

# SSLC EXAMINATION, MARCH - 2019

## ENGLISH

Second Language

Time : 2½ Hours

Total Score : 80

### Instructions :

- The first 15 minutes is the cool-off time. You may use the time to read the questions and plan the answers.
- Read the questions carefully before answering.
- Certain sections of the questions have choice. Follow the choice regulations.
- When you select a question, all its sub questions (if any) must be answered from the same question.

Score

Questions 1 - 6. Read the excerpt from 'The Best Investment I Ever Made' and answer the questions that follow. Each question carries *one* score.

1x6=6

'Excuse me, Doctor, I wonder if I might introduce myself.' He spoke almost breathlessly, offering me the visiting card he held in his hand and studying my face to see if the name meant anything to me. Then, as it plainly did not, he went on with the same awkwardness. 'If you could spare a few minutes... my wife and I would like to have a word with you.'

A moment later I was occupying the vacant chair beside them. Haltingly he told me that this had been their first visit to America. It was not entirely a holiday trip. They had been making a tour of the New England states, inspecting many of the summer recreational camps for young people there. Afterwards, they had visited settlement houses in New York and other cities to study the methods employed in dealing with cases of backward, maladjusted and delinquent youth.

1. Pick out from the passage the expression that shows the nervousness of the man.
2. What did the man request the narrator ?
3. Why did the man visit the New England states ?
4. What was the purpose of the man's visit to settlement houses in New York ?
5. Find out the word from the passage that means 'having emotional problems'.
6. Pick out the *verb phrase* from the following sentence.  
'They had been making a tour of the New England states.'

Questions 7 to 10. Read the lines from 'A Girl's Garden' and answer the questions that follow. Each question carries *one* score.

1x4=4

One day she asked her father  
To give her a garden plot  
To plant and tend and reap herself,  
And he said, 'Why not ?'  
In casting about for a corner  
He thought of an idle bit  
Of walled-off ground where a shop had stood,  
And he said, 'Just it.'

- 7. What does the girl want to get from her father ?
- 8. What was the father's response to the girl's request ?
- 9. Pick out the expression that describes the land.
- 10. What do you think about the father in the poem ?

11. Read the following lines from the poem 'Blowin' in the Wind' and attempt a brief appreciation focussing on the theme and poetic devices used. 5

How many roads must a man walk down  
Before you call him a man ?  
How many seas must a white dove sail  
Before she sleeps in the sand ?  
Yes, and how many times must the cannon balls fly  
Before they're forever banned ?  
The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind  
The answer is blowin' in the wind.

Yes, and how many years can a mountain exist  
Before it is washed to the sea ?  
Yes, and how many years can some people exist  
Before they're allowed to be free ?  
Yes, and how many times can a man turn his head  
And pretend that he just doesn't see ?  
The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind  
The answer is blowin' in the wind.

*3. boyish*  
*Metaphor*  
*2. simile*

Questions 12 - 16. Read the following passage and answer the questions given. Each question carries *one* score.

1x5=5

When I was around four or five I was with my mom at a store buying some Christmas gifts. As we were leaving I saw beautiful little dinosaurs that fit perfectly in my hands. I grabbed two of them and hid one in each of my pockets. My pockets were so small that they made me look like I had two tumours on each of my hips. I still remember the rush of energy I got from actually leaving the store undetected. Well, when my mom and I got to the car, she found them and called the store keeper back and made me apologise. I had the absolute worst social anxiety when I was a kid so I was absolutely sobbing, telling this poor employee how horrible a person I was. I had a mental breakdown, when my mom cried a while afterwards and bought me a nice milkshake!

12. Why did the narrator and his mother visit the store ?
13. What did the narrator do when he was leaving the store ?
14. 'I still remember the rush of energy I got.' Why do you think the narrator felt so ?
15. What was the reaction of the mother when she found out the mistake made by her son ?
16. Why did the narrator have a mental breakdown ?

Questions 17 - 21. The table given below shows the details of a few great personalities. Study the table and answer the questions that follow. Each question carries *one* score.

1x5=5

Name	Occupation	Nationality	Year of birth
R.K. Narayan	Novelist	Indian	1906
Bertrand Russell	Philosopher	British	1872
Stephen Hawking	Cosmologist	British	1942
Akira Kurosawa	Film maker	Japanese	1910
K. Sachidanandan	Poet	Indian	1948

17. Stephen Hawking was a \_\_\_\_\_ by profession.

18. The only novelist in table given is \_\_\_\_\_.
19. Who as per the list is the only person born before 1900 ?
20. Find out the Indian poet enlisted in the table.
21. A Japanese film maker in the list above is \_\_\_\_\_.

