



SSLC PRE MODEL EVALUATION JANUARY 2023

Time : 1¹/₄ Hrs.

ENGLISH

Score: 40

Questions 1-4. Read the following passage from ‘Project Tiger’ and answer the questions given below:

In May, close to graduation, spring fever had struck as usual with a vengeance. No one paid any attention in class; instead we stared out of the windows and at each other wanting to speed up the last few weeks of school. I despaired every time I looked in the mirror. Pencil thin, not a curve anywhere. I was called ‘beanpole’ and ‘string bean’ and I knew that’s what I looked like. That really wasn’t much for a fourteen-year-old to work with, I thought, as I absent-mindedly wandered from my history class to the gym. Another hour of sweating in basketball and displaying my toothpick legs was coming up. Then I remembered my P E shorts were still in a bag under my desk where I’d forgotten them. I had to walk all the way back and get them.

1. Why didn’t the pupils pay attention in class? 1
2. ‘I despaired every time I looked in the mirror.’ What made her despaired? 1
3. What was the narrator called by others? 1
4. Pick out the word from the passage which means ‘to lose hope’. 1

Questions 6 – 9 Read the given lines from and answer the questions below: 4 × 1 = 4

and I wrote the first faint line,
faint, without substance, pure
nonsense,
pure wisdom
of someone who knows nothing,
and suddenly I saw
the heavens

unfastened and open,
planets,
palpitating plantations,
shadow perforated,
riddled
with arrows, fire and flowers,
the winding night, the universe.

5. Why did the poet consider his first lines ‘faint’? 1
6. Why did the poet describe himself as ‘someone who knows nothing’? 1
7. Pick out a word from the lines which means ‘to untie’. 1
8. Identify an instance of **visual image** from the lines above. 1

Question. 9 Prepare an appreciation of ‘**Poetry**’ written by Pablo Neruda, focusing on the theme, imagery and other poetic crafts. 4 × 1 = 4

Questions 10 – 13. Read the following passage and the answer the questions that follow. 4 × 1 = 4

There is a story of a man who thought he had a right to do what he liked. One day, this gentleman was walking along a busy road, spinning his walking-stick round and round in his hand, and was trying to look important. A man walking behind him objected.

‘You ought not to spin your walking-stick round and round like that !’ he said.

‘I am free to do what I like with walking-stick’ argued the gentleman.

‘Of course you are’ said the other man, ‘ but you ought to know that your freedom ends where my nose begins’
The story tells us that we can enjoy our right and our freedom only if we do not interfere with other people’s rights and freedom.

10. Why was the gentleman on the road spinning his walking-stick round and round?
11. Who opposed the gentleman's action?
12. What was the argument of the gentleman?
13. What message does the story convey to the reader?

Questions 14 – 15 Answer any one of the following: 1 × 6 = 6

14. Imagine Aunt Jane in the one act play ‘Never Never Nest’ shares the story of Jack and Jill to one of her friends. How she would narrate it?

15. You are the secretary of the Anti-Drug Club of your school. On the Anti-Drug Day, you are asked to give an awareness speech. Prepare a **speech** in the light of your reading of 'The Best Investment I Ever Made'.

Questions 16 – 18 Answer any two of the following:

2 × 5 = 10

16. Prepare a **profile** of Pablo Neruda using the hints given below. Don't forget to use linkers and cohesive devices wherever necessary.

| | | |
|----------------|---|---|
| Birth | : | 12 July 1904 |
| Place of Birth | : | Parral, Chile |
| Nationality | : | Chilean |
| Famous as | : | poet, diplomat, politician, the national poet of Chile |
| Major Works | : | 20 Love Poem, 100 Love Sonnets, The Hands of the Day, The Yellow Heart. |
| Awards | : | Lenin Peace Prize (1953), Nobel prize for literature (1971) |
| Death | : | 23 September 1973, Santiago, Chile |

17. Imagine you are the leader of Small Texas School. The School Students' Council has decided to honour Martha on her winning the Scholarship Jacket. You are asked to prepare a notice of the programme. Draft it with all the necessary details.

18. Complete the dialogue between Dr. Cronin and Mr. John.

JOHN : Excuse me doctor. You remember me,a.....?
Cronin : Sorry. I don't remember you.
John : I am John
Cronin : OK.....b.....?
John : I'm going to America
Cronin : It is a holiday trip,c.....?
John : No, I'm going to visit the summer recreational camps.
Cronin : It's quite interesting, By the by,.....d.....?
John : Once you saved my life from a suicide attempt.
Cronin : Yes, I remember now.
John : If you hadn't come there in time.....e.....?

19. Read the following passage and use the phrasal verbs given in brackets to replace the words underlined.

3 × 1 = 3

It was an April afternoon. The boy was sitting on the platform **built** (a) on the banyan tree. That was the time he saw a mongoose and a cobra fight to death in the garden. He was **shocked** (b) by what he saw afterwards. He decided to **maintain a safe distance** (c) and watch the scene silently. The fight went on for a long time and finally the cobra surrendered.

| | | | |
|-------------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| taken aback | set up | keep back | set aside |
|-------------|--------|-----------|-----------|

20. Some words are missing in the following passage where a "/" is given. Identify the most suitable words from the box given below and fill in the blanks.

3 × 1 = 3

I come /(A) a conventional, middle-class Nigerian family. My father was a professor. My mother was /(B) administrator. And so we had, as was the norm, live-in domestic help, who would often come from nearby rural villages. So, /(C) year I turned eight, we got a new house boy. His name was Fide.

| | | | |
|------|-----|----|---|
| From | the | an | a |
|------|-----|----|---|

21. Look at the following sentences.

2 × 1 = 2

- Satyajit Ray is a director and a scriptwriter.
- Grandad may either write a letter or visit Vanka.

In the first sentence, the linker '**and**' combines two noun phrases. In the second sentence, the linker '**either....or**' combines two verb phrases. Frame two sentences of similar patterns using the same linking words.
