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KANNUR DISTRICT PANCHAYATH
DIET KANNUR – SAMAGRA SHIKSHA KERALAM KANNUR
SAMAGRA VIDYABHYASA PADHATHI
SMILE 2023 – SSLC EXAMINATION FEBRUARY 2023
ENGLISH

Time: 2 ½ Hours

Total Score: 80

Instructions:

- **The first 15 minutes is cool – off time. You may use the time to read the questions and plan the answers.**
- **Read the questions carefully before answering.**
- **Certain sections in the questions have choices. Follow the instructions.**

Questions 1 – 5: Read the excerpt from ‘Vanka’ and answer the questions that follow. (5 x 1 = 5)

Vanka sighed, dipped his pen in the ink, and went on writing: ‘And yesterday I had such a hiding. The master took me by the hair and dragged me out into the yard and beat me with the stirrup-strap because by mistake I went to sleep while rocking their baby. And one day last week the mistress told me to gut a herring and I began from the tail and she picked up the herring and rubbed my face with the head. The other apprentices make fun of me, they send me to the tavern for vodka and make me steal the master’s cucumbers and the master beats me with the first thing he finds. And there is nothing to eat. They give me bread in the morning and gruel for dinner and in the evening bread again, but I never get tea or cabbage soup. They gobble it all up themselves. And they make me sleep in the passage and when their baby cries, I don’t get any sleep at all. I have to rock it. Dear Grandad, for the dear Lord’s sake take me away from here. Take me home to the village. I can’t bear it any longer.

1. Why did Vanka get a hiding from the master?
2. How did the other apprentices treat Vanka?
3. What was Vanka served for breakfast and dinner?
4. What did Vanka request his grandfather?
5. Find out a word from the passage which means ‘to eat hastily.’

Questions 6 – 9: Read the following lines from the poem ‘Lines Written in Early Spring’ and answer the questions that follow. (4 x 1 = 4)

I heard a thousand blended notes,

While in a grove I sate reclined,
In that sweet mood when pleasant thoughts
Bring sad thoughts to the mind.
To her fair works did Nature link
The human soul that through me ran;
And much it grieved my heart to think
What man has made of man.

6. Identify the mood of the speaker while he sate reclined in a grove.
7. Pick out the lines that tell us Nature is linked to the soul of human beings.
8. Cite an example of auditory image from the first stanza.
9. Identify the rhyme scheme used in the second stanza.
- 10. Read the lines from the poem 'Mother to Son' and prepare a note of appreciation focusing on its theme, imagery and poetic devices.**

5

Well, son, I'll tell you:
Life for me ain't been no crystal stair.
It's had tacks in it,
And splinters
And boards torn up,
And places with no carpet on the floor—
Bare.
But all the time,
I've been a-climbin' on

Questions 11 – 15: Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow.

(5 x 1 = 5)

Once, Mahatma Gandhi was visiting Tagore. He spent time with Tagore, discussing many topics. After lunch, Gandhiji went to take rest when some of the followers of Tagore, approached him. 'Can you help us, Gandhiji?' they asked. 'What is it?' asked Mahatma.

'We are worried about Tagore's health,' they explained. 'The doctors advised him to take rest, but he refuses. After lunch, he immediately goes back to work and does not take a moment's rest. Gandhiji asked, 'Why do you want me to tell him to rest?' They replied, 'We know he will not go against your advice.' Gandhiji went to Tagore's room and saw that he was deeply immersed in his work. When Tagore looked up and saw Gandhiji standing there he asked him, 'Are you not comfortable that you have come out from your rest so soon?' Gandhiji replied: 'I have come to ask you to take rest after your lunch so your health does not fail. You are not keeping fit these days.'

Tagore replied: 'When I was twelve, I took a vow never to rest at any time during the day for any reason. Up to now I have kept that vow.' Gandhiji was impressed by his commitment to his goal and told him, 'Now I know the secret of your success!'

11. What did Tagore's followers request Gandhiji?
12. Why did Tagore's followers seek the help of Gandhiji to speak to Tagore?
13. What was Tagore's reaction on seeing Gandhiji?
14. Did Gandhiji compel Tagore to take rest? Why?
15. Suggest a suitable title to the passage.

Questions 16 – 17: Answer any ONE of the following.

(1×7=7)

16. The boy in 'Adventures in a Banyan Tree' couldn't control his excitement after witnessing a fierce fight between the cobra and the mongoose. He immediately narrates the incident to his grandfather. Write the likely **narration**.

(Hints: April afternoon - feeling drowsy- swim in pond- cobra gliding- mongoose- bright sunshine- two spectators-cobra struck - mongoose jumped - lightning snap - ceased to struggle)

17. Equated monthly instalments is the new way of living for the young generation. Prepare a **review** of the play 'The Never Never Nest'.

(Hints: Jack and Jill – extremely luxurious life – everything purchased through instalments – no anxiety about financial liability – never bothers about financial discipline)

Questions 18 – 20: Answer any TWO of the following. Each question carries 5 scores.

