark each)

A1.

Answer:

Correct option: (B)

has an extraordinary kind of vision that can reveal hidden objects inside solid things

Explanation:

Toby gives specific, verifiable details: the toy in Monika's pocket and the apple "going round-and-round" in her stomach, which suggests seeing inside and through materials. The repeated examples build the idea of an unusual, penetrating vision rather than ordinary guessing. Hence, option (B) is correct.

A2.

Answer:

Correct option: (C)

shocked because Toby's claim is unexpectedly specific and personal

Explanation:

The stage direction "gasps in disbelief" signals sudden shock, and "Oh my goodness!" reinforces surprise. Toby's statements are also personal (a toy in her pocket and food in her stomach), intensifying that reaction. Hence, option (C) is correct.

A3.

Answer:

Correct option: (C)

Toby says Martians do not need to eat and get energy from the Sun

Explanation:

The statement about not needing food and gaining energy directly from the Sun shows a fundamentally different biology and survival system. It contrasts with Monika's human dependence on food (ice creams and chocolates). Hence, option (C) is correct.

A4.

Answer:

Correct option: (B)

Toby's body and needs are fundamentally different from humans'

Explanation:

Toby has already explained that Martians get energy from the Sun and do not need to eat. "Different stuff" summarises a deep biological difference, not a preference or social excuse. Hence, option (B) is correct.

A5.

Answer:

Correct option: (A)

Toby's 'seeing' is presented as a non-ordinary ability, not limited to physical sight

Explanation:

The dialogue builds Toby's power as something beyond normal eyesight: seeing through objects and inside the body. Therefore, "eye closed" suggests his perception is not dependent on a typical open eye. Hence, option (A) is correct.

A6.

Answer:

Correct option: (A)

Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

Explanation:

The assertion is true because the dialogue moves from missing home and breakfast to extraordinary abilities. The reason is true and explains the shift: the concrete details make the 'seeing' feel real and astonishing rather than vague boasting. Hence, option (A) is correct.

A7.

Answer:

Correct option: (A)

Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

Explanation:

The assertion is true because a gasp paired with disbelief shows surprise mixed with doubt. The reason correctly explains the assertion by pointing to the meaning of "in disbelief" as not readily accepting the statement. Hence, option (A) is correct.

A8.

Answer:

Correct option: (D)

A is false but R is true.

Explanation:

The assertion is false because the line points to a fundamental difference in nature/biology, not merely liking or disliking sweets. The reason is true and supports that deeper meaning: if Martians do not need food, the contrast is about survival needs, not taste. Hence, option (D) is correct.

A9.

Answer:

Correct option: (A)

Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

Explanation:

The assertion is true because her questioning helps reveal information about Toby for the audience. The reason is also true and explains how the writer uses a natural progression of questions to structure discovery. Hence, option (A) is correct.

A10.

Answer:

Correct option: (D)

A is false but R is true.

Explanation:

The assertion is false because Toby goes beyond the direct question about seeing with one eye and gives intrusive, unsolicited details. The reason is true: those examples are volunteered to prove his power, which undercuts the idea of privacy-respecting restraint. Hence, option (D) is correct.

Section B — Very Short Answer (2 marks each)

A11.

Answer:

Toby means that Martians are fundamentally different in their nature and needs, so they do not live like humans. This is supported by his earlier statement that Martians do not need to eat and get their energy from the Sun.

A full-credit response must interpret the phrase as a deeper difference than preference and then link it to a specific earlier line from the dialogue. Students often write only 'they

are different', but the question requires textual support from the breakfast/energy exchange. The two sentences should clearly carry meaning + evidence.

A12.

Answer:

The stage direction shows that Monika is shocked and initially unable to accept what Toby has said. It is placed after the detailed claims because the private, specific details (toy in pocket and apple in stomach) make Toby's ability seem startling and hard to believe.

The first sentence must state the emotion and attitude (shock + doubt). The second sentence must connect the timing of the gasp to the trigger in the dialogue: the highly specific, personal proof. This tests whether the student understands how stage directions shape meaning in a script.

A13.

Answer:

The line suggests that Toby's 'seeing' is not ordinary eyesight and works even without a normally functioning open eye. This inference is supported when he accurately identifies the blue aeroplane toy in Monika's pocket and describes the apple inside her stomach.

The

must include

(1) a clear inference and

(2) a precise textual example as proof. Many students paraphrase vaguely; however, CBSE marking expects evidence-based inference tied to a concrete detail. The two-sentence limit forces clarity and selection of the strongest evidence.

Section C — Short Answer (3 marks each)
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A14.

Answer:

1) Structure (gradual reveal): The dialogue starts with ordinary friendliness (missing home, being friends) and then shifts to curiosity questions. This step-by-step move prepares the reader to accept bigger claims without making them feel sudden or random.

2) Evidence (specific proofs): Toby does not stay at a vague "I can see well"; he gives checkable details-identifying the blue aeroplane toy in Monika's pocket and describing the apple in her stomach. Such concrete examples make his power feel convincing inside the scene.

3) Reaction (reader's mirror): Monika's "(gasps in disbelief)" and "Oh my goodness!" show shock and awe. Her reaction guides the reader to treat the moment as extraordinary and not as a casual boast.

A15.

