

## IX – English April

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Roll No. \_\_\_\_\_

### COMPETENCY- COMPREHENSION SKILL

1. Read the poem given below:

When storm-clouds rumble in the sky and  
June showers come down  
The moist east wind comes marching over the heath  
to blow its bagpipes amongst the bamboos  
The crowds of flowers come out of a sudden  
from nobody knows where,  
and dance upon the grass in wild glee.

Mother, I really think the flowers go to school underground  
They do their lessons with doors shut,  
and if they want to come out to play before it is time,  
their master makes them stand in a corner.  
When the rains come they have their holidays.

Branches clash together in the forest  
and the leaves rustle in the wild wind,  
the thunder-clouds clap their giant hands and  
the flower children rush out in dresses of  
pink, yellow and white.

Do you know, mother, their home is in the sky,  
Where the stars are.

Haven't you seen how eager they are to get there? Don't you know why they are in such a hurry?

Of course, I can guess to whom they raise their arms they have their mother as I have my own.

-Rabindranath Tagore

**Question:** Given below is the summary of the poem. Fill in the blanks with one suitable word to complete the summary.

After the first shower of June, when the (a) \_\_\_\_\_ wind approaches blowing its

(b) \_\_\_\_\_ to herald the advance of (c) \_\_\_\_\_ season, the (d) \_\_\_\_\_ bloom and (e) \_\_\_\_\_ upon the grass in (f) \_\_\_\_\_ happiness. The poet thinks that before the arrival of spring, the flowers go to an (g) \_\_\_\_\_ school and learn their lesson. They have their holidays only when it rains and they come out rushing in colourful dresses. The sky is their home towards which they raise their (h) \_\_\_\_\_ because their (i) \_\_\_\_\_ lives there and they are always in a (j) \_\_\_\_\_ to go home.

2. Read the following poem carefully:

Four seasons fill the measure of the year;  
There are four seasons in the mind of man:  
He has his lusty Spring when fancy clear  
Takes in all beauty with an easy span;  
He has his Summer, when luxuriously  
Spring's honey cud of youthful thought he loves  
To ruminare, and by such dreaming high  
Is nearest unto heaven: quite coves  
His soul has in its Autumn, when his wings  
He furlerh close; contended so to look  
On mist in idleness- to let fair things  
Pass by unheeded as a threshold brook.  
He has his winter too of pale disfeature,  
Or else he would forgo his mortal nature. *-John Keats*

**Question:** Choose the right option:

- 1) In this poem man's mind is compared to:  
(a) seasons (b) nature (c) spring (d) winter
- 2) How many seasons are there in the mind of man?  
(a) four (b) three (c) five (d) two
- 3) 'ruminare' means:  
(a) to think seriously (b) to chew slowly as cow do  
(c) to depend on (d) to be melancholy
- 4) Winter, in this poem symbolizes:  
(a) misfortune (b) weakness/debility (c) death (d) darkness
- 5) Line three in the poem describes:  
(a) lust (b) youthfulness/zest/energy  
(c) spring of one's life (d) flowering