(2 x 5 = 10)

18. After his encounter with the snake, the homeopath returns to his room with his friend on the next day and realizes that his belongings were stolen. Draft the possible **diary entry** by him.
19. The English Club of your school has decided to organize a literary festival. The renowned Nigerian writer Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie has consented to inaugurate the event virtually. Draft a **notice** to be circulated among the students and teachers.
20. Imagine that Mr John reaches home and he comes across one of his friends. He shares with his friend the excitement and joy of meeting Mr Cronin after such a long time. Prepare the likely **conversation** between John and his friend.

Questions 21 – 25: Answer any THREE of the following. Each question carries 6 scores.

(3 x 6 = 18)

21. Vanka in the story 'Vanka' cherishes some sweet memories with his grandfather in the big house in the village. Write a **paragraph** on his memories.
22. Nilkanta's arrival at Sharat's house created lot of problems. Based on your reading of the story 'The Castaway', attempt a **character sketch** of Nilkanta.

23. Martha is eager to inform her father about her winning of the scholarship jacket. She writes a letter to him describing all the incidents that finally led to her becoming the school valedictorian. Draft the likely **letter**.

24. Imagine that you are a news reporter who was present at the shooting location of Satyajit Ray's film 'Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne' at Boral. Prepare the likely **news report**.

25. Prepare a **profile** of Majid Majidi using the details given below.

Birth : April 17, 1959

Occupation : Film director, producer and screenwriter

Place of birth : Tehran, Iran

Nationality : Iranian

Notable Works : The Colour of Paradise, The Song of Sparrows, Children of Heaven etc.

Awards and honours : Grand Pix of America Best Award in 1999,

Nominated for Academy award in 1998

Questions 26 – 30: Read the catalogue of some books given below and answer the questions that follow. (5 x 1 = 5)

Title of the book	Author	Publisher	Category	Language	Price
Neelakuyile Nin Ganam	V T Murali	Vachanam Books	Songs	Malayalam	Rs 100
Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen	Penguin Books	Novel	English	Rs 250
Playing It My Way	Sachin Tendulkar	Hodder & Stoughton	Autobiography	English	Rs 499
The Living Mountain	Amitav Ghosh	Fourth Estate India	Fiction	English	Rs 259
Wise and Otherwise	Sudha Murty	Penguin Books	Non-Fiction	English	Rs 199
Mein Kampf	Adolf Hitler	Jaico Books	Autobiography	English	Rs 150

26. Which is the most expensive book in the catalogue?

27. Who is the author of the novel mentioned in the catalogue?

28. How much is the price of the book related to music?

29. How many autobiographies are found in this catalogue?

30. The only non-fiction in the catalogue is penned by

31. There are a few errors in the passage given below which are underlined. Edit them.

(4 x 1=4)

Martha was almost at her classroom door when she heard voices raised for (a) anger as if in some sort of argument. She stopped, not known (b) what to do. She didn't want to interrupt (c) an argument between her teachers, though she need (d) the shorts.

32. Read the following conversation and complete the sentences that follow.

2

Kiran : Why don't you finish your meals Nilu?
Nilakanta : I am not hungry now and my friends are waiting outside.
Kiran asked Nilakanta
Nilakanta replied

33. Complete the following passage choosing the right words from those given in brackets.

(4 x 1 = 4)

It was a hot summer night(a)..... ten o'clock. The homeopath had his meal(b)..... the restaurant and returned(c)..... his room. He heard a noise(d)..... above as he opened the door.

(to, from, at, about, for)

34. Complete the following passage choosing appropriate phrasal verbs given below.

(4 x 1 = 4)

Ali(a)..... explaining to Zahra how he had missed her shoes. But she was unable to(b)..... what really happened. Ali then(c)..... the idea that she could go to school wearing his sneakers. But she(d)..... his request.

(make out, go on, come across, turn down, put across)

35. Complete the conversation between the narrator and his wife.

(4 x 1 = 4)

Narrator : Darling, I had an eventful day at the ship last week.
Wife :(a).....?
Narrator : I came across a person after twenty five years. He came and talked to me.
Wife : After twenty five years!(b).....?
Narrator : No, I couldn't recognize him. But he traced me out easily.
Wife : How do you know him?
Narrator : He made a suicide attempt twenty five years back. If we had not helped him, (c).....
Wife : He's leading a peaceful life now,(d).....?
Narrator : Yes. Moreover, he's currently involved in a lot of social activities.
Wife : That's really nice to know.

36. Read the following sentences and identify the phrases mentioned in brackets. (3 x 1=3)

- (a) The manager heard the reason for our visit. (**Noun Phrase in subject position**)
- (b) The warm breezes of approaching summer had sent everyone indoors. (**Verb Phrase**)
- (c) Vanka folded the paper and put it into an envelope. (**Prepositional Phrase**)