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**ENGLISH ASSIGNMENT**  
**SESSION: 2020-2021**  
**CLASS – VIII**

**Topics covered:**

**Poem- Granny's Tree Climbing**

**Lesson- The Fun They Had**

**Informal Letter, Diary Entry**

**Q.1. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:**

**A. My grandmother was a genius. You'd like to know why?**

**Because she could climb trees spreading or high,  
She's up their branches in a trice. And mind you,  
When she last climbed a tree, she was sixty two.**

- a) Why does the poet call his granny a genius?
- b) Could the grandmother climb the trees easily?
- c) What impression do you form of the grandmother?

**B. Ever since childhood, she'd had this gift**

**For being happier in a tree than in a lift;**

**And though, as years went by, she would be told**

**That climbing trees should stop when one grows old.**

- a) What was the grandmother's gift since childhood?
- b) What was grandmother told from time to time?
- c) What does grandmother's preference of climbing a tree rather than a lift show?

**C. Then she sat up in bed and said, 'I'll lie here no longer!'**

**And she called for my father and told him undaunted,**

**That a house in a tree top, was what she now wanted**

**My dad knew his duties. He said, 'That's alright'.**

- a) Why did Granny say, 'I'll lie here no longer!'?
- b) What was Granny's ambition?
- c) Find a word from the stanza which means the same as 'fearless'.

**D. "Sure they had a teacher, but it wasn't a regular teacher. It was a man."**

- a) Who does 'they' refer to?
- b) What does 'regular' mean here?
- c) What is 'it' contrasted with?

**E. "I wouldn't throw it away."**

- a) Who says these words?
- b) What does 'it' refer to?

**F. Margie was scornful. "School? What's there to write about school? I hate school."**

- a) Why did Margie feel scornful?
- b) Why did she hate school?

**Q.3. Answer the following questions in about 30 words.**

- a) The doctor prescribed Granny complete bed rest. Did she follow the doctor's advice? Why?
- b) What message does the poem – 'Granny's Tree Climbing' give?
- c) What was Margie's diary entry and on which date?
- d) What did the children mean by the real book?
- e) What kind of teachers did Margie and Tommy have?
- f) How were Margie's tele-books different from Tommy's book?
- g) Did Margie have regular days and hours for school? If so, why?
- h) How does Tommy describe the old kind of school and the old kind of teachers?
- i) What do you think is the theme of this story?

**Q.4. Diary Entry**

Imagine you are Margie in the story 'The Fun They Had'. Write a diary entry expressing your thoughts about having a human teacher.

**Q.5. Answer the following long questions –**

- a) Who do you think is a better teacher, a mechanical teacher or a human teacher? Justify your answer.
- b) Do you think each of us have inborn capabilities which are unique and make us outshine others? Do you think that we need to know and explore our innate capabilities no matter how old we get?
- c) Granny said 'I'll grow old disgracefully'. Do you think behaving like a child, climbing tree after tree was something disgraceful for granny's age? How far do you think following our hearts is justifiable?

**Q.6. You are Karan/ Kavita residing at 25, Lawrence Road, Ashok Vihar. You have just bought a new computer game and want your cousin who lives in Jaipur, to play it with you. Write a letter to your cousin inviting him/her to come and stay with you for a few days.**

**ENGLISH WORKSHEET (MLM)**

**CLASS VIII**

**GRANNY'S TREE CLIMBING - RUSKIN BOND**

**Q1. Read the following statements and state whether true or false.**

- a) Granny was 72, when she last climbed a tree. ( )
- b) Grandma and Grandson had milk while sitting on the tree top house.( )
- c) Granny fell down from the tree in the absence of her family members. ( )
- d) Grandma's son was very obedient indeed. ( )
- e) Granny was asked to rest for two weeks. ( )
- f) Granny had been climbing trees since childhood. ( )
- g) Granny could only climb trees that were high. ( )
- h) The narrator shared a lovely bond with his Granny. ( )
- i) Every breeze whispered of winters. ( )
- j) The narrator made the tree top house for his Granny all alone. ( )

**Q2. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:**

“Poor Granny! For her, it was like a brief season in hell,  
Confined to her bedroom, while every breeze  
Whispered of summer and dancing leaves.”

a) Name the poem and the poet.

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b) Name the poetic device used in line 1.

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c) Write the word that has been personified.

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d) Why has Granny been called 'Poor Granny'?

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**Q3. Complete the following:**

(a) The doctor recommended a week's bed rest to Granny because \_\_\_\_\_

(b) When the narrator and his family were in town, Granny \_\_\_\_\_

(c) The narrator and his family sighed in relief because \_\_\_\_\_

(d) Granny learnt climbing trees from \_\_\_\_\_

(e) Granny was happier \_\_\_\_\_

(f) The narrator carried \_\_\_\_\_ everyday to his Grandmother on the tree top house.

(g) Granny considered staying in bed as \_\_\_\_\_.

(h) \_\_\_\_\_ made a tree top house for her.

(i) Granny wanted to grow old \_\_\_\_\_ manner.

(j) She was \_\_\_\_\_ when she last climbed a tree