



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA
GENERAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
(VHSE WING)

ENGLISH
(First Year)
QUESTION BANK



Career Guidance & Counselling Cell

Vocational Higher Secondary Examinations

English

First Year

Unit 1 (Glimpses of Greatness)

Time 2½ hrs.

Max Score : 80

Cool off time : 15 Minutes

General Instructions to Candidates:

- ◆ There is a cool-off time of 15 minutes in addition to the time allotted to writing.
- ◆ Use the cool-off time to get familiarized yourself with the questions and plan your answers
- ◆ Read the instructions and the questions carefully before answering

Answer the questions as directed

Read the excerpt from the story ‘I will Fly’ and answer the following questions.

“The question was from a teenager who had come from a far away village. He was nervous and a typical representative of the youth of India. The boy began speaking. ‘Sir, I don’t know what should I ask. I am nervous.’”

- 1) Who is addressed by the teenager as ‘Sir’? (1)
- 2) Which word in the extract means ‘characteristic’? (1)
- 3) What was the real problem faced by the boy? (2)

4) Read the following excerpt from ‘His First Flight’, there are four errors in the passage. Identify the errors and correct them.

The young seagull was alone his ledge. His two brothers and his sister had already flew away the day before. He had been afraid for fly with them. Somehow, when he had taken a little run forward to the brink of ledge and attempted to flap his wings, he became afraid. (4 x 1= 4)

Choose the correct alternative

- 5) Five miles not a short distance. (is, are)
- 6) One of us brought a globe. (has/have) (1 x 2 = 2)

Questions (7-12): Each question carries 4 score. Answer any five questions.

7. Write a paragraph on the problems faced by the young seagull. (4)
8. You are deeply impressed by the first flight of the young seagull. You are also aware of the support and motivation of the parents of the young seagull. You wish to write a letter to your friend narrating an incident from your life describing the support and motivation showed by your parents in achieving a goal. Draft the letter.
9. Here is the timeline of Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam’s life. Go through it carefully and prepare his short profile.

born as : Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam.
served as : 11th president of India from 2002-07.
started working : at a very young age

to support family	:	had to distribute newspapers after school.
in school	:	didn't score good grades but bright and hard working.
attitude	:	always had a strong desire to learn.
Graduation	:	degree in Physics in the year 1954.
notable contributions	:	designed a small helicopter for the Indian army at Defence Research and Development Organisation
transferred to ISRO	:	in 1969 as the project director of India's first satellite launch vehicle (SLV-III)
fame	:	'Missile Man of India'
books	:	<i>Wings of Fire</i> (his autobiography), <i>India 2020- A Vision for the New Millenium</i> , <i>Ignited Minds</i> , <i>My Journey</i> , <i>The Luminous Sparks</i> , <i>Children ask Klama</i> etc.
Awards/honours	:	first Asian to be honoured with the Hoover Medal which is America's top engineering prize honorary doctorates from more than 30 universities. Padma Bhushan in 1981 Padma Vibhushan in 1990. Bharat Ratna in 1997.
Died	:	27 July 2015

10. The day before the interview at Oxford, Hawking writes an email to his parents expressing his concern over the result of the interview. In it, he also expresses his future plans if he qualifies. Prepare the email.

11. As a student, you are deeply touched by the life and career of Stephen Hawking. You wish to convey the message you got from 'Quest for a Theory of Everything' to your junior students. Prepare a write-up.

12. Read the lines from the poem 'IF' and answer the questions that follow.

"If you can dream – and not make dreams your master;
If you can think – and not make thoughts your aim,
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same:"

What is the poet's approach to dreams and thoughts? (1)

What is the figure of speech used in the first line? (1)

Who are the impostors mentioned here? (2)

Questions 13-18) Answer any five questions in about 100 words. Each question carries 6 score.

13. Stephen Hawking visited your school as part of the World Science Day (November 10) in 2017. You conducted an interview with him on that day. Write down the questions you had prepared for the interview (6 questions)

14. Imagine that you were also one among the members of the audience of Abdul Kalam. You are totally changed by the inspiring words of Abdul Kalam. So you wish to write a report of the event. Prepare it.

