

Reg. No. : .....

**FY 01**

Name : .....

Time : 2½ Hours

Cool-off time : 15 Minutes

**IMPROVEMENT  
JULY 2019**

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 the instructions carefully.
- Certain sections of question have choice. Follow the choice regulations.

**(Questions 1 – 3) :** Read the following excerpt from 'The Price of Flowers' and answer the questions that follow :

'We have not had a letter from him for a long time. My mother is very worried. People tell her that India is full of tigers and snakes and fevers.'

1. Who speaks these words ? (1)
2. Who is referred to as 'him' in the passage ? (1)
3. According to the speaker, what kind of a place is India ? (1)

**(Questions 4 and 5) :** Read the lines from the poem, 'Death the Leveller' and answer the questions that follow :

'Sceptre and Crown  
Must tumble down  
And in the dust be equal made  
With the poor crooked scythe and spade.'

4. How according to the poet, does death become a leveller ? (1)
5. Identify the figure of speech in the above lines. (1)

**(Questions 6 – 9) :** Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

Though India is surrounded by Islands, it is a pity that we know very little about them. How many of us know that the scenery on the red coloured Indian 20 rupee note which we fondly keep in our wallets depicts a natural scene from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands ? Let's go through some interesting facts about the Islands.

For animal lovers across the world, these Islands inhabit endless marine cultures. The most famous of them all are the sea turtles. *Derموcheleys Coriacea*, the largest sea turtles in the world nest here. They are huge in size and thousands of them flock to the Andamans every year. Commercial fishing is banned on the Islands. And that's great news because this is one of the very few places in the world where fish die of old age and get to live their entire life. Not only for fishes, the Island is also a haven for crabs. The largest living arthropod *Birgus Latro* resides here. These crabs are also known as coconut crabs because they eat tender coconuts. They are large in size and hate water.

Have animal lovers heard of the special sea mammal named Dugong ? This is the state animal of the Island and they are extremely shy to mate. There are only five breeding centres for these sea animals and Andaman is one of them.

6. What is the advantage of banning commercial fishing in the Islands ? (1)
7. Which word in the passage can be replaced by 'Sanctuary' ? (1)
- (a) Wallet  
(b) Marine  
(c) Haven
8. How do coconut crabs earn their name ? (1)
9. A student of your class wants to note down points from the passage for further reference. Help your friend complete the missing notes. (4 × 1 = 4)

*Derموcheleys Coriacea*

- \_\_\_\_\_ (a)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (b)
- They are huge.

Dugong

- \_\_\_\_\_ (c)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (d)
- Extremely shy to mate.

10. A.J. Cronin jots down some sentences in his diary recollecting the selfless efforts of Haşan. Fill in the blanks using appropriate forms of the words given in brackets. (2×1=2)

How tough those times were ! If Hasan told the passengers about small-pox, they

\_\_\_\_\_ (a) \_\_\_\_\_ (get) disturbed. Moreover, I too would have been in serious problems if Hasan \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (refuse) to help me. What a great man he is !

Answer any **five** questions from **11-16**, in not less than **60** words. Each carries **four** scores. (5×4=20)

11. The legend of the turtles of Kadavu has surprised you very much. You want to share the joy of having understood the legend with your friend studying in Delhi. Draft an email to your friend describing the legend of turtle calling.
12. Given below is what your friend has written in a paragraph on the theme of the story 'Gooseberries'. Edit the following passage :

The theme of Chekhov's story is finding happiness. It is a attack on man's search for happiness. Some find happiness in eating, drinking and merry making. Some find happiness in serving others and sacrifices making for them. Some find happiness bye leading strict ascetic lives. Nicholai finds happiness by eating the sour berries. He thought he can make the peasants happy by giving them half a bucket of vodka.

13. Elaborate the ideas conveyed by the poet in the lines given below :

'If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew  
To serve your turn long after they are gone,  
And so hold on when there is nothing in you  
Except the Will which says to them : "Hold on !"

14. Your class is organising a debate on the topic 'Technology is a must in today's classrooms'. Those who spoke opposing the topic presented the following points.

Against

- Teachers explain things well.
- Frequent electricity shortages disrupt classroom discipline.
- Information on the internet is not always reliable.
- Fantasy and creativity are limited in such classes.

