

TAMILNADU BOARD OF HIGHER SECONDARY EDUCATION

MODEL QUESTION PAPER

**HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE (STD. XII)
EXAMINATION**

MARCH - 2006

ENGLISH PAPER I

(Reader and Linguistic Competencies)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum Marks : 100

In your answer-book, use the Arabic numerals (1 to 69) of the question you answer.

Section - A (Vocabulary - Lexical Competencies)

(30 Marks)

I. A. Choose the most accurate of the four given contexts which equates with that of the underlined lexical item in each of the following sentences :

5 x 1 = 5

1. Mahatma Gandhi was a ceaseless crusader of women's equality,
 - a. His belief is not based on reason.
 - b. Mandela fought for the cause of South African Liberty with determination.
 - c. She told that it was not sufficient,
 - d. The disease spreads quickly.
2. The sun plays truant for most of the day.
 - a. In summer the days are mostly warm.
 - b. The worker often violates the rules of the factory.
 - c. Truth wins all the time.
 - d. The children who kept themselves away from school without permission were punished.
3. The good is oft interred with their bones.
 - a. We cleaned our house last week.
 - b. The treasure was found buried in our garden.
 - c. Rekha fixed a chiming clock on the wall.
 - d. Garbage should be dumped in the compose pit.
4. "I am no orator as Brutus is" is used with an accent of faint derision.
 - a. The speaker was happy to address the audience.
 - b. He took a strong decision to join Engineering course.

- c. The manager's order made a mockery of the agreement.
 - d. The shopkeeper was a kind person.
5. For over five hours the pilot sailed *serenely* through the lightening sky.
- a. We should complete our work quickly
 - b. The birds chirp cheerfully during spring.
 - c. Iqbal faced the different situation calmly.
 - d. Rachel served the company faithfully for a decade.

**B. Choose the most accurate of the four given words Opposite to the usage word :
(5 x 1 = 5 Marks)**

6. Euphony is one of the most attractive qualities of words.

- a) Cacophony
- b) Harmony
- c) Melody
- d) Simplicity

7. The teacher pretended to be indifferent.

- a) interested
- b) attractive
- c) unmindful
- d) attentive

8. A mist is formed of infinitesimal particles.

- a) Sticky
- b) ordinary
- c) invisible
- d) huge.

9. "Frailty thy name is woman."

- a) sound body.
- b) sturdy
- c) weakness
- d) Fatty

10. The rabbit was eventually caught.

- a) incidentally
- b) initially
- c) finally
- d) spectacularly

C. Answer any TEN of the following :

(10 x 2 = 20 Marks)

11. Write your own sentences using the plural forms of 'index' or 'matrix'.
12. Use the idiom 'to give a piece of mind' in a sentence of your own.
13. Expand the abbreviation CPU and frame a sentence with the expanded form.
14. We _____ different types of _____ phones in our shop. (Fill in the blanks with sell; cell)
15. Form a word by blending the words 'education' and 'entertainment' and use the blended word in your own sentence.
16. Syllabify any two words, 'serenely', 'forceps', 'efficacy', 'crusader'.
17. Write a sentence using the word 'like' as a verb and as an adjective.
18. Write a sentence of your own using the American English word for 'biscuit'.
19. Use the compound word 'long - forgotten' in your own sentence.
20. Write a sentence using a word with the prefix 'un -' or the suffix '- able'.
21. From Compound words: (a) Noun + Verb (b) Noun + Adjective
22. Write sentences using the phrasal verbs 'call on' and 'call off'.
23. Write sentences using the clipped words from 'microphone' and 'demonstration'.

Section - B (Grammatical Competencies) (20 Marks)

II. A. Do as directed:

(10 x 1 = 10 Marks)

24. Lawmakers _____ not be law - breakers. (Use a modal verb)
25. Water _____(boil) at 100 degree centigrade. (Use the given verb in suitable form)
26. If you work hard you _____ (pass) in the examination. (Use the correct tense of the verb)
27. Show me the book _____ you bought yesterday. (Use a relative pronoun)
28. Shakespeare, _____ lived in the 16th century is the greatest dramatist. (Use a relative pronoun)
29. They continued the match _____ the rain. (Use a phrase / preposition)
30. I _____ (give) them money if I had more (Use the given verb in suitable form)
31. Frame a sentence of the pattern SVO.
32. "Water is first heated in a test tube." This is an example of _____ passive voice. (Write the kind of passive voice)
33. _____ I reached in time, I was not permitted. (Use a suitable link word)

B. Transform the following sentences as instructed:

(5 x 2 = 10 Marks)

34. Report the dialogue:

Woman : Excuse me. Can you please direct me to the Canara Bank?

