



**SHRI VIDHYABHARATHI MATRIC HR.SEC.SCHOOL
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HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION - 2018

STD: XI

11.12.2018

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

ANSWER KEY

MARKS :90

**SECTION - A
(VOCABULARY)**

I. A] Choose the most appropriate synonym of the underlined lexical item in each of the following sentences: 3 x1=3

1. d) broke
2. b) unwilling
3. a) gifted

B] Choose the most accurate of the four given words which is opposite to the usage of the underlined word in the following sentences; 3 x1=3

4. a) blamed
5. c) expressed
6. d) ugly

C] Answer all the questions: 8 x1=8

7. c) varsity
8. b) one who studies birds
9. c) abandoning one who is in difficulty
10. c) mis
11. a) lashes
12. b) altogether
13. d) Electro Cardio Gram
14. a) Collapsed.

**SECTION - B
[POETRY & PROSE]**

II. A] Read the following lines and answer any three (3) of the following in a sentence: 3 x2=6

15. 'But now they only laugh with their teeth, while their ice-block - cold eyes ----'
a) Who are 'they'?

They are the people of modern time / adults.

- b) Identify the figure of speech used here

Metaphor

16. 'with all my heart I do admire.

Athletes who sweat for fun or hire'

- a) Whom does the poet admire?

The poet admires the athletes

- b) For what reasons do the athletes sweat?

The athletes sweat for fun & hire.

17. 'And it's my faith that every flower
Enjoys the air it breathes

a) Identify the poem and the poet.

Poem :- lines written in early spring

Poet : William Wordsworth.

b) Pick out the alliterated words.

Faith - Flower

18. 'Our nature it is that whatever we try
We do with devotion deep and true'

a) Who does 'we' refer to?

we refers to humans

b) How should we carry out our duties?

we should carry out our duties with devotion and truthfulness.

B] Answer any two of the following in 20 -30 word

2 x2=4

19. Describe the grandfather as seen in the portrait.

In the portrait the grandfather was found wearing a big turban and loose fitting clothes. He had a long white beard which covered the major portion of his chest and he looked as if he was hundred years old.

20. Name a few things that a person remembers easily.

A person remembers easily telephone numbers, addresses of his friends, dates of a good vintage, appointments of lunch and dinner, names of actors, actresses, cricketers, football players and murderers

21. How was Mary Kom felicitated on her return to India?

She was greeted with garlands, drumbeats and dancing. There was a victory ride across the town. A felicitation programme was held in Langol. There was a thanks-giving prayer and people showered words of praises on her.

C] Answer the following in a paragraph of about 125- 150 words.

2 x6=12

22. Describe the author's grandmother and her daily routine at home.

THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY

- KHUSHWANT SINGH

KHUSHWANT SINGH (1915-2014) was an Indian novelist, lawyer, journalist and politician. As a writer, he is best known for his keen secularism, sarcasm and love for poetry. This story gives us a real picture of human relationship in a joint family. It is a perception of Khushwant Singh of his grandmother. He describes how he had spent his childhood with his grandmother in a village. He also describes the change that came in the relationship in the city. When the author was a child, his grandmother used to wake him up in the morning and get him ready for school. She would say her morning prayer in monotonous sing song way while she bathed him and dressed him in the hope that he would listen and get to know it by heart, She would fetch his school equipment's (slate,

chalk, ink, etc.). She would take him to school and help him in his studies in the evening. When they settled in the city she was more concerned of his studies. When the author went to university studies and went abroad for his higher studies she accepted her seclusion with resignation. She did not show her sentiment and emotions. She was the embodiment of all good virtues and she bequeathed the same as rich legacy. Her life was a lesson for him throughout in this life. Throughout her life span she lived a modest life. She wanted that the life chain should continue along the beaten track. The elders would guide the younger generation in teaching them how to care others. They inculcate important aspects like thoughtfulness, kind-heartedness, discipline, patience, ability of listening developing social skills, communication skills, companionship, gaining wisdom beyond one's age, time management, etc. to the younger generation. In these ways the elders have positive influence on younger generation.

“We not only inherit health and wealth but also their greatness and achievements. In this story, though the grandmother had no proper schooling and no formal education, she lived a life of Dedication and integrity. She never compromised with her principles and was a determined woman. She had shown her love for animals and birds in feeding the street dogs and sparrows. These qualities certainly influenced by the author.