15. Write an appreciation of the poem 'IF'

16. Here is the timeline of Stephen Hawking's life. Go through it carefully and prepare a brief summary of his life.

- January 8, 1942: born in Oxford.

- 1962: degree in physics (University of Oxford), research - in cosmology (Cambridge), thesis entitled "Properties of the Expanding Universes".

- 1963: identifies amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

- 1965: marries Jane Wilde and separate after 25 years

1995 : marries his former nurse, Elaine Mason;

- 1974: youngest member of the Royal Society, Britain's most prestigious scientific body.

- 1979: appointed as Professor of Mathematics at Cambridge University, a post he occupies for 30 years.

- 1985: loses the ability to speak after undergoing a tracheotomy. This results eventually in his use of a computer and a voice synthesiser to communicate.

- 1988: publishes *A Brief History of Time*

- 2014: The Hawking biopic *The Theory of Everything*, by director James Marsh, is released.

-March 14, 2018 : died at Cambridge

17. Imagine that a young scientist, who is a former student of your school, is coming there to inaugurate the science exhibition organized by the school. Prepare an introductory speech.

18. Fear and lack of confidence are the main problems faced by the young seagull in 'His First Flight'. Have you ever faced any such problem in your life. How did you overcome that. Describe the incident in a paragraph.

(Questions 19 to 21) Answer any two questions in about 120 words. Each question carries 8 score.

19. Confidence, courage, determination, hard work etc. are the most essential qualities needed for the success of a man. Prepare a speech to be presented before the school assembly in the light of the story of the young seagull.

20. Stephen Hawking had become a supernova by facing challenges boldly. Do you have any such dream in life. How will you realize it. Prepare an article.

21. Read the poem given below and write a critical appreciation of it.

Teach him for every enemy there is a friend,
steer him away from envy,
if you can,
teach him the secret of
quiet laughter.
Let him learn early that
the bullies
are the easiest to lick.

Teach him, if you can,
the wonder of books...
But also give him quiet time
to ponder the eternal
mystery of birds in the sky,
bees in the sun,
and the flowers on a green hillside.

In the school teach him
it is far honourable to fail
than to cheat...
Teach him to have faith
in his own ideas,
even if everyone tells him
they are wrong...
Teach him to be gentle
with gentle people,
and tough with the tough.

Try to give my son
the strength not to follow the crowd
when everyone is getting on the bandwagon...
Teach him to listen to all men...
but teach him also to filter
all he hears on a screen of truth,
and take only the good
that comes through.
Teach him if you can,
how to laugh when he is sad...
Teach him there is no shame in tears,
Teach him to scoff at cynics
and to beware of too much sweetness...
Teach him to sell his brawn⁹
and brain to the highest bidders¹⁰
but never to put a price-tag
on his heart and soul.
Teach him to close his ears
to a howling mob
and to stand and fight
if he thinks he's right.
Treat him gently,
but do not cuddle him,
because only the test

of fire makes fine steel.

Let him have the courage
to be impatient...
let him have the patience to be brave.
Teach him always
to have sublime faith in himself,
because then he will have
sublime faith in mankind.
This is a big order,
but see what you can do...
He is such a fine fellow,
my son!

Vocational Higher Secondary Examinations

English

First Year

Unit 2 (Words and Deeds)

Time 2½ hrs.

Max Score : 80

Cool off time : 15 Minutes

General Instructions to Candidates:

- ◆ There is a cool-off time of 15 minutes in addition to the time allotted to writing.
- ◆ Use the cool-off time to get familiarized yourself with the questions and plan your answers
- ◆ Read the instructions and the questions carefully before answering

Answer the questions as directed

Read the excerpt from ‘And then Gandhi Came’ and answer the following questions.

