

Reg. No.

SY-201

Name : ..

SECOND YEAR HIGHER SECONDARY EXAMINATION, MARCH 2021

Part – I

Time : 2½ Hours

ENGLISH

Cool-off time : 20 Minutes

Maximum : 80 Scores

General Instructions to Candidates :

- 20 Minutes is given as cool-off time.
- Use the 'Cool-off time' to read the questions and plan your answers.
- Attempt the questions according to the instructions.
- Keep in mind, the score and time while answering the questions.
- The maximum score for questions from 1 to 38 will be 80.

Answer the following questions from 1 to 38 up to a maximum Score of 80.

Read the lines from 'Any Woman' and answer the questions that follow :

I am the fire upon the hearth,
I am the light of the good sun,
I am the heat that warms the earth,
Which else were colder than a stone.

- 1 Who is the speaker of these lines ? (1)
- 2 Identify the figure of speech used in the first line of the stanza. (1)
- 3 Find the image / phrase that conveys the idea of lifelessness and inactivity. (1)
- 4 Elaborate on the main ideas conveyed in these lines. (2)
- 5 Read the following passage. Fill in the blanks choosing appropriate phrasal verbs from those given in the brackets and complete the passage. (2)

Irfan Alam won the 'Business Bazigar' show in 2006, but he _____ (turn on/turn down/turn off) their offer of Rupees 150 lakhs. Instead, he _____ (set off/set aside/set up) the business himself.

6. The following passage has a few errors. Identify them and edit appropriately. (4)

My inspiration come from my childhood experiences and observations of nature on rural Kenya. As I was growing up, I witnessed forests been cleared and replaced by commercial plantations who destroyed local bio-diversity and the capacity of the forests to conserve water.

7. An extract from the conversation between Sudha Murty and Ratna in 'Horegallu' is given below. Report the conversation. (2)

Sudha Murty : Ratna, Don't you ever tell others the secrets you hear ?

Ratna : I consider that to be the worst kind of cheating.

8. Ajit did not give Nomita an easy time. He belittled and insultd her, using harsh words. You are Ajit's friend. Write four pieces of advice you would give Ajit. (4)

You may use expressions like :

Ajit, I think you should.../ Why don't you.../ If I were you.../ Why can't you...

9. In the first stanza of the poem "Any Woman", the woman is considered as the fire, the light and the heat. In the absence of the woman, a house will be as cold as a stone. Do you agree with this statement ? Write your opinion in a paragraph. (4)

10. Your class is conducting a debate on the topic 'Environmental conservation is more important than Economic growth'. Write four arguments in favour of or against the topic. (4)

11. In the anecdote 'Horegallu', Sudha Murty asks Ratna how she could solve the troubles of so many people by just listening to them. Do you think mere listening can solve problems ? Write your opinion in a paragraph. (4)

12. A discussion was held in your class on the topic 'Domestic Violence'. One of your friends remarked, 'If we are to fight discrimination and injustice against women, we must start from the home, for if a woman cannot be safe in her own house then she cannot be expected to feel safe anywhere.'

Write four points supporting this opinion. (4)

3. In the story 'Matchbox', Nomita's mother keeps on writing letters to her, complaining about her hardships and misfortunes. What is your view of the character of Nomita's mother? Answer in a paragraph. (4)

4. 'I used to lift a hot pot of water off the stove – and that did it.' Here, Nomita in 'Matchbox' tries to hide her problems from the other members of the family. Do you justify her action? Why/why not? (4)

5. According to the father in the poem 'Rice', 'only fools turn to rice-farming for gain'. However, the poet comes home eager to eat a full meal of athikkira rice. Compare the attitude of the poet and his father, in a short paragraph. (4)

6. Nomita, in the story 'Matchbox' faces many insults from her husband Ajit. At last, one day, she tells her sister-in-law the whole story. Prepare the likely conversation between the two women, in at least four exchanges. (4)

17. 'She grabs Ajit's matchbox on the table, lights a matchstick and touches it to her sari.' This is how Nomita in 'Matchbox' responds to the humiliation of her husband. What is your opinion of Nomita's impulsive reaction? Write your answer in a paragraph. (4)

18. 'I know that if I take this money [from John Gresham], I do a dishonourable thing.' These words clearly show that Robert Baldwin will never be influenced by any financial offers. Prepare a brief character sketch of Baldwin. (5)

19. In the story 'Amigo Brothers' the announcer turned to the winner and found himself alone in the boxing ring. Arm in arm, the champions had already left the ring. Imagine that you are the announcer. What would you announce in this situation? Write the likely announcement. (5)

20. "God has given me two ears to listen to others. I hear them out with sympathy and without judgement. These are the words of Ratna in 'Horegallu'. What do you think are the qualities of a good listener? (5)

21. 'Those who whine day and night and hold out their palms to their son-in-law, they're the high class people! A dung-picker's daughter becomes a queen.' This is how Ajit responds to Nomita, when she called him 'a vulgar man'. What do you think of the character of Ajit? Write a brief sketch of his character. You may use the hints given below.

