

Sl. No.

SSLC EXAMINATION, MARCH - 2021**ENGLISH**

Second Language

Time : 2½ Hours

Total Score : 80

Instructions :

- 20 minutes is given as cool off time.
- Use cool off time to read the questions and plan your answers.
- Attempt the questions according to the instructions.
- Keep in mind the score and the time while answering the questions.
- The maximum score for questions from 1 to 45 will be 80.

Score

Questions 1 - 5 : Read the following excerpt from 'The Snake and the Mirror' and answer the questions that follow.

It was a hot summer night about ten o'clock. I had my meal at the restaurant and returned to my room. I heard a noise from above as I opened the door. The sound was a familiar one. One could say that rats and I shared the room. I took out my box of matches and lighted the kerosene lamp on the table.

The house was not electrified; it was a small rented room. I had just set-up medical practice and my earnings were meagre. I had about sixty rupees in my suitcase. Along with some shirts and dhotis, I also possessed one solitary black coat which I was then wearing.

1. What is the time referred to in the passage ? 1
2. 'The sound was a familiar one'. What makes the homeopath say so ? 2
3. Identify the sentence that tells you the homeopath is not an experienced doctor. 1
4. What were the possessions of the homeopath ? 1
5. Pick out the word that means 'not having enough of something' from the passage. 1

Questions 6 - 9: Read the lines from 'The Ballad of Father Gilligan' and answer the questions that follow.

Upon the time of sparrow chirp
When the moths came once more,
The old priest Peter Gilligan
Stood upright on the floor.

'Mavrone, mavrone! The man has died
While I slept in the chair.'

He roused his horse out of its sleep
And rode with little care.

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| 6. | Pick out the two references in the first stanza that tell you the time is early morning. | 2 |
| 7. | Identify an instance of alliteration in the first stanza. | 1 |
| 8. | How did Peter Gilligan express his sadness in not performing his duty ? | 1 |
| 9. | What did Peter Gilligan do once he realised his mistake ? | 1 |

Question 10 : Read the lines from the poem 'Lines Written in Early Spring' and prepare a note of appreciation focusing on its theme, imagery and poetic devices. 6

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.

Question 11 : Read the lines from the poem 'The Ballad of Father Gilligan' and prepare a note of appreciation focusing on its theme, imagery and other poetic devices. 6

The old priest Peter Gilligan
Was weary night and day
For half his flock were in their beds
Or under green sods lay.

Once, while he nodded in a chair
At the moth-hour of the eve
Another poor man sent for him
And he began to grieve.

Questions 12 - 17 : Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

A lovely little girl was holding two apples with both hands. Her mom came in and softly asked her little daughter with a smile, "My sweetie, could you give your mom one of your apples ?"

The girl looked up at her mom for some seconds, then she suddenly took a quick bite on one apple, and then quickly on the other. The smile on mom's face froze. She tried hard not to reveal her disappointment.

Then the little girl handed one of her bitten apples to her mom. She said, "Mummy, here you are. Take this apple. This is the sweeter one."

No matter who you are, how experienced you are, and how knowledgeable you think you are, always delay judgement. Give others the privilege to explain themselves. What you see may not be the reality.

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| 12. What did the mother ask the little girl for ? | 1 |
| 13. What did the girl do after hearing the mother's question ? | 1 |
| 14. Pick out the sentence that tells you the mother was upset. | 1 |
| 15. The passage says that we should not _____. | 1 |
| 16. The little girl bit both the apples to _____. | 1 |
| 17. Which apple did the girl handover to her mother ? | 1 |

Questions 18 - 22 : Answer in about 120 words.

18. The fight between the cobra and the mongoose in the story 'Adventures in a Banyan Tree' is an exciting one. **Narrate** the fight scene in your own words. 7

(Hints :- Cobra glides out of the clump - mongoose emerges from the bushes - mongoose is a clever fighter - cobra is skilful - mongoose bites the snake - mongoose wins - drags the cobra to the bushes)

19. For compassionate souls helping others is a means to find happiness. Prepare a **write-up** based on the story 'The Best Investment I Ever Made' justifying this statement. 7

(Hints :- Narrator is a young doctor - a sergeant informs him about a suicide case - tries hard to bring the man back to life - the man comes back to life - tells his story - narrator gives seven pounds and ten shillings)

20. Satyajit Ray and his team needed a tiger for the film 'Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne'. But shooting the scene with the tiger turned out to be a very difficult task. Prepare a **description** in your own words detailing the difficulties they faced in shooting the scene at Notun Gram. 7

(Hints :- Brings a tiger from the circus company - a lorry arrives with two tigers - the animal trainer Mr. Thorat tries to control the tiger - shooting completed - poor results - second attempt - shoots the scene)

21. Vaikom Muhammad Basheer is a master storyteller. The story 'The Snake and the Mirror' is an excellent example of his writing style blended with humour. **Narrate** in your words the incidents in the story highlighting the elements of humour. 7

(Hints :- The homeopath shares the room with rats - earthshaking decisions - wishes to marry a fat woman - snake admires its own beauty - thief leaves the vest)

22. Mr. John in the story, 'The Best Investment I Ever Made', met with unexpected twists and turns in his life. **Narrate** in your own words the events that happened in the life of Mr. John. 7

(Hints :- An advocate's clerk - falls victim to the habits of loose society - steals money - terrified of the prosecution - attempts suicide - Cronin helps - works as a social worker)

Questions 23 - 27 : Answer in about 80 words.