“His call of action was two fold. There was, of course, the action involved in challenging and resisting foreign rule; there was also the action which led us to fight against our own social evils. Apart from the fundamental objective of the Congress - the freedom of India – and the method of peaceful action, the principal planks of the Congress were national unity, which involved the solution of the minority problems, and the raising of the depressed classes, and the ending of the curse of untouchability.”

- 1) The fundamental objective of the Congress was ----- (1)
- 2) The meaning of the word ----- in the passage is ‘low’ (1)
- 3) What was the two-fold action involved in Gandhiji’s exhortation? (2)

Use the correct conditional clause.

- 4) If you had gone there, you (meet) him. (1)
- 5) If I (work) seriously, I would succeed. (1)
- 6) Report the following:
Maggie said, “I shall take mother away from here.”
“Did your father call you Maggie or magsy?” said Gupta. (4)

7) Read the following excerpt from ‘The Price of Flowers’, there are four errors in the passage. Identify the errors and correct them.

A waitress came up and waited politely of my order. I raise my eyes from the paper, glanced the menu and told her what I required. ‘Thank you, sir,’ she said and go briskly and noiselessly away.

Questions (8-13): Each question carries 4 score. Answer any five questions.

8. As part of the Gandhi Jayanthi celebrations you wish to invite a true Gandhian of your locality to inaugurate the programmes organized in your school. Draft an email inviting him for the function.
9. The NSS Club of your school plans to conduct an expo in connection with Gandhi Jayanthi celebrations. Prepare a notice.

10) Here is the timeline of Jawaharlal Nehru's life. Go through it carefully and prepare his short profile.

Born: 14 November 1889

Place of Birth: Allahabad

Parents: Motilal Nehru (father) and Swaruprani Thussu (mother)

Spouse: Kamala Nehru

Child: Indira Gandhi

Education: Harrow School, London; Trinity College, Cambridge; Inns of Court School of Law, London

Associations: Indian National Congress

Political Ideology: Nationalism; Socialism; Democracy; Communist influences

Religious Beliefs: Hinduism

Publications: The Discovery of India, Glimpses of World History, Toward Freedom, Letters from a Father to His Daughter

Passed Away: 27 May 1964

Memorial: Shantivan, New Delhi

11) Imagine that Maggie couldn't visit Mr. Gupta before his return to India. So she writes a letter requesting him to buy flowers for laying them on Franc's grave. Draft the letter.

12) Later in life, Maggie became one of the most popular violinists of the world. Mr. Gupta has got a chance to see her in connection with a programme organized in India. He makes a diary entry the same evening. Prepare it.

13) Read the lines from the poem 'Death the Leveller' and answer the questions that follow.

"There is no armour against Fate;
Death lays his icy hand on kings:"

The figure of speech used in the second line is -----.

(1)

Elaborate the idea conveyed in these lines.

(3)

(Questions 14-19) Answer any five questions in about 100 words. Each question carries 6 score.

14. Imagine that you get a chance to conduct an interview with Gopala Krishna Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi about contemporary politics. Write at least 3 questions and their possible responses.

15. After reading the story 'The Price of Flowers' you decide to do some social service. How do you plan to do it. Prepare a write-up.

16. You are aware of the sacrifice of Maggie. Write a paragraph about an incident that happened in your life in which you showed a sacrificing mentality.

17) Write a letter to the editor of a Daily to publish an article about the need for Gandhian values in the present political scenario.

18) **Read the lines from the poem ‘Death the Leveller’ and answer the question that follows.**

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

How does the poet establish Death as a leveller in the above lines. Prepare a write-up.

19. Write an appreciation of the poem ‘Death the Leveller’.

(Questions 20 to 22) Answer any two questions in about 120 words. Each question carries 8 score.

20. As you are the school chairman you are asked to present a speech on the role of Gandhi in effecting a psychological change in the society on the Gandhi Jayanthi day. Prepare the script of the speech.

21) “I realised that superstition was not confined to India,” said Gupta. Write an essay on superstition versus science.