(OR)

Explain how the narrator got out of the tight corner that he was in.

TIGHT CORNERS

- Edward Verrall Lucas

Edward Verrall Lucas (1868-1938) was a British journalist, essayist, travel writer and novelist born in Eltham, Kent. He was a prolific writer, most celebrated for his short essays, but he also produced verses, novels and plays. One day the author along with his friend had lunch at a club in St. James street and passed along king street when he was persuaded by his friend to look in at the sale room. They were selling Barbizon pictures and getting tremendous sums for each. They watched for awhile and the narrator stared bidding for fun. His friend warned him, not to take risk but he did not listen to him. And for a long time he kept quiet. A new picture was displayed and the dealer made his sensational bid 'four thousand guineas'. There was a rustle of excitement and the end of it he heard his own voice saying and fifty; he thought that someone would increase the bid but unfortunately the hammer fell.

“When one finds oneself in a tight corner he becomes adventurous enough to escape the situation.”

The narrator was stunned and dazed and pulled himself together to hand over his card. Then he started to ponder on the problem what to do next. Picture after picture was put and sold. He was running over the names of uncles and other persons from whom it might be possible to borrow. But he couldn't as he had no security. So he thought he would confess his poverty to one of Christi's staff and having the picture put up again. But he couldn't do even that because all the other bids were completed. A voice at his ears suddenly brought back his consciousness. The messenger had brought good news for the narrator. The messenger expressed the wish of the gent who had offered four thousand guineas. The gent wanted the narrator to accept fifty guineas for his bid. The narrator felt he could have embraced him and wept for joy. The narrator asked the messenger to inform the gent that he would take a hundred guineas. Luck played a part in the narrator's life and he got what he wanted. Thus he got out of the tight corner that he was in and he had also saved himself from humiliation.

23. Explain the things the poet has learnt when he grew into an adult.

ONCE UPON A TIME

- GABRIEL OKARA

Gabriel Okara (born 1921) is a Nigerian poet and novelist. He is a legend in the field of English literature. In his poem “Once upon a time” he speaks about Africa's cultural changes with the coming of western culture. It is a monologue from a father to a son which bemoans (laments) the loss of innocence in the transition from child to adult and a desire to back to that blissful childhood. The father addresses his son telling how he remembers that once people used to be open and expressive with their emotions with laughter that reached their eyes, but now they are aloof and distant with fake smiles. He says that there was a time when relationships were based on mutual respect and cordiality. All right intentions vanish. Everyone looks for only their personal and material gain in vain.

“While their left hands search
My empty pockets”

Everybody is trying to use each other. He says that he has been stripped off all genuine happiness and he feels depressed and frustrated. He too has learned to say “Good-riddance”. He confesses that the society has pressed him into a negative way. When he laughs before the mirror, he sees no expression. His teeth are bare like that of the fangs

of a snake. So, he asks his son to show him how to laugh. He wants to be as his son, to be genuine and true(which had not yet been beaten by the society). **He says that he wants to be as he used to be.** The poet expresses his regret, sympathy and hospitality of the society. He expiates his dual life . The poet warns the society that the leagacy bequeathed to us should be nurtured and inculcated with the truthfulness and hospitality.

If your thought , word and deed are one, you have already won

(OR)

The poem 'Everest is not the only Peak' does not focus on the destination but the journey towards it. Discuss.

EVEREST IS NOT THE ONLY PEAK - KULOTHUNGAN

Prof. V.C. Kulandaiswamy known as kulothungan is an eminent technologist, a man of letters and an educationist known for his pioneering contributions in 'Hydrology', 'Literature' and 'Education.' He won the SahityaAkademi Award in 1988 for his book VaazhumValluvam. His works deal with themes that reflect the gamut of human progress and the all pervasive human effort. The poet Kuthungan describes the life journey with determination and dignity. The poet feels and says that to succeed in life one must have good habits and qualities. **Even though they have a few small qualities, they must be proud of them.** He says one must do his duty with much commitment and dedication. One must not have defeat or feel difficult to meet failures in life, instead should have the courage to fact it. We must try to achieve our aim to meet success

“Defeat we repel, courage our fort;
Cringing from others we haven't done,
To seek a gain we adore none:
We are proud and feel so tall.’

