

Reg. No. : .....

Code No. 2001

Name : .....

**SECOND YEAR  
SAY/IMPROVEMENT  
JUNE 2018**

Time : 2½ Hours  
Cool-off time : 15 Minutes

Part-I

**ENGLISH**

Maximum : 80 Scores

**General Instructions to Candidates :**

- There is a 'Cool-off time' of 15 minutes in addition to the writing time.
- Use the 'Cool-off time' to get familiar with questions and to plan your answers.
- Read questions carefully before answering.
- Read the instructions carefully.
- Calculations, figures and graphs should be shown in the answer sheet itself.
- Give equations wherever necessary.
- Electronic devices except non-programmable calculators are not allowed in the Examination Hall.

**(Question Nos. 1 – 6) : Answer all the questions as directed.**

**(Total Scores : 14)**

Read the excerpt and answer the questions that follow.

The program developed very organically, over years. Like a soup made by chefs tossing in what's needed, after each tasting. A blend all its own. The stock ingredients were basic English and Maths - to that, a dash of values, self-esteem and confidence.

1. Which program is referred to here ? (1)
2. Who are referred to as the 'chefs' ? (1)
3. Pick out the word from the excerpt that means 'naturally'. (1)
4. Drug abuse is a great threat to our society. Many youngsters get addicted to drugs. The authorities of your school have decided to collect suggestions from students to create a school campus that is free from this menace. As a higher secondary student, what suggestions would you give ? Draft 3 suggestions using expressions like The authorities should ....., It would be better ....., We could, etc. (3)

5. Your class is conducting a debate on the topic 'Is entrepreneurship the best way to tackle unemployment ?'  
Write four arguments either in favour of, or against the topic. (4)

6. Edit the passage given below for errors : (4)

A beggar had been sitting by the side of a road for over thirty years. One day a stranger walked on. "Spare some change ?" mumbled the beggar, mechanical holding out his baseball cap. "I have nothing to give you," said the stranger. Then he asked : "What's that you are sitting on ?" "Nothing", replied the beggar. "Just an old box." "Ever look inside ?" asked the stranger. "No", said the beggar. "Have a look inside", insisted the stranger. The beggar was astonished to see that the box was fill with gold.

(Question Nos. 7 – 12) : Answer any 5 questions. Each question carries 4 scores.

(5 × 4 = 20)

7. The postal assistant in 'Post Early for Christmas' quits her job commenting, "I am going down the road to work at the animal dispensary. Animals don't do such silly things." Do you think it was an appropriate remark on the part of a responsible official like the postal assistant ? Express your opinion in a paragraph.
8. Robert Baldwin accepts the job offered by Mr. Marshall in the Third National Bank. When Baldwin comes to report for work, Mr. Marshall introduces him to the other colleagues. What would Mr. Marshall say about Mr. Baldwin ? Draft the introductory speech for Mr. Marshall.
9. The story 'Matchbox' begins like this : "I always compare women to matchboxes." What qualities of a woman are highlighted by Ashapura Debi in this comparison ? Attempt the answer in a paragraph.
10. Your class is doing a project on 'Social Entrepreneurship'. As the leader of the class, you are given the opportunity to interview Shaheen Mistri. What would you ask her ? Frame four relevant questions for the interview.
11. Ratna's patience and empathy left a lasting impression on Sudha Murthy's heart. What are her other notable qualities ? Attempt a character sketch of Ratna in about 60 words.
12. Elaborate the idea in the line given below :  
"And this, O Fate, is I think the most vicious circle that thou ever sentest".

**(Question Nos. 13 – 18) : Answer any 5 questions. Each question carries 6 scores.**

**(5 × 6 = 30)**

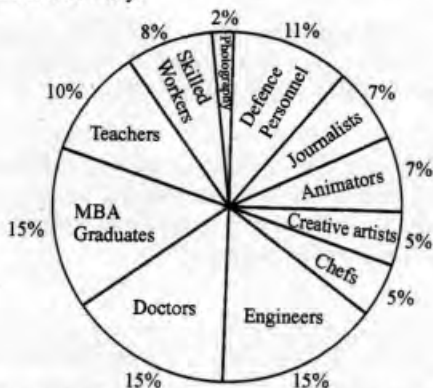
13. Wangari Maathai's speech has motivated you to take up the challenge of preserving nature for future generations. You have decided to share your ideas on nature conservation with your friend in an e-mail. Draft the e-mail.
14. Christine Lagarde emphasizes the importance of learning, labour and leadership in Women Empowerment. Draft a speech to be delivered in the school assembly on the topic 'Educated women lead the nation to progress and prosperity', based on your reading of the speech. 'The 3Ls of Empowerment'.
15. Your class has decided to visit an organic farm named 'Samrudhi' to know more about the production of pesticide-free vegetables, cattle rearing and the cultivation of indigenous crops. Write a letter to the owner of the farm enquiring about the practices in the farm and seeking permission to visit it.
16. Prepare a write-up on the socio-cultural changes satirised by Chemmanam Chacko in the poem 'Rice'.
17. You are the reporter of a local daily in Manhattan. You visited the place a week before the fight between the Amigo brothers. You could find matters of news interest in the preparations for the fight. Draft a newspaper report.  
[Hints : Large posters on the walls – heated discussions in cafes – specially designed caps and t-shirts – betting by the fans – housewives and small children too involved.]
18. Effective use of humour in depicting ordinary situations is what makes 'Crime and Punishment' an interesting story. Prepare a write-up on the element of humour in 'Crime and Punishment'.

**(Question Nos. 19 – 21) : Answer any 2 questions. Each question carries 8 scores.**

**(2 × 8 = 16)**

19. Ratna and Sudha Murthy's grandfather served the society by devoting their precious time to listen to others. These living examples have inspired you to contribute an essay to the newsletter of your school. Write the essay on the topic 'Role of good listeners in creating healthy minds'.

20. The pie-diagram given below shows the changing mindset of youth in the selection of their careers and fields of study.



[Hints : Chefs – hospitality management, Creative artists – dancers, musicians, painters, etc.]

What helps you decide your choice of a career ? What are the reasons for these varied preferences ? Prepare a write-up on the career choices of the present generation.

21. Read the poem given below. Compare the poem with 'Mending Wall'.

### Quiet Morning

Stone walls seem gathered not by men  
But by some older force,  
As if the hills had driven them  
In slow flocks from the grass.

And since the heavy boulders come  
Of low and ancient birth  
They never learn the will of men  
To stand aloof from earth

But peacefully disintegrate  
Under the orchard boughs  
And up and down the pastures  
Beside the dozing cows.

*Elizabeth Bohm*