22) Write a critical appreciation of the poem

BECAUSE I COULD NOT STOP FOR DEATH (EMILY DICKINSON)

Because I could not stop for Death –
He kindly stopped for me –
The Carriage held but just Ourselves –
And Immortality.

We slowly drove – He knew no haste
And I had put away
My labor and my leisure too,
For His Civility –

We passed the School, where Children strove
At Recess – in the Ring –
We passed the Fields of Gazing Grain –
We passed the Setting Sun –

Or rather – He passed Us –
The Dews drew quivering and Chill –
For only Gossamer, my Gown –
My Tippet – only Tulle –

We paused before a House that seemed
A Swelling of the Ground –
The Roof was scarcely visible –
The Cornice – in the Ground –

Since then – 'tis Centuries – and yet
Feels shorter than the Day
I first surmised the Horses' Heads
Were toward Eternity –

Vocational Higher Secondary Examinations

English

First Year

Unit 3 (Beyond the Horizon)

Time :2½ hrs.

Max Score :80

Cool off time:15 Minutes

General Instructions to Candidates:

- ◆ There is a cool-off time of 15 minutes in addition to the time allotted to writing.
- ◆ Use the cool-off time to get familiarized yourself with the questions and plan your answers
- ◆ Read the instructions and the questions carefully before answering

Read the following excerpt and answer the questions given below:

I stood upon the hills, when heaven's wide arch
Was glorious with the sun's returning march
And woods were brightened,
and soft gales
Went forth to kiss the sun-clad vales.

- 1) What does the expression 'heavens wide arch' imply? (1)
- 2) Comment on the expression 'soft gales'. (1)
- 3) What makes the glory of the clouds fade? (1)

4) Edit the following passage by correcting the errors.

Two or three hundred people is looking at it, sitting or standing, and some are examined the basket, a nice little square basket from a human cargo, bearing on its side in gold letters, in a mahogany plate, the words: Le Horla (4)

5) Fill in the blanks with correct forms of verb

The Nabukelevu fishermen..... (continue) their journey back to their home village ,and two women from Namuana who (change) to turtles(live) on in the water of the bay. It is their descendants today who (rise) from the water when the maidens of their own village sing songs to them from the cliffs. (4)

6) 'Every traveller has a home of his own and he learns to appreciate it the more from his wanderings,' Charles Dickens. In the light of reading 'The trip of Le Horla' write three points about how travelling influences your life. (3)

Questions (7-12): Each question carries 4 score. Answer any five questions.

7) You recently visited a hill station and the scenic beauty of the place moved you deeply. Draft an email to your friend sharing your travel experiences.

8) Make a profile of Kalpana Chawla after reading the following hints:

Born: 1 July 1961, Karnal

Died: 1 February 2003, Texas, United States

Spouse: Jean-Pierre Harrison (m. 1983–2003)

Missions: STS-87, STS-107

Education: University of Colorado Boulder (1988), The University of Texas at Arlington (1984), more

Awards: Congressional Space Medal of Honor, NASA Space Flight Medal, more.

9) After reading 'The Trip of Le Horla' you are impressed by the character of Captain Jovis. Prepare the character sketch of Captain Jovis.

10) Prepare a travel Info of a hill station you have visited.

11) Imagine that a group of tourists visits an attractive place in your locality. You being a tourist guide prepare an introductory speech welcoming them.

12) 'Sunrise on the Hills 'gives you a detailed description of valley and mountains with visual, auditory and kinesthetic images. Have you got any such travel experience in your life? Prepare a write-up.

(Questions 13-18) Answer any five questions in about 100 words. Each question carries 6 score.

13) 'Look deep into Nature and then you will understand everything better" - Albert Einstein. In the light of reading the poem "Sunrise On the Hills "by H. W. Longfellow how far is the above statement true. Prepare a write-up.

14) The ritual of 'calling the turtles from the sea' in the Fijian legend 'The Sacred Turtles of Kadavu ' showcases the diverse beliefs and traditions of the Fijian Island. Write a description of a ritual performed in your native place.

