

**SECOND YEAR HIGHER SECONDARY FIRST TERMINAL  
EXAMINATION 2024-25  
PART 1 ENGLISH**

**Total: 80 Scores**

**Time: 2½ Hours  
Cool off Time: 15 Minutes**

**Answer all questions from 1 to 8. Each carries 1 score. Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow: (8x1=8)**

***"I see him there, Bringing a stone grasped firmly by the top In each hand, like an old-stone savage armed."***

1. Who is referred to as 'him' here?
2. Identify the figure of speech in "like an old-stone savage armed."
3. What does the word 'savage' mean?
4. What do you understand about the outlook of 'him' from the extract?
  - a. He is conservative, follows old traditions.
  - b. He is very open minded and modern.

***"What is needed to change this picture is a concerted effort to open the door to opportunity with what I call the '3 Ls' of women's empowerment: learning, labour and leadership. First about learning: Education is the foundation upon which any change is built. Learning helps women to help themselves and break the shackles of exclusion."***

5. What are the '3 Ls' of women's empowerment mentioned by the speaker?
6. According to the speaker, why is education important for women's empowerment?

***"I am the fire upon the hearth, I am the light of the good sun".***

7. Who is being described in these lines?
8. Identify the poem and the poet.

**Questions 9 – 12: Answer any 3. Each carries 2 scores. (3x2=6)**

9. Report the following conversation: Baldwin: "I've got only a few years to live, but I'll live those as I've lived the rest of my life."
10. Suppose you came to know that one of your friends has the bad habit of reading letters addressed to others. Write 2 pieces of advice that you will give. You may use expressions like "You should....., You had better....., I would rather you ....etc."

11. **Convert the following sentences from passive to active voice.**
- The homework was completed by the students before the deadline.
  - A delicious meal is prepared by the chef every evening.
12. Why does the author Ashapurna Debi compare women to matchboxes?

**Answer any 5 questions from 13 – 19. Each carries 4 scores. (5x4=20)**

13. “I’ll do what I want, what I please”, screams Ajit. With regard to this statement, sketch the character of Ajit.
14. The passage given below contains 4 errors. Correct the errors.
- Every day, during the lunch hour she would sat with some person on one of the room, and they would have long chats. I would often wonder what they talked about. One day I finally asked her, “Ratna what do you talked with each person for the whole lunch hour?”
15. The play ‘Hour of Truth’ is being staged in your school auditorium. As the arts club secretary you are asked to make an announcement introducing the actors of the play to the audience. Prepare the script for the announcement.
16. Prepare a blurb of the work “Horegallu and Other stories” by Sudha Murty.
17. Elaborate the idea in the following line in a short paragraph: “Good fences make good neighbours.”
18. Ratna in the story Horegallu is a fascinating character. Have you ever met with any such person? Write your experience in a paragraph.
19. After the boxing match between Antonio and Felix, the reporter of a TV channel interviews them. Prepare four questions that the reporter might ask.

**Questions 20 – 25. Answer any 5 questions. Each carries 6 scores. (5x6=30)**

20. Baldwin was angry and frustrated to see the change of attitude in his family when they knew about the bribe money. Prepare a write-up on the negative influence of money on Baldwin’s family.

21. Your school is conducting a Panel Discussion on the topic “Woman as the focal point of the family”. Suppose you are the first panellist. How would you initiate the discussion? Prepare the script of your presentation.
22. Martha came to know about the wreck of the bank only after it was reported by newspapers. What might have she read? Prepare a newspaper report on the bank crash and the consequent arrest of Mr Gresham.
23. You recently read a news report about a firm that refuses to hire married women. Write a formal letter to the District Labour Officer, sharing your concern and requesting them to take necessary steps to prevent gender discrimination and ensure fair employment practices in the workplace.
24. Justify the lines in the light of your own experience: ‘*I am the fire upon the hearth: I am the light of the good sun*’.
25. Imagine you are one of the spectators who watched the match between Antonio and Felix. Write an email to your friend describing the match. Mention the intensity of the fight, the skills displayed by both boxers, and your feelings about the outcome.

**Answer any 2 questions from 26 to 28. Each carries 8 scores.  
(2x8=16)**

26. Suppose you are the elected chairperson of an organisation that works for the welfare of poor women. On your first day in office, you deliver a speech on the topic “The barriers of women empowerment and the ways to overcome them.” Prepare the script of the speech.
27. Discuss how the friendship between Antonio and Felix is portrayed in "Amigo Brothers". How do they balance their friendship with their competitive spirit? What does their relationship reveal about the nature of true friendship?
28. Read the following poem carefully and compare it with ‘Mending Wall’, focusing on its theme, message, and poetic devices.

### *BOOKS AND WALLS*

Books and ideas, they build our minds,  
But walls can hide what’s left behind.  
Break down the barriers, brick by brick,  
Connect and learn, let knowledge stick.