(ego and prejudice – insults his wife – but fears the inner fire of Nomita – keeps the image of a gentleman) (5)

22. According to recent studies, in our country, every four minutes, one woman faces domestic violence. In 'Matchbox', we get a glimpse of this reality. After reading the story "Matchbox", you decide to write about the hardships of Nomita, in your personal blog (an online diary). Prepare the blogpost. You may use the following hints.

(Struggles, challenges, lack of identity, humiliation) (6)

23. Write a short profile of Sachy, the famous Malayalam film director using the hints given below. (6)

Name : K.R. Sachidanandan

Popularly known as : Sachy

Born : 25 December 1972, Kodungallur, Thrissur

Profession : Screenwriter, Director, Producer, Advocate

First movie directed : Anarkali, 2015.

Hit movie : Ayyappanum Koshiyum, 2020.

Died : 18 June 2020.

24. Imagine you are studying in a residential school. The woman in the poem 'Any Woman' evokes in you memories of your mother with whom you have quarreled for silly things. This bothers you a lot. Write an email to your mother telling her how much you miss her. (6)

25. "We lost all our money and our dreams", a poor farmer responded to the news of the collapse of the bank in 'The Hour of Truth'. You are from 'Daily News', and you wish to highlight the plight of such depositors. Write your report in around eighty words. (6)

26. Wangari Maathai is the first African woman to receive the Nobel Prize for Peace. Prepare a profile using the hints given below. (6)

Born : 1 April, 1940, Kenya

Founder : Green Belt Movement

Environmental activist, Kenyan politician, writer

Awards : Right Livelihood Award (1984)

Nobel Peace Prize (2004).

Contributed to sustainable development, democracy and peace.

27. In the poem 'Rice', we see the poet return to his village after four years of research in North India, hoping at last to eat athikkira rice at home. However, this did not happen. His father had stopped rice farming and had become a rubber planter. Unhappy, the poet writes an email to his friend about his disappointment. Write the email. (6)

28. Several households in our country are still miserable, lacking good food and other basic needs. It is high time that we did what we can to help them. As a responsible citizen, you write a letter to the editor of a prominent daily voicing your concern. Prepare the letter. (6)

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow :

Nehha Bhatnagar is a Bharatnatyam dancer whose Delhi based 'Sarvam Foundation' has brought the joy of dance to the lives of many underprivileged children. The initiative was founded in 2012 with the purpose of bringing the classical arts to all, from the girl child in the slum to the corporate executive in her glass tower. "I was socially conscious and sensitive to the disparity around us. This led me to start teaching underprivileged girls the rudiments of Bharathanatyam'. The future looks bright for the 'Sarvam' girls. As for Nehha, taking small but assured steps, she hopes to be able to support 100 marginalized girls through the foundation.

29. Find out the word in the passage which means 'inequality'. (1)

30. Who is the founder of 'Sarvam' ? (1)

31. What prompted the dancer to start such an initiative ? (1)

32. Do we need more such initiatives in our country ? (1)

33. When did the foundation begin its activities ? (1)
34. A webinar is conducted by the English club of your school on the topic '21st century Indian women and the challenges they face in society'. As a member of the club, you are asked to make a speech on the topic. Prepare the script of your speech. (8)
35. Irfan Alam, the founder and chairman of Sammaan Foundation came out with an innovative idea and transformed it into a business model. You come to know about a vacancy for the post of an accountant in 'SammaaN'. Prepare an application for the post and attach a resume with the necessary details. (8)
36. Antonio and Felix, in the story 'Amigo Brothers', share a single dream – to become the light weight champion.
However, at the end of the boxing championship, they left the ring before the announcement of the winner. Prepare a write-up on the spirit of friendship portrayed in the story. (8)
37. Nomita, in the story 'Matchbox,' is often insulted and humiliated by her husband, Ajit. Sometimes, he hurts her feelings very much. Imagine that Nomita meets Ratna (the character mentioned in 'Horegallu'), and she narrates the incidents of her life with Ajit to Ratna. Prepare the likely narrative. (8)

38. Read the poem given below. Compare the poem with 'Any Woman' written by Katharine Tynan. (8)

Clear as sunshine,
Sweet as nectar;
One who gets mother's love
Is the true victor.

'Tis mystic yet unmisted
Pristine and pure;
None can deny this,
I resolutely assure.

Her tears flow
For my slightest pain;
Her smiles and joy
For my smallest triumph.

She starves for me
And feeds me well;
Gives me heaven
And accepts hell.

The showers of her love
Bring joy in my way,
This unselfishness
I can never repay.

I can never repay,
This I assure;
For her love is godly,
Pristine and pure.

Debasish Mishra

(nectar=honey, pristine=pure, resolutely=firmly).