15) Prepare the script of live TV report on the valedictory ceremony of Onam celebrations.(Hints: description of the scene and the arrangements ,the arrival of dignitaries, reaction of the spectators etc.)

16) You are the coordinator of the Nature Camp of your school. Write the do's and don'ts that you will consider while planning the trip.

17) You happened to witness the Fijian ritual. Draft an email to your friend describing the ritual.

18) Prepare an appreciation of the poem 'Sunrise on the Hills.'

(Questions 19 to 21) Answer any two questions in about 120 words. Each question carries 8 score.

19) You happened to visit the Fijian Island and witnessed the strange ritual of 'calling the turtles from the sea.' Prepare a write-up on a similar ritual in your locality.

20) Imagine that you were one among the travellers in 'Le Horla.' Write a travel essay describing the travel experience.

21) **Read the poem given below and write a note of appreciation.**

Sunrise From Mount Washington

(by Rufus Dawes)

The laughing hours have chased away the night,

Plucking the stars out from her diadem:
And now the blue-eyed Morn, with modest grace,
Looks through her half-drawn curtains in the east,
Blushing in smiles and glad as infancy.
And see, the foolish Moon, but now so vain
Of borrowed beauty, how she yields her charms,
And, pale with envy, steals herself away!
The clouds have put their gorgeous livery on,
Attendant on the day: the mountain tops
Have lit their beacons, and the vales below
Send up a welcoming: no song of birds,
Warbling to charm the air with melody,
Floats on the frosty breeze; yet Nature hath
The very soul of music in her looks!
The sunshine and the shade of poetry.

Vocational Higher Secondary Examinations

English

First Year

Unit 4 (Braving the Hazards)

Time 2½ hrs.

Max Score : 80

Cool off time : 15 Minutes

General Instructions to Candidates:

- ◆ There is a cool-off time of 15 minutes in addition to the time allotted to writing.
- ◆ Use the cool-off time to get familiarized yourself with the questions and plan your answers
- ◆ Read the instructions and the questions carefully before answering

Answer the questions as directed.

Read the story written by Josephine Mapples about her experiences in the Inangahua earthquake and answer the questions that follow.

I was a young teenager living in Nelson when the quake struck, in the night. Although we were far from the epicentre, we lived in an old wooden house and we were woken up, not by the shaking of the house, but by the sound of the earth-quake coming. It was like a roar or a train noise outside. The earth moved, followed by the windows rattling, the floor shaking, and the whole house moving. By this time we were out of bed, staggering over the floor, my grandmother screaming and yelling. We were shocked and tensed, wondering what had happened. I remember rushing to stand under a doorway, the only sensible thing I knew to do! I can remember clearly the next few days at school. There were a number of times where aftershocks shook the wooden convent building, and the swaying of the third floor made us all rush under our desks again.

1. What were the immediate responses of the family members when the earthquake struck? (1)
2. What was the sensible thing done by Josephine? (1)
3. Pick out the word from the story that means
 - a. To walk or move unsteadily
 - b. central core/base (2)
4. Read the following paragraph and fill in the blanks with words given in brackets [barely, anchored, confined, uneventful]

Our passage through the Bay of Bengal was brief and I had time to recover myself, or to realize that the epidemic had been, before we were alongside the quay at Calcutta (4)

(Questions 5-7): Read the following lines and answer the questions that follow.

Out of Southampton she swung with the stream,
A poem of iron and steel, A sea dream.
And thousands on shore, watched her steaming away:
The largest, and grandest of all ships that day.

5. Why was the Titanic called 'a poem of iron and steel'?
6. Who is referred to as the 'largest and grandest of all ships.'?
7. Name the poet.
8. Give two suggestions to prevent disasters in your locality.

(Questions 9 to 14): Answer any five. Each question carries four score.

