

www.mathsblog.in

Sl. No.

T.H.S.L.C. EXAMINATION, MARCH-2013

ENGLISH

Time : 2½ Hours

Total Score : 80

Instructions :

- 15 minutes is given as cool off time.
- This time is to be spent for reading the question paper.
- You are not supposed to write anything during the cool-off time.
- Attempt questions according to instructions.

Score

Questions 1 - 5. Read the following passage taken from 'Tea-shops in Malayalam Cinema' and answer the questions that follow.

The tea-shop came into existence at a time when wages began to be paid in cash, rather than in kind. It was also the time when people were beginning to travel beyond the boundaries of their villages to sell what they produced in their fields or small workshops.

Customers were never belittled at a tea-shop on account of their caste or religion. Anybody could get tea and snacks if they had the money to buy them, and the fare offered was the same for everybody. The tea-shop was a secular space where the only criterion for entry was the possession of money. No one was required to justify their presence at a tea-shop, as no system of privileges of birth operated there. This was the reason why the 'high-born' kept their distance from it in the early days. A customer at a tea-shop was regarded as simply an individual, not as a member of particular caste or community. These individuals were also, in a sense, self exiled from their families. Persons who were considered worthless or insignificant in their families often achieved a certain dignity at a tea-shop. In serving as a space for free interaction of individuals who come from diverse social backgrounds, a tea-shop is no different from a cinema theatre. The atmosphere of a tea-shop often becomes tastier than the tea and snacks served !

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Identify the social changes in Kerala that helped tea-shops to come into existence ? | 1 |
| 2. | Why do you call a tea-shop a secular space ? | 1 |
| 3. | Why did the 'high born' keep themselves away from the tea-shops ? | 1 |
| 4. | In what sense does a tea-shop become similar to a cinema theatre ? | 1 |
| 5. | Look at the noun phrases used in the passage :
'A customer at a tea-shop', 'These individuals'.
Identify two more noun phrases from the passage. | 2 |

P.T.O.

Questions 6 - 9. Read the following lines from 'Cactus' and answer the questions that follow.

Once these thorns were flowers.
I loathe lovers who betray.
Poets have abandoned the deserts
to go back to the gardens.
Only camels remain here, and merchants
who trample my flowers to dust.

One thorn for each rare drop of water.
I don't tempt butterflies.
No bird sings my praise.
I don't yield to droughts.
I create another beauty
beyond the moonlight,
this side of dreams,
a sharp, piercing,
parallel language.

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 6. | Why does the speaker hate lovers ? | 1 |
| 7. | Quote the lines that suggest 'the speaker had a good past'. | 1 |
| 8. | 'No bird sings my praise.
I don't yield to droughts'. What do these lines suggest ? | 1 |
| 9. | What do you mean by 'another beauty' ? | 1 |

Questions 10 - 13. Read the following lines from 'Skimbleshanks : The Railway Cat' and answer the questions that follow :

He gives one flash of his glass-green eyes
And the signal goes "All Clear!"
And we're off at last for the northern part
Of the Northern Hemisphere!
You may say that by and large it is Skimble who's in charge
Of the Sleeping Car Express.
From the driver and the guards to the bagmen playing cards
He will supervise them all, more or less.
Down the corridor he paces and examines all the faces
Of the travellers in the First and the Third;
He establishes control by a regular patrol
And he'd know at once if anything occurred.
He will watch you without winking and he sees what you
are thinking.

- | | | |
|-----|---|---|
| 10. | Who is the 'he' mentioned here ? | 1 |
| 11. | How do 'glass-green eyes' become significant in the above context ? | 1 |

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| | Score |
| 12. How does Skimbleshanks supervise the passengers ? | 1 |
| 13. How does Skimbleshanks establish control over the train ? | 1 |
| 14. Answer any one of the following in about 120 words. | 7 |

(A) Ursula compels Balthazar to bargain and sell the cage for sixty pesos. But Balthazar presented the cage to Pepe as a gift. Suppose she narrates the whole incident to one of her friends. How would it be ? Prepare the likely narrative.

(Hints : most beautiful cage - two weeks of continuous work - visitors to the cage - compels him to sell it for sixty pesos - Balthazar takes the cage to Jose Montiel - presents it to Pepe - free of cost)

OR

(B) The play 'The Beggar and the King' portrays the sufferings of the beggar whereas the story 'The Bet' focuses on the sufferings of the lawyers who risked his freedom for a bet. Prepare a **write-up** comparing these two characters.

(Hints : The beggar - suffering under the rule - the king doesn't attend the problems of the people - beggar reacts - the lawyer - self-imposed suffering - acquire wisdom - despise all things and money - leaves the room before the agreed time)

Questions 15 - 19. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow :

One of my favourite family experiences was when I went to see Anne Frank's (a Jewish victim of the Nazi persecution) hide out in Amsterdam, Holland. I had read Anne's diary when I was younger, so I was extremely excited to have the chance to see where she and her family hid from the Germans for so many months. I walked up the stairs of an apartment building and into a room with only a bookshelf in it. Ann had written in her diary about a doorknob behind the books. I found the doorknob and turned it and there was the secret annex. When I stepped into the room behind the bookshelf, I felt as if I had stepped back into history. I found Anne's room still with pictures of her favourite celebrities on the walls. The Frank family's furniture was still remaining where they had left them in the rooms. Everything was kept as described in the diary. I visited each room with fear of seeing how they had lived and with extreme sorrow to know how miserably their life came to an end. Anne's diary was no longer just a book to me, but true heart-felt, emotional life story written by a girl I almost knew.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 15. Who was Anne Frank ? | 1 |
| 16. How did the information from the diary help the narrator enter into the room ? | 1 |
| 17. Why did the family of Anne Frank hide in an apartment ? | 1 |
| 18. Pick out the sentence from the passage which suggests that Anne's family led a miserable life. | 1 |
| 19. What is the opinion of the narrator about the diary of Anne Frank ? | 1 |

P.T.O.