The poet says that it is our duty and mission to praise the people who achieved success by their aim and actions. He also says that successful people work for the development of the world. **Man is proud of the position he holds but humble in nature. His life is a path of dignity and honour.** Our ambition keeps us climbing upwards to attain our goal and reach success. It also keeps us moving towards our destination. **The destination is not as important as the journey towards destination. The poet compares a hillock with the everest and says that both have the summit to boast.** Similarly all human beings must have some aim to reach their destination and they must keep on working to attain it, whether like an Everest or hillock, **one who does not bend on his journey towards his goal is like a king.** The poet finally appreciates the winners who with their ability achieve something efficiently. **Honour is the property which everyone should have, hence they need not feel poor.** The poet concludes **saying that one can achieve in life by their good and worthy character.**

“WE DEFEAT THE DEFEAT BEFORE THE DEFEAT DEFEATS US.”

“BE EVEREST; DO NOT BE EVER AT REST”

SECTION - C
[GRAMMAR AND LANGUAGE SKILLS]

III. A] Answer any seven of the following:

7 x2=14

24. Prabhu asked Kiran what he was doing there and said that he had not seen him for a few months. Kiran replied that he had just returned from his native country Virudhunagar.

25. The team was trained by the coach and the match was won by the team.

26. Fill in the conditional clause appropriately:

If I **were**(be) a bird, I **would** (fly).

27. Fill in the blanks with suitable forms of the verbs given in brackets:

When I **was going**(go) out, I **saw** (see) a stranger entering my neighbor's house but I did not stop as I was in a hurry to meet the money lender.

28. Fill in the blanks with articles:

She collected **the** women of the neighborhood, got **an** Old drum and started to sing.

29. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with question tags:

You are a student **aren't** you

You did not come to school yesterday **did you?**

30. Fill in the blanks in the following sentence with appropriate prepositions:

a) I have a present **for** you.

b) Subash is the leader **of** our class.

31. Complete the sentences using the words in the brackets appropriately:

At first, the flour, cocoa powder and baking powder **sifted** (sift) in a mixing bowl. Then butter, sugar, salt and water **are added** (add) to the mixture

32. Rearrange the shuffled words of the sentences:

a) and / her sisters / television / everyday / the girl / watch.

The girl and her sisters watch television everyday

b) with / ten cats / a lady / in / lives / house / that big.

A lady lives with ten cats in that big house.

33. Fill in with suitable phrases / conjunctions:

Due to his hard work he won the prize **But** he was unhappy

B] Answer any one of the following.

1 x4=4

34. Correct and edit the following passage:

R. K. Narayan, whose full name is Rasipuram Krishnaswam Naranyan -- **was** born **on** October 10, 1906, **at** Chennai in Tamilnadu. He is one of the finest authorss of Indian Writing **in** English.

35. Punctuate the following:

“Is that you, Jimmy Wells?” cried the man in the door.

SECTION - D

[WRITING]

IV. A] Answer any four (4) of the following. [Insert necessary details wherever necessary]:

4 x4=16

36. Write an e-mail to a charitable trust requesting for a scholarship.

To : kumarnetnt@angletrust. com

cc : vanitha@yahoo.com

Subject : Requisition for a scholarship

Dear Sir,

I am Gibinath from Madurai, Tamil Nadu. I have completed my Std. 10 from a government school. I have got 489 marks in the board exam. As I am from a poor family I do not have enough money to continue my studies. My father receives only daily wages and the money he gets is just enough to feed all of us. I heard that your trust gives scholarship to the deserving students to pursue higher education. Will you please consider my case and grant me a scholarship to continue my studies.

vanitha

37. You are Prakash / Priya, the president of your school English Club. Draft a notice about 'Essay Writing Competition' to display on your school notice board.

Government Hr. Sec. School, Minjur

ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION

1st February 2018

This is to inform the students of I & II year Higher Secondary class that an ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION will be held at 4.30pm on 2nd February 2018 (Friday), in the school auditorium. It is mandatory for all the student to attend the competition. For any type of query, please contact the under - signed.

Prakash / Priya ,

Head boy / Head girl

38. Expand the following News Headlines:

i) GAJA lashes Cauvery Delta.

GAJA lashed/ has lashed The Cauvery Delta districts in Tamil Nadu.

ii) ATM without security guard to close.