9. The Science club of your school has decided to conduct a disaster awareness week with various programmes including an exhibition, mock drill, awareness classes, etc. Draft an email to T. P. Padmanabhan, a leading environmentalist requesting him to inaugurate the programme.
10. When the flood hit Kerala the Keralites were real heroes just like the crew of the Titanic. Prepare a paragraph about the heroic role played by Keralites in the flood rescue measures.
11. 'Don't judge a book by its cover.' How far is this true with reference to the character of Hassan in 'The Serang of Ranaganji'.
12. Prepare the character sketch of Mrs. Smith in 'The Serang of Ranaganji'.
13. "The most affected in disasters are the poor sections of society, who have to work daily to earn their livelihood." How far do you agree with this statement? Express your views in a paragraph.
14. In the wake of rising menace of plastic, your class has decided to give an awareness on the necessity of segregating plastic from waste and its safe disposal. What instructions would you give to students? Draft 4 instructions to be given to students in the school assembly. (5 x 4 = 20)

(Questions 15 to 20) Answer any 5 each question carries 6 score.

15. Your school has convened an awareness class on disaster management in the aftermath of increasing number of disasters in Kerala. The programme is blessed with the presence of Dr. Varun Kumar, senior GIS specialist in the Hazard, Vulnerability and Risk Assessment cell of KSDMA. As the school leader, you are assigned the duty of introducing the programme. Draft the introductory speech.
16. Illegal construction has led to water logging and other related problems in various parts of Kerala. Write a newspaper report about such wrong models of development.
17. You are a passenger who witnessed the services rendered by the Serang during the course of the voyage. Write a letter to your friend appreciating his character.
18. Imagine yourself as a passenger of the Titanic who was fortunately rescued from the ship on the fatal night. You make a diary entry. Prepare it.
19. 'yes....in a way...it was a cage... But isn't it queer Miss Jopesmith, the animals are outside'. How far is this statement true with regard to the story 'The Serang of Ranaganji.'
20. Captain Smith has done commendable service in saving the lives of passengers in 'The Titanic.' Attempt the character sketch of Captain Smith.

Questions (21-23) Answer any two questions. Each question carries 8 scores.

(scores 2 x 8 = 16)

21. Write an essay on the topic 'Disasters- Challenges and Responsibilities of Mankind'
22. Draft a speech on the topic 'Role of students in disaster management' taking into account the services rendered by the student community in the recent floods that affected Kerala.
23. Write an appreciation of the following poem

In Madurai,
city of temples and poets,
who sang of cities and temples,
every summer
a river dries to a trickle
in the sand,
baring the sand ribs,
straw and women's hair
clogging the watergates
at the rusty bars
under the bridges with patches
of repair all over them
the wet stones glistening like sleepy
crocodiles, the dry ones
shaven water-buffaloes lounging in the sun
The poets only sang of the floods.

He was there for a day
when they had the floods.
People everywhere talked
of the inches rising,
of the precise number of cobbled steps
run over by the water, rising
on the bathing places,
and the way it carried off three village houses,
one pregnant woman
and a couple of cows
named Gopi and Brinda as usual.

The new poets still quoted
the old poets, but no one spoke
in verse
of the pregnant woman
drowned, with perhaps twins in her,
kicking at blank walls
even before birth.

He said:
the river has water enough
to be poetic
about only once a year

and then
it carries away
in the first half-hour
three village houses,
a couple of cows
named Gopi and Brinda
and one pregnant woman
expecting identical twins
with no moles on their bodies,
with different coloured diapers
to tell them apart.

Vocational Higher Secondary Examinations
English
First Year
Unit 5 (Harmony of life)

Time: 2½ hrs.
Max Score: 80
Cool off time: 15 Minutes

General Instructions to Candidates:
◆ There is a cool-off time of 15 minutes in addition to the time allotted to writing.
◆ Use the cool-off time to get familiarized yourself with the questions and plan your answers
◆ Read the instructions and the questions carefully before answering

Answer the questions as directed.