If you are to speak FOR the topic, list four arguments you will present in favour of it.

15. Maggie and her mother are subjected to superstitious belief in the story 'The Price of Flowers'. Mr. Gupta convinces Maggie of these hollow beliefs through his actions. Attempt in a paragraph the superstitious beliefs that Maggie and her mother hold fast on to.

16. Given below are the details from the life of Hellen Keller, a worldwide symbol of what one can achieve despite severe physical limitations.

Prepare her profile using the details given.

- Birth : June 27, 1880, Tuscumbia, Alabama
- Parents : Captain Arthur H. Keller and Katherine Adams Keller
- Education : Wright Humason School for the Deaf, Radcliffe College
- Influenced by : Anne Sullivan (her teacher and constant companion)
- Occupation : American author, activist and lecturer
- Achievement : First deaf-blind person to earn a B.A. degree
- Books : The Story of My Life (her autobiography, 1903)  
My Religion (her spiritual autobiography, 1927)  
Out of the Dark  
The Song of the Stone Wall  
The World I Live in, etc.
- Awards : Presidential Medal of Freedom (1964)
- Death : June 1, 1968, Westport, Connecticut

Answer any **five** questions from **17-22**, each in about **80** words. Each carries **six** scores.

(5×6=30)

17. Report the following conversation between Greta and her father changing it into indirect speech.

Father : You want something of your own ?

Greta : I want peaches, pears and artichokes.

Father : Do you want them in a house with bowls in the kitchen ?

Greta : Yes, but why are you writing all that down.

18. Parents are our first teachers. How true is this statement in regard to the story of the seagull ? Write a review of the story highlighting the role played by the mother in boosting the morale of the little one.
19. The trip of Ranaganji from Liverpool to Calcutta was successful, thanks to the selfless service rendered by the Serang. A.J. Cronin, the physician of the ship is overwhelmed with gratitude. After two months, he sends a letter to Hasan recollecting the incidents of the journey and thanking him for the timely help. Draft the likely letter written by the doctor.
20. What satisfies one, needn't satisfy the other. This sentence assumes much significance in the short story 'Gooseberries'. Attempt a character sketch of Ivan Ivanich's younger brother who is fond of the bitter and sour gooseberries.
21. You were one among the hundreds who had gathered to witness the first flight of the hot air bottom in Paris. Draft the likely newspaper report of the take-off including details of the time, passengers, nature of the crowd that had assembled, etc.
22. Given below is a poster prepared by your classmates on the topic of healthy lifestyles. Study the poster and prepare a write-up on the topic, 'Always put your health first' to be published in your school magazine.



Answer any 2 questions from 23-25, each in about 120 words. Each carries 8 scores.

(8 × 2 = 16)

23. Jawaharlal Nehru writes about the timely entry of Gandhiji into the Indian political scenario in the excerpt 'And then Gandhi Came'. We all know that Gandhiji has been the inspiration for leaders across the globe. Write an essay on the topic, 'Influence of Gandhian Views in shaping Today's India'.

(Hints : gender equality – communal harmony – abolishing social evils – drug free country – no economic disparity between people – welcoming the goodness in other cultures – secular belief – corruption free)

24. The incessant rains and floods that caused destruction in the month of August 2018 cannot be easily erased from memory. The disaster has brought to light the need to take environment friendly measures in management and development. Write a letter to the editor of any leading daily placing your views on the ways to tackle disaster and the need for a more effective disaster management system.

25. Read the poem given below and write a note of appreciation.

### DON'T QUIT

– Edgar A. Guest

When things go wrong as they sometimes will,  
When the road you're \*trudging seems all up hill,  
When the funds are low and the debts are high  
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,  
    When care is pressing you down a bit,  
    Rest if you must, but don't you quit.  
Life is \*queer with its twists and turns,  
As every one of us sometimes learns,  
    And many a failure turns about  
When he might have won had he stuck it out;  
Don't give up though the pace seems slow –  
    You may succeed with another blow,  
    Success is failure turned inside out –

The silver \*tint of the clouds of doubt,

And you never can tell how close you are,

It may be near when it seems so far;

So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit –

It's when things seem worst that you must not quit.

\* trudging → walking slowly with heavy steps

queer → strange

tint → a shade of a colour

---