Man : Why not ? Turn right and go straight. It's right behind the police station.

Woman : Thank you.

35. If an angel were to tell me such a thing of her I would not believe it. (Begin with 'Were').

36. As there was heavy rain, the match was delayed. (Rewrite as a compound sentence.)

37. Malar had only one pen. She helped Manian. (Combine the sentences using 'Though')

38. I forgot my birthday. My teacher greeted me on that day. (Combine the sentences into a simple sentence)

Section - C (Reading Competencies) (15 Marks)

III. A. Identify each sentence with the field in the list given below, by understanding the word or words serving as the clue:

(5 x 1 = 5 Marks)

39. Sangeetha stumbled upon a chance to practise running a race.

40. Robots are steadily moving from fiction to fact.

41. The Board has recommended a dividend of 75 per cent.

42. An Indian woman was honoured for producing high yielding crops.

43. "Who am I, a mere Prime Minister before the Queen of Songs?"
(Commerce, Music, Sport, Social service, Science)

B. Read the following passage and answer in your own words the questions given below:

(5 x 2 = 10 Marks)

It is not the pride or incivility on either side that keeps us remote from each other. It is simply our London way. People are so plentiful that they lose their identity... In London men are as lonely as oysters. Each living in his own shell. We go out in the country to find neighbours. If the man next door took a cottage a mile away from me in the country, I should probably know all about him, his affairs, his family, his calling and his habits inside a week. This is not always so idyllic as it seems. Village life can be poisoned by neighbours until the victim pines for the solitude of a London street, where neighbours are so plentiful that you are no more conscious of their individual existence than if they were black berries on a hedge row.

Questions :

44. What keeps people in London remote from each other?

45. How are men described? Why?

46. Why do we seek country life?

47. What is the disadvantage of village life?

48. What can you say in this context about our Interaction with our neighbours?

Section-D (Writing Competencies) (Prose) (15 Marks)

IV.A. Answer any One of the following questions in a paragraph of about 100 words:

(1 x 5 = 5 Marks)

49. How do you relate ' Ahimsa' and ' Satyagraha' to women?

50. What are essentials for good public speaking?

51. State Gunga Ram's regard for snakes.

B. Write an essay in about a page of 250 words on any One of the following:

(1 x 10 = 10 Marks)

52. Hiroshima - the victim atomisation.

53. The Magic of Words.

54. Trekking to the Land of Snow.

Section - E (Literary Competencies) (Poetry) (20 Marks)

V. A. Read the following five sets of poetic lines and answer the questions given below each of them:

(6 x 1 = 6 Marks)

(i) "We claim to dwell, in quiet and seclusion,
Beneath the household roof."

55. Where do women claim to dwell?

(ii) "You cannot rob us the right we cherish."

56. Who do you think this line is addressed to?

(iii) "Mark" d how to explore the vacant vast surrounding."

57. Who tried to explore?

(iv) "And voices in me said: If you were a man
you would take a stick and break him now,
And finish him off."

58. Why did the voice say so?

(v) "Yes; quaint and curious war is!"

59. Who is the speaker?

60. Why is the war quaint and curious?

B. Read the following three sets of lines and answer the questions given below each set of lines:

3 x 1 = 3 Marks

(i) "O winged seed! You crossed the furrowed seas
To nestle in the warm and silent earth."

61. Mention the figure of speech used in these lines,

ii) "Life is real! Life is earnest!
And grave is not the goal:"

62. Write out the words in alliteration in each of the above two lines,

(iii) Tell me not in mournful numbers,
Life is but an empty dream! -
For the soul is dead that slumbers,
And things are not what they seem.

63. Mention the rhyme scheme of these lines?

C. Explain any two of the following sets of lines with reference to the context:

2 x 3 = 6 Marks

64. "Yes; quaint and curious war is

65. "I thought how paltry, how vulgar, what a mean act!
I despised myself and the voices of my accursed human education."

66. "As humble plants by country hedgerows growing
That treasure up the rain,
And yield in odours, ere the day's declining,
The gift again;"

D. Write a paragraph on ONE of the following:

1 x 5 = 5 Marks

67. In his poem, "The Psalm of Life", how does H.W. Longfellow advise us not to judge life by temporary standards?

68. How does the poet Louisa define "Women's Rights"?

69. What does the poet convey to the human beings in his poem 'Snake'?