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

He could not speak for excitement, then put one into his mouth, glanced at me in triumph, like a child at last being given its favourite toy, and said: "How good they are!" "He went on eating greedily, and saying all the while: "How could they are! Do try one!" It was hard and sour but I saw a happy man...

- 1) Who is 'he' referred to here? (1)
- 2) Why is he excited? (2)
- 3) Whom did he glance at? (1)
- 4) What was he eating greedily? Why was it so good to him? (3)

Read the following lines and answer the questions that follow:

"I've thought of all by turns, and still I lie
Sleepless; and soon the small birds' melodies"

- 5) What are the thoughts that passed through the poet's mind? (2)
- 6) Name the poem from which this line is extracted (1)

There are a few errors in the following sentences. Identify the errors and correct them.

- 7) I am not one of those extremist who must have a vehicle for every destination. I never goes out of my way, as it were in avoid exercise. (4)

Questions (8 to 13). Each question carries four score. Answer any five questions

- 8) Physical education period must be allotted to students at least once a week. Write four points 'for' or 'against' the statement.
- 9) The poet in 'To Sleep' listens to certain sounds as he was left awake at midnight. Prepare a write up describing the sounds he listened to.
- 10) One of your dear friends has disclosed his mental trouble due to sleep deficiency. Give four suggestions to overcome his present condition.
- 11) Nicholai provides vodka to his villagers on his birthday. The chief of the village renders a thanksgiving speech. Prepare the short script for the speech.

12) Read the following excerpt from the story 'Gooseberries' and report it.
"Last time, when we stopped in Prokofyi's shed," said Bourkin, "you were going to tell me a story."
"Yes. I wanted to tell you about my brother."

13) The Primary Health Centre of your locality conducts a seminar on 'Exercise and Healthy Life.'
Prepare a notice for the seminar.

Questions (14-19). Answer any five questions. Each question carries 6 score.

14) Nicholai Ivanich sends an email to the owner of an estate expressing his willingness to buy it.
Draft the email.

15) Ivan Ivanich reaches back home after meeting his brother. His mind was full of thoughts. He makes a diary entry. Write the diary.

16) Your school has conducted a seminar on World Health Day. You being the reporter of a leading daily, prepare the newspaper report.

17) "A ruffled mind makes a restless pillow." Narrate your personal experience when you couldn't sleep, presenting the reason behind restlessness.

18) As an excuse to avoid his friend who invites him for walking, Max Beerbohm sits down to write a letter to his brother. Draft the letter.

19) Prepare a profile of Anton Chekhov.

Birth 1860, Taganrog, Russia

Father - Pavel – a grocer

Mother - Yevgeniya

Career – dramatist, short story writer, physician

Famous plays - The Seagull, Uncle Vanya, The Cherry Orchard

Famous stories – Dreams, A work of Art, Vanka

Death - 1904

Questions (20-22). Answer any two questions. Each question carries 8 score

20. The first wealth is health. In the present scenario of increasing lifestyle diseases, prepare an essay highlighting the need for exercise in daily life.

21. A satisfied life is better than a successful life. How far determination helps Nicholai achieve his goal. Prepare an article for a magazine in the light of the story 'Gooseberries'

22. **Read the poem given below and write a critical appreciation of it.**

How to Sleep

(Philip Larkin)

Child in the womb,
Or saint on a tomb-
Which way shall I lie
To fall asleep?
The keen moon stares
From the back of the sky,

The clouds are all home
Like driven sheep.

Bright drops of time,
One and two chime,
I turn and lie straight
With folded hands;
Convent-child, Pope,
They chose this state,
And their minds are wiped calm
As sea-levelled sands.

So my thoughts are:
But sleep stays as far,
Till I crouch on one side
Like a foetus again -
For sleeping, like death,
Must be won without pride,
With a nod from nature,
With a lack of strain,
And loss of stature.

Vocational Higher Secondary Examinations

English

First Year

Unit 6

Time 2½ hrs.

