



## G. D. GOENKA PUBLIC SCHOOL, SRINAGAR

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

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

### **Q1: Read the passage given and answer the questions that follow:**

Next time you see a pigeon flying across the sky, look at it carefully! Is it holding a can? Or a camera? Or wearing a backpack? If it's a carrier pigeon, it just might be a working bird. You've probably heard of working dogs that help police officers, or horses that help farmers. Did you know that carrier pigeons can be trained to help people too? What kind of jobs do these birds perform?

Carrier pigeons can be trained to carry messages to people. The note is placed into a small skinny can. The can is tied to the pigeon's leg. Then the pigeon flies off to deliver the note. Carrier pigeons are good messengers because they are fast and can fly long distances. They also have a good sense of direction. They can even reach places that people can't. More than 800 years ago, Genghis Khan, an Asian ruler set up pigeon post offices across his lands! As recently as 2010, Cuba used pigeons to send election results to its mountain people.

From high up in the sky, specially trained pigeons can spot orange life jackets in the oceans. Sometimes, it is difficult for humans to spot people lost at sea, especially when the weather is bad. However, pigeons can fly quickly over a large area of water in search of people.

Many years ago, carrier pigeons were used to help during wars. "Spy Pigeons" had small cameras that were tied to their feet. As the pigeon flew over the enemy land, the camera snapped photos of the land below. This would allow our military to see where the enemy were and what they were doing. The pigeons have probably saved many soldiers' lives. These "spy birds" had a dangerous job. They had to dodge bullets, poisonous gases and bullets like hawks. During World War 1 and 2, the USA and its allies even had huge pigeon armies. Thousands of pigeons served! They were like flying soldiers. A few even received medals for their brave work.

**On the basis of your understanding of the above passage , answer the questions given below:**

- a) A flying pigeon could be carrying \_\_\_\_\_  
i) stick or straw    ii) a can or a camera    iii) a weapon
- b) What is common between a carrier pigeon and a working dog?  
i) Both can be trained to help people  
ii) Both are colourful  
iii) Both have good smelling sense  
iv) Both are very clever
- c) Find the word in para 2 which means same as 'handover'  
i) Set up    ii) carrier    iii) deliver    iv) reach
- d) Which word in para -4 is opposite to 'opened'  
i) Received    ii) used    iii) tied    iv) snapped
- e) Give a suitable title to the passage?

### SECTION-C (Writing)

**Q: Writing is a powerful tool of communication. You are the president of the Literary Society of school. Using hints given below, write an article on "How to write effectively" for your school magazine.**

#### HINTS

- **Writing an important skill**
- **Exercises your imagination**
- **Organise thoughts and ideas**
- **Write with clarity**