Automated Teller Machine, which do not have security guards, will be closed down.

iii) 189 passengers killed in air - crash in Indonesia.

One eighty nine passengers were killed in Indonesia by air - crash.

iv) Telephone customers to get video phones.

Telephone customers will be provided with video phones.

39. Any suitable answer.

B) Read and respond to the following advertisement considering yourself fulfilling the conditions specified:

1 x8=8

41.

From

XXXX,

YYYY.

yyy,

20.12.2012.

To

The Manager,
Shakthi Garments
No.2, 12th Avenu,
Gandhi Nagar,
Chennai - 600084

Sir,

Sub : Application for the post of **Accountant** regarding.

Ref : Your advertisement in '**THE HINDU**' dated 17.12.2012.

With reference to your advertisement in '**THE HINDU**' dated 17.12.2012, I wish to apply for the post of **Accountant**. I have herewith enclosed my bio-data for your perusal and favourable consideration. If I am appointed, I assure you Sir, that I will discharge my duties in an exemplary manner.

Thanking you,

Place: YYYY

yours faithfully,

Date: 20.12.2012.

XXXX.

BIO – DATA

Name : XXXX

Father's Name : ABC

Postal Address : YYYY

Age / Date of Birth : 30-03-80 (32)
E-mail id : 1. xxx@yahoo.com
2. xxx@hotmail.com
Gender : Male.
Religion : Hindu.
Nationality : Indian.
Marital Status : Single.
Qualification :

S.No.	NAME OF THE DEGREE	NAME OF THE COLLEGE	NAME OF THE UNIVERSITY	PERSENTAGE OF MARKS	YEAR OF PASSING
1.	B.Com.,	TMG Arts College., Pollachi.	M.K.University., Madurai.	75 %	2001
2.	M.Com.,	TMG Arts College., Pollachi.	M.K.University., Madurai.	80 %	2004

Experience : 5 years in SVB textiles, Madurai
Languages known to speak : Tamil, English, Hindi
Languages known to write : Tamil, English, Hindi
Salary expected : 10,000.
Other Skills : DCA with Tally. Senior Grade in type writing and short hand.

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all the above given details are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Station :YYY

Date :20.12.2002

XXXX

Signature of the applicant

Address to the envelope:

Application for the post of salesman

To

The Manager,
Shakthi Garments
No.2, 12thAvenu,
Gandhi Nagar,
Chennai - 600084

stamp

MY FUTURE CAREER / MY AMBITION IN LIFE

Introduction:

It is always a good thing to have an ambition in one's life. A man or woman without an ambition is really an unfortunate person, because his life is just like a ship without a rudder. It is at the mercy of winds and will be tossed higher and thither aimlessly. As it does not have any set destination, it will reach nowhere. Without any set aim, a person can achieve nothing in his life. An ambition is very essential in one's life. It inspires a person to achieve success in life. It gives him the incentive to work hard.

“Ambition is like hunger; it obeys no law but its appetite” - Josh Billings.

Is having an ambition just enough?

Of course, only having an ambition is not enough. A person should also work hard to achieve his ambition. There is no doubt that one who makes vigorous effort is sure to achieve his aim in life, sooner or later. Without making any efforts, man cannot realize anything in life. Then his ambition will simply become an idle dream.

My ambition:

My ambition in lie is to become a teacher. I do not want wealth. I do not want to lead the glamorous life o an actor. But I want to serve my country in a very humble capacity. Nearly 35% of the Indians are still illiterate. I want to educate my countrymen. I really feel that I can serve my fellomen best by becoming a teacher. But earning money is not my main motto in life. I believe in the Gandhian principle of simple living and high thinking.

Teacher: Friend, Philosopher and Guide:

A teacher is the real friend, Philosopher and guide of the students. He serves the cause of education. According to plato, education is the turning of the inner eye towards light. The teacher removes ignorance from the minds of his students. I want to realize the same ideals in my life as a teacher for which philosophers like Socrates, Plato, Aristotle and Dr. Radhakrishnan had worked throughout life.

“One good school master is worth a thousand Priests” – R.G. Ingersoll

Teachers: True Architect of the destiny of his students

I realize that if we are able to remove ignorance, illiteracy and superstitious from our country, we can develop it into a great country. I Possess the zeal of a missionary for this profession and I know that if I join it the ambition of my life will be fulfilled grandly. I shall not only teach my students the theoretical education but I would try my best to develop their character. Mahatma Gandhi had stressed greatly the development of the moral and spiritual aspects of the personality of the students. A teacher is the true architect of the destiny of the students. By becoming a teacher I shall also make my humble contribution in the building of my nation. The students of today are the citizens of tomorrow. Alexander the great says.