Max Score : 80

Cool off time : 15 Minutes

General Instructions to Candidates:
◆ There is a cool-off time of 15 minutes in addition to the time allotted to writing.
◆ Use the cool-off time to get familiarized yourself with the questions and plan your answers
◆ Read the instructions and the questions carefully before answering

Answer all the questions as directed.

(Questions 1-3): Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

Technology has given us a universe entirely for ourselves; the serendipity of meeting a new stranger, hearing a piece of music we would never choose for ourselves, or an opinion that might force us to change our mind about something- are all effectively banished. Atomisation by little white boxes and cellphones. Society without the social.

- 1) What has given us a universe entirely for ourselves? (1)
- 2) What are effectively banished by technology? (2)
- 3) What does the author mean by 'society without the social'? (2)
- 4) List down three do's to shape the world of a differently abled person. (3)
- 5) "Using censorship to counter and silence cyberspace fundamentally misinterprets the nature of cyberspace." Write 3 arguments agreeing or disagreeing with this comment. (3)
- 6) Suppose Greta in the story "Conceptual fruit" is moved to a group house with other people like her. There she gets a friend with whom she shares her dream. Narrate Greta's dream. (3)
- 7) Write two advantages of internet.(2)

(Questions 8-13): Each question carries 4 score. Answer any five questions.

8) There are a few errors in the following sentence. Identify the errors and edit them.

Formerly, a playground for computer nerds and techies, cyberspace now embrace every conceivable constituencies including school children.

9) Suppose Greta is given appointment as typist in a government department. The residence association organises a function to appreciate her. Prepare an introductory speech for the purpose.

10) The English class of your school is organising a debate on "Minimum age limit should be made mandatory for internet use." Imagine you are to speak for the topic. List out four points in favour of the topic.

11) Imagine the NSS unit of your school is conducting a seminar on the topic "Is Society dead?". Prepare a notice.

12) Integrated Education of the differently abled is a positive development in the field of education. Express your views in a paragraph.

13) "Family relationships are affected by smartphones." Prepare a blog entry.

14) Attempt a character sketch of Greta in the story "Conceptual fruit" by Thaisa Frank.

(Questions 14-19) Answer any five questions. Each question carries 6 score.

15) Imagine you got an opportunity to write an article to be published in the school magazine on the topic "Parental supervision is essential for the use of internet by children below eighteen years." Prepare an article.

16) You are motivated by the success of the present Assistant collector of Trivandrum who is a differently abled person. Draft an email to be sent to your friend who lacks confidence.

17) Differently abled children require not sympathy but support from society. Write a letter to the Minister for Education requesting him to ensure well equipped special schools for autistic children.

18) A seminar is conducted in your school on the topic "Technological advancement a boon to overcome limitations in real life". Write the report of the same.

19) Prepare a write-up on the role of Greta's father in shaping her world.

Questions (20-22): Answer any two questions. Each question carries 8 score

20) Prepare an editorial to be published in a leading Daily on the topic "Smart phones and internet-emerging as villain in family ties."(8)

21) Imagine Greta's father posts an advertisement in the newspaper for a special teacher to take care of her. Prepare an application letter and Resume for the purpose.

<u>Special Teacher Needed</u>
We are in need of a special teacher to take care of our differently abled daughter. She is sixteen years old. She can type very slowly. Interested candidates please send your application with resume to the following address
Mr. Dcruz,
Greta's cottage,
Greta's street,
London.

22) Write a critical appreciation of the given poem.

Self centred world

This world is selfish, it's full of I's

Too self centred, and full of lies.

People withdrawing inside their cocoon,

The world on computer, alone in their room.

No physical contact, of human kind,

It's cyberspace melding, of keyboard and mind.

iPhone, I chat, I write on iPad,

Isolate with iPod, and still I am sad

True love needs contact, with kisses and hugs,

The holding of hands, and excitement of touch.

Tweeting and blogging, and facebooking taps,

Can not compare, with real life apps.

Start with a smile, and friendly hi,

Engage in a chat, without telling a lie.

Lend a helping hand, with their open heart,

And do unto others, makes a great start.