- | | Score |
|--|-------|
| 20. Swami tells his father that Samuel is a harsh man who treats children so cruelly. But as the story progresses we understand that Samuel is not such a cruel man as Swami described. Prepare a character sketch of Samuel. | 6 |
| 21. The English Club of your school has organised a film festival in your school. 'The Colours of the Mountain', 'Fly Away Home', 'Dreams' and 'The Kid' are the films screened in the festival. Famous film critic Mr. C.S Venkiteswaran has inaugurated the festival. Prepare a newspaper report of the festival. | 6 |
| 22. The narrator of the story 'The Blue Bouquet' was terribly frightened by the incident that happened in the street. Suppose he notes down all feelings in his diary. How would it be? Prepare the likely diary entry . | 5 |
| 23. Prepare a profile of Akira Kurosawa using the details given below. | 5 |
| Born : 1910 | |
| Nationality : Japan | |
| Famous as : Director of films, Producer, Script writer | |
| Major works : <i>Rashomon, Dreams, Drunken Angel, Seven Samurai</i> | |
| Awards : Asian of the century, Oscar award for-lifetime achievements | |
| Death : 1998 | |
| 24. Imagine that Samuel meets Swami's father a few days after Swami provoked him in the classroom. What would they talk each other? Prepare the likely conversation between them. Write at least six exchanges. | 6 |
| Questions 25 - 29. Look at the notice given below and answer the questions that follow. | 5 |

GVHSS NADUVATTAM
SEMINAR ON 'RIGHT TO EDUCATION'

Dear friends

The Social Science Club of our school has decided to conduct a seminar on the topic 'Right to Education and the Present Day Realities'. Dr. Sudarshan, a famous social activist and thinker has consented to inaugurate the function. Meera (writer), Subhash Thayyil (Social Activist), Dr. Sreekumar (Child Psychologist) and Sulochana (Journalist) will present papers in the seminar.

Date : 25.03.2013

Time : 2.00 pm

Venue : School Auditorium

All are welcome

Secretary
Social Science Club

25. Who is organizing the seminar on 'Right to Education' ?
26. How many people are going to present papers in the seminar ?
27. Who will inaugurate the programme ?
28. When does the programme take place ?
29. What is Dr. Sreekumar ?

30. Read the following conversation and complete it suitably.

4

- Narrator : Who are you ?
- Stranger : Don't ask such questions.
- Narrator : (a) ?
- Stranger : I need your eyes. Your blue eyes.
- Narrator : Oh! My god! But they are not blue.
- Stranger : Don't play tricks up on me.
If you move from here (b)
- Narrator : Really, they are not blue.
- Stranger : Let me check, (c) ?
- Narrator : How cruel you are!
- Stranger : I'm not cruel. I need the blue eyes to make a bouquet.
- Narrator : I can't believe this.
- Stranger : You can't, but you have to.
- Narrator : (d) ?
- Stranger : The blue bouquet is for my beloved.

31. There are certain errors in the passage given below. They are underlined. Edit them.

5

The scene before an examination begins is an interesting sight because we can witness various kinds of students facing the last moments of their preparations. About half an hour before the exam, the students begins (a) to arrive at the examination centre. Generally they are accompany (b) by their parents and relatives. The candidates exchange greetings by (c) their friends. Many of the student (d) still remain very busy with their books. Some of them discuss their problems loud (e) and in anxious moods. Very few of them are confident and look around quietly.

32. Look at the following sentences.

4

Please give me a glass of **water**.

Arun **watered** the plants in the garden.

In the first sentence 'water' is used as a noun whereas in the second it is used as a verb. Use the words given below in sentences of your own as a noun and as a verb.

- (a) button
- (b) pen

Score

4

33. Supply the missing words in the following passage where '/' are given. Next to the garage was another shed with / (a) big green door. Ravi slipped into the shed which had the smell of rats, anthills, dust / (b) spider webs. Ravi had never cared to enter such a dark and depressing mortuary / (c) defunct household goods. But, as Raghu's whistling came closer he suddenly slipped off the flowerpot and slipped inside / (d) shed through the crack and was gone.

(of, and, the, a, from)

34. Complete the following passage choosing the right phrases given in brackets. Swami (a) _____ to school with least interest. On his way he (b) _____ thinking about Samuel. He (c) _____ the idea of giving the letter to the headmaster in the morning. 'Samuel is not a cruel man', he thought, 'but I cannot (d) _____ him'.

went on, set out, put up with, gave up

- o o o -