The worth of a thing is best known by the want of it

Instilling nationalism and patriotism:

I shall try to instill the true spirit of nationalism and patriotism in my students. I shall also teach them to perform their duties first rather than rather than hanker after their rights. I shall try to inculcate in my students a desire for learning the truth and lead a noble and virtuous life.

The destiny of India is being shaped in the class room

Conclusion:

Thus, I feel that my choice in life to become a teacher is a right decision. I shall be fully contented to serve my motherland in this humble capacity.

“I am indebted to my father for living, but my teacher for living well”

SECTION - E [READING]

Answer any one of the following

1 x4=4

42. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

i) What are modern gadgets?

Gadgets are electronically simplified applications that have been designed to make our life simple and convenient (**mobile, TV, Laptop etc**)

ii) How are gadgets important for a modern family?

Gadgets are very important for a modern family. where both husband and wife are working and do not have much time at their disposal. Gadgets come to their rescue and save a lot of time.

iii) Why do the teens go crazy?

Today, we find that teens go crazy over the gadgets and wherever they find something new, they don't get peace, till they are able to check out the features in it.

iv) To what extent should we use gadgets in our life?

Everyone must spend some quality with the family members instead of being engrossed in mobiles or watching T.V.

43. Read the following poem and answer the questions the following.

a) When are you lost?

If you think you will lose, you are lost

b) Who wins the life's battles?

The man who thinks he can

c) What does the poem insist on?

Optimism

d) Suggest a suitable title for the poem?

You are the best, you can!

SECTION - F

[SUPPLEMENTARY READER]

44. Write an essay of about 200 words by developing the following hints.

1 x8=8

WITH THE PHOTOGRAPHER

- STEPHEN LEACOCK

Introduction:

Stephen P.H. Buttler Leacock (30 December 1869-28 March 1944) was a Canadian teacher, Political Scientist, Writer, and Humorist. He is known for his light humour along with criticisms of people's follies. Leacock in the story "With the photographer" explains in detail the experience of the narrator with a professional photographer in a studio.

The Photographer and The narrator in the studio:

One day Leacock went to a studio to take his photograph. The photographer looked at him without enthusiasm. He made the author to wait for an hour. Then he took him into the inner room to take photo. The author's face was quite wrong. The author accepted it. The photographer added that it would look better if it was three quarters full. To prove his skill in photography, he asked the author to open his mouth and to close it. He felt that the author's ears were bad so he asked him to drop them a little more. He asked Leacock to roll his eye under the eyelids, to put the hands on knees, to turn the face little upward, to expand the lungs, to bend the neck. The narrator could not bear the insult anymore, so he started to rise from the seat.

At that time the photographer looked pleased as he had caught the features in a moment of animation.

Saturday shock:

On Saturday, the author went back to the studio to get his proof. The photographer showed his photo. The author was not able to identify his own image in it, because the photographer made so many changes in his eyes, eyebrow, mouth etc. The photograph didn't look like the author's photo at all. The author wanted a photograph that would have looked like himself. He wanted something that would depict his face as God gave it to him. He wanted something that his friends might have kept after his death to reconcile them to his loss.

"Desire to have a photograph of one's own is Natural"

Purpose of the Photo:

The narrator wanted something that his friends might keep after his death to reconcile them to his loss. The photograph never looked like the author's face. The purpose of the photograph was wasted as the man in the photograph was quite different than himself.

A worthless bauble:

The narrator loved his original face rather than the altered one and asked the photographer to keep the photo and edit the photo as he liked. The narrator said in anger to take his negative and dip it in sulphide, bromide, oxide and cowhide. But what the author wanted was no longer done. To him it was nothing but 'a worthless bauble'. Saying this, the author broke into tears and left the studio with a heavy heart.

Moral: "Desire to have a photograph of one's own is natural. In having oneself photographed a great deal of things one has to endure. Stephen Leacock drives this idea home through a comic sequence of actions in "with the photographer" ."

SMART WORK LEADS TO SUCCESS!!!

Department of English

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