Questions 22 - 23. Answer any ONE of the following in about 120 words.

7x1=7

22. Satyajit Ray took pains to shoot the scene with a tiger for his film 'Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne'. Prepare a **write-up** describing the difficulties Ray experienced in shooting the scene.  
(Hints : contacts Bharat Circus - meets the manager - brings the tiger to the location - tiger springs out - controls - calms down - shoots the scene - too dark - retake)
23. The doctor in the story 'The Best Investment I Ever Made' was excited when he recognised Mr. John after a long time. He narrates the whole incident to his friend after a while. Prepare the likely **narrative**.  
(Hints : meets Mr. John and his wife - introduces - visiting card - remembers the past - tries to commit suicide - saved - becomes a new man - helping maladjusted and delinquent youth)

Questions 24 - 26. Answer any TWO of the following. Each question carries five scores.

5x2=10

24. Zahra was disappointed and became angry when she knew that she wouldn't get her shoes back. Imagine that you meet Zahra and talk about it. Prepare the likely **conversation** between Zahra and you.
25. Vanka's Grandfather was sad after he had left the boy at Alyakhin's work place. He writes his feelings in his diary. Prepare the likely **diary entry** of the Grandfather.
26. The English Club of your school has decided to stage a play based on the story 'The Snake and the Mirror'. Draft a **notice** inviting all teachers and students to watch the play.

Questions 27 - 31. Answer any THREE of the following. Each question carries six scores.

6x3=18

27. Martha was extremely happy on the day she received the Scholarship Jacket. Imagine that she wrote a letter to her friend describing all the incidents that had happened in the school. Prepare the likely **letter**.

Prepare a **profile** of Rabindranath Tagore using the given details.

Born	:	7 May, 1861
Place of Birth	:	Calcutta, India
Famous as	:	Writer, Song Composer, Playwright, Essayist, Painter
Nationality	:	Indian
Notable Works	:	Gitanjali, The Golden Boat, Chitrangada, The Post Office, Chandalika
Notable Awards	:	Nobel Prize in Literature
Died	:	7 August, 1941

Think-Tank believes himself to be the most powerful and intellectual creature in the whole Universe. Prepare a **character sketch** of Think-Tank.

'A man's life is shaped by the surroundings in which he lives'. Imagine you are asked to deliver a speech in the school assembly on this topic. Prepare the **speech** in the light of the story 'The Best Investment I Ever Made'.

Adolf, the little rabbit creates a lot of problems in the narrator's house. Write a **paragraph** describing the events that happened in the house.

Complete the following conversation between Martha and Schmidt. 5

Schmidt : You are getting the scholarship jacket this year, .....(a)..... ? aren't you

Martha : Yes sir. I'm very happy to get it.

Schmidt : .....(b)..... ?

Martha : Yes. The school board has changed the decision.

Schmidt : That's good. If you had paid for the jacket, .....(c).....

Martha : My grandpa also said so.

Schmidt : .....(d)..... ?

Martha : Yes, I have informed this news to my grandpa. He was very happy to learn that.

Schmidt : You had better .....(e).....

Martha : Sure. I'll ask grandpa to come to the award ceremony.

Complete the following passage choosing the right words from those given in the bracket. 5

We decided to carry Adolf back to /(a) wild woods. We were about /(b) cry when Father took Adolf /(c) his hands. But it didn't show any feeling while going away /(d) home. Father told us /(e) it hopped away with utmost indifference.

(to, from, the, with, in, that)

34. Report the following dialogue.

Vanka : Where are we going ?

Grandfather : We are going to Alyakhin, the shoemaker.

*You may begin like this :*

Vanka asked his grandfather .....(a).....

Grandfather replied that .....(b).....

35. There are a few errors in the passage given below. They are underlined. Edit them.

Mr. Thorat had been worked (a) in the company for many years. He was very strong and look (b) like a Nepali. Ray tells (c) him that he wanted a tiger. He was ready to providing (d) a trained tiger for shooting the scene.

36. Complete the following passage choosing appropriate phrasal verbs from the ones given below.

Vanka tried his level best to / (a) the torture his master had inflicted on him. But it was unbearable for him. He tried to / (b) this to other apprentices. But they made fun of him. Then he decided to write a letter to his grandfather hoping he would / (c) the letter and / (d) the troubles Vanka was facing.

(go through, put up with, make out, put across)