Answer:

1. Early warning sensitivity: Claribel collapses before the crew realises anything is wrong, showing her body reacts to bad air sooner than humans who feel only a 'nagging headache'.
2. Diagnostic confirmation through response: The crew gives her oxygen and she 'revived at once' but then 'keeled over again', indicating the problem is environmental and recurring, not a one-time injury.
3. Trigger for human reasoning: Her repeated fainting 'tugs' the narrator's memory of miners using canaries to warn of gas, turning an odd event into a correct hypothesis about air quality.
4. Why biology beats technology here: The engineered system fails because the second alarm circuit 'isn't connected up yet' and the single alarm doesn't trigger during an eclipse-related freeze-up, while Claribel's natural sensitivity works continuously without needing circuits.

A16.

Answer:

1. Emotion cue creates wonder, then invites questioning: In "Feathered Friend", Monika's "(gasps in disbelief)" signals astonishment, but the scene is driven by her follow-up questions, showing wonder is a starting point for inquiry.
2. 'Impossible' claims are framed as testable ideas: Toby's detailed, specific observations (e.g., naming the toy and the apple 'going round-and-round') make his ability feel magical yet checkable, nudging the reader toward evidence-based thinking.
3. Dialogue corrects popular credit narratives: In "Magnifying Glass", the daughter complicates the common belief that Marconi alone 'invented' radio by introducing Jagadish Chandra Bose's earlier microwave experiment, turning pride into a prompt to verify sources.
4. Conversational scaffolding models curiosity: Both texts use short turns ("Oh really? Like what?" / "Okay, tell me one thing.") so information arrives through prompts and clarifications, modelling how curiosity grows through asking and refining questions rather than accepting claims blindly.

Section D — Long Answer (5 marks each)

A17.

Answer:

Sven's decision is a mix of bold curiosity and careless risk, and it deserves both

appreciation and criticism.

- 1) Scientific Purpose: Sven's aim is testable and clear-how a bird uses wings without weight-so it fits real scientific curiosity. Claribel's effortless floating and backward loop show genuine behavioural adaptation, giving evidence that wings can be used for control, not only lift.
- 2) Method and Controls: A responsible experiment needs planning, permissions, and safety checks, which Sven skips by smuggling the canary. Because there is no record, supervision, or agreed procedure, any observation becomes accidental rather than reliable science.
- 3) Crew Consent and Trust: By hiding ownership for days, Sven breaks the trust needed in a station where everyone's life depends on teamwork. Even if Claribel becomes a "general pet," the crew did not get a chance to accept the risk beforehand.
- 4) Safety Outcome (Unintended Benefit): Claribel's fainting becomes an early warning when the purifier freezes and the alarm circuit fails, saving lives. This shows that living indicators can sometimes detect danger faster than machines, like canaries in mines.
- 5) Risk vs Benefit Judgement: The crew survives, but that does not automatically make the original act right because the success is based on luck. A better choice would be to propose an approved animal-free test or bring the bird only with proper safeguards and medical planning.

In the end, Sven's curiosity leads to a life-saving result, but his irresponsible method makes the decision ethically weak.

A18.

Answer:

The episode creates suspense by showing ordinary routine turning into a hidden emergency, and then resolves it through a memory-based inference.

- 1) Disturbed Normalcy: The day begins with a headache, sluggish thinking, and unusually quiet breakfast, which signals that something is off without naming it. The vacant seat and Sven's late entry add unease because the routine is broken.
- 2) Visual Shock and Emotion: Sven's open palm with a "tiny bundle of yellow feathers" produces an instant emotional jolt and a fear of loss. The crew's "hushed silence" and shared distress intensify tension because nobody understands the cause.
- 3) False Hope and Repetition: Oxygen revives Claribel immediately, creating relief that the crisis is over. Her prompt second collapse reverses that relief and deepens suspense by proving the problem is not simple injury.
- 4) Cognitive Clue and Inference: The narrator's memory is "tugged" until the mining-canary connection clicks, turning confusion into a reasoned hypothesis. This is logical because

the bird reacts first to bad air, just as miners used canaries as early warnings.

5) Conflict with Technology and Twist: Jim's confidence in duplicate alarm circuits creates a believable obstacle to the narrator's claim. The assistant's reminder that the second circuit isn't connected, followed by the purifier freezing and the single alarm failing, completes the twist: expensive systems can fail, but a small creature can expose danger. Thus, suspense rises through uncertainty and reversal, and the revelation feels earned because it comes from evidence, memory, and cause-effect reasoning.

Section E — Case Study (4 marks each)
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A19.

(i) Identify one clear warning sign in the log (other than the CO₂ numbers) that should have made the team suspect a problem with air quality, and state why it matters.

Answer:

The mild headache reported by two members at 20 minutes is a clear warning sign because physical symptoms can indicate poor air even when alarms fail, just as the narrator felt unwell before understanding the air problem.

(ii) Using the Claribel episode as a parallel, explain why relying only on Alarm A was risky in this simulation.

Answer:

It was risky because a single alarm can fail silently (loose connection), and the Claribel episode shows that even expensive systems and a single alarm circuit may not warn the crew, so a backup and other indicators are necessary.

(iii) Propose two specific safety improvements for the next trial—one technical and one human-procedure change—each justified in one sentence.

Answer:

Technical: Install and test Alarm B (or a second independent CO₂ sensor) before the trial so one failure cannot hide danger, matching the story's lesson about unconnected duplicate circuits. Human-procedure: Create a rule that any unusual symptom or behaviour cue (headache, dizziness, unexpected "whistle" anomalies) triggers an immediate pause and ventilation check, like treating Claribel's fainting as an early warning.