23. Prepare a **profile** of Vaikom Muhammad Basheer using the hints given. 6

Born : 21 January 1908, Thalayolaparambu
 Known as : Beypore Sultan
 Spouse : Fabi Basheer
 Notable works : 'Balyakalasakhi', 'Shabdangal', 'Pathummayude Aadu'
 Awards : Padma Shri, Vallathol Award, Muttathu Varkey Award
 Death : 1994

24. Mr. John in the story, 'The Best Investment I Ever Made', writes a letter to Cronin thanking him for his help. Write the likely **letter**. 6

25. The shooting at Notun Gram where Mr. Thorat arrived with two tigers in a lorry turns out to be an interesting incident for the onlookers. Imagine that you are a news reporter who happened to be at the shooting location. Prepare the likely **news report**. 6

26. Mr. John in the story, 'The Best Investment I Ever Made', decides to dedicate the rest of his life for people in need. Attempt a **character sketch** of Mr. John. 6

27. The story 'The Adventures in a Banyan Tree' describes a boy's close-knit relationship with nature. Based on the story, prepare a **write-up** on the topic 'Life in harmony with nature'. 6

Questions 28 - 36 : Answer in about 60 words.

28. Even Mr. Thorat, the animal trainer, was surprised by the sudden emergence of the tiger from the cage in the lorry. Imagine you happened to meet Mr. Thorat and talked about the incident. Prepare the likely **conversation** between Mr. Thorat and you. (At least five exchanges) 5

29. The Literary Club of your school has decided to conduct an Online Literary Fest. Well-known writer M.T. Vasudevan Nair has consented to inaugurate the fest. As the convener of the club you are asked to prepare a notice for the function. Draft the likely **notice**. 5
30. Returning home after escaping from the snake, the homeopath was shocked to see almost everything he had was stolen. He was upset and jotted down his thoughts in his diary. Write the likely **diary** entry. 5
31. Martha, in the story 'The Scholarship Jacket' happened to hear the conversation between Mr. Schmidt, her History teacher and Mr. Boone, her Math teacher. Write a **paragraph** on the topic of their discussion and the arguments they put forward to justify their points. 5
32. After reaching home Ali informed his sister Zahra that he had lost her shoes. Zahra was disappointed. Write the likely **conversation** between Ali and Zahra. 5
33. The boy in the story 'Adventures in a Banyan Tree' was excited to see the fight between the mongoose and the cobra. He wrote his thoughts in his diary. Write the likely **diary** entry. 5
34. The story 'Vanka' narrates the torturing experiences faced by a boy named Vanka at Alyakhin's house. Write a brief **paragraph** describing Vanka's experiences at Alyakhin's house. 5
35. Imagine that you happened to meet the Grandfather in the story 'Adventures in a Banyan Tree'. Prepare a set of **five questions** you would like to ask him. 5
36. In her speech on the topic 'The Danger of a Single Story' Adichie explains how the single story about something is often incomplete. Write a **paragraph** on how Adichie shows us an example for this in the case of Fide's family. 5

Questions 37 - 42 : The table given below shows the details of a few Nobel Prize winners.
Study the table and answer the questions that follow.

Name	Literary Area	Year	Country
Dorris Lessing	Novel	2007	The UK
Mario Vargas Llosa	Novel and Drama	2010	Peru
Bob Dylan	Song writer	2016	The USA
Louise Gluck	Poetry	2020	The USA

37. Identify from the above table the song writer who won the Nobel Prize for literature. 1
38. Dorris Lessing was given the Nobel Prize in the year _____. 1
39. Which writer in the above list has two literary areas to his credit ? 1
40. Who, according to the list above, is the latest winner of the Nobel Prize ? 1
41. The country with two Nobel laureates in the list is _____. 1
42. Who is the only poet in the list ? 1
43. Complete the conversation suitably. 6
- Friend : You look really sad,(a)..... ?
- Martha : Yeah, I never thought I should pay for the scholarship jacket.
- Friend :(b)..... ?
- Martha : I won't get the scholarship jacket this year.
- Friend :(c)..... ?
- Martha : They can take such decisions as they please.
- Friend :(d)..... ?
- Martha : No, I can't pay the amount they demanded.
- Friend : Then you can approach Grandfather. If you ask him(e).....
- Martha : I don't think so.
- Friend : Then you'd better(f).....
- Martha : Yeah, I'm thinking of complaining to the higher authorities.

44. Fill in the blanks using the right phrases from the ones given in the box.

put up with, go on, turn down, go for, turn up

A lot of people _____ (a)_____ to watch the shooting of the film. The film crew _____ (b)_____ requesting the people to clear the field. But all the requests were _____ (c)_____ by the big crowd that assembled there. But when the tiger emerged from the cage and _____ (d)_____ the crowd, they ran for their lives.

45. There are a few errors in the passage given below. They are underlined. Edit them.

In the case of very famous stars, this job is done over (a) their stand-ins. A stand-in is usually a person that (b) is physical (c) similar to the real star. The stars themself (d) arrive only when the lights are ready and it is time to taking (e) a shot.

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