

Total Scores: 80

English

Time: 2 ½ hours

Questions 1-5: Read the excerpt from the story ‘Vanka’ and answer the questions that follow.

Vanka gave a sharp sigh and once more gazed at the windowpane. He remembered his grandfather going to get a Christmas tree for the gentry and taking his grandson with him. Oh, what happy times those had been! Grandfather would give a chuckle, and the frost-bound wood chuckled, and Vanka, following their example, chuckled, too. Before chopping down the fir-tree, Grandfather would smoke a pipe, take a long pinch of snuff, and laugh at the shivering Vanka... The young fir-trees, coated with frost, stood motionless, waiting to see which one of them was to die. And suddenly a hare would come leaping over a snow-drift, swift as an arrow. Grandfather could never help shouting: ‘Stop it, stop it . . . stop it! Oh, you stub-tailed devil!’

1. ‘Oh, what happy times those had been!’ What happy moments does Vanka remember here? (1)
2. How are the fir-trees described in the passage? (1)
3. What is the speed of the hare compared to? (1)
4. ‘Vanka gave a sharp sigh and once more gazed at the windowpane’. What mood of Vanka is expressed here? (1)
5. Who is addressed as ‘stub-tailed devil’? (1)

Questions 6-9: Read the following lines from ‘The School Boy’ and answer the questions that follow.

O father and mother if buds are nipped,
And blossoms blown away;
And if the tender plants are stripped
Of their joy in the springing day,
By sorrow and care’s dismay,

How shall the summer arise in joy
Or the summer fruits appear?
Or how shall we gather what griefs destroy,
Or bless the mellowing year,

When the blasts of winter appear?

6. What does 'tender plants' in the poem refer to? (1)
7. Why doesn't the boy welcome winter? (1)
8. What is the rhyme scheme followed in the second stanza? (1)
9. Pick out an instance of alliteration from the first stanza. (1)

10. Read the following lines from the poem 'Poetry' by Pablo Neruda carefully.

And it was at that age ...Poetry arrived
in search of me. I don't know, I don't know where
it came from, from winter or a river.
I don't know how or when,
no they were not voices, they were not
words, nor silence,
but from a street I was summoned,
from the branches of night,
abruptly from the others,
among violent fires
or returning alone,
there I was without a face
and it touched me.

Attempt a brief appreciation of the poem, focusing on the theme, mood and imagery. (4)

Questions 11 to 14. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

A few days ago I went to watch an interesting football match played between the DAV Higher Secondary School, Karnal and the Govt. Higher Secondary School, Shahabad on the grounds of the SD Higher Secondary School, Karnal. A large crowd of students and men from the town were present to cheer up the players. The match began at 4.30 p.m. About five minutes before the scheduled time, the referee called upon the captains of the two teams to toss for sides. The DAV School team won the toss. Soon after, the referee blew the whistle and the players took their positions. At another loud whistle, the centre forward of the local school picked the ball and the match began. From the very start, the Govt. School team took the offensive. Twice they tried hard to make the ball pass through the goal post, but the goal keeper of the opposing team warded it off each time. However, he could not resist the attack for long and the Govt. School centre forward shot the ball into the

goal post by chance. This was loudly cheered by the spectators. Soon after the half time, the game was resumed. The DAVs got many chances but failed to score a goal. When only five minutes were left they made their great dash. In spite of strong opposition, their forwards carried the ball with full force and a goal was scored. There was a hail of shouts and the students of DAV flung their caps high up in the air. The match ended in a draw.

11. Read the passage carefully and write the answers in column B matching the information given in column A. (3)

A	B
a) Teams that participated in the match	a)
b) Venue of the match	b)
d) The team which scored the first goal	c)

12. Why did the students of DAV shout towards the end of the match? (1)
 13. Which team won the match? (1)

14. Answer any ONE of the following in about 120 words. (7)

A) ‘Then if you pay for it, Martha, it’s not a scholarship jacket, is it?’ The wise words of her Grandfather motivated Martha to question the unjust decision of the principal. To bring the matter to the notice of the Managing Director of the school, she drafts a letter of complaint. Write the letter imagining that you are Martha.

(Martha introduces herself – dreams of winning the scholarship jacket - maintains ‘A’ grades – becomes eligible for the scholarship - but some favour Joann - asks Martha to pay fifteen dollars – unjust decision of the principal - Martha’s request)

OR

B) ‘Come to me dear Grandad and take me away from here.’ This sad cry of a nine year old boy sums up the story of Vanka. Narrate the story in your own words. You may begin like this: Vanka was a nine year old boy...

(Hints: An orphan – apprentice to a shoemaker - miserable life – Christmas eve -no joy –writes letter – describes the cruelties of his master - cherishes memories of Christmas days in village – wishes to live with grandpa – posts the letter)

15. Satyajit Ray meets the manager of Bharat Circus to express his sincere gratitude for providing tigers for shooting of the film. What would be the conversation between Ray and the manager? (5)

16. The English Club of your school organises a seminar on the topic 'Books and Internet' in your school. You are the secretary of the club. Draft a notice inviting the students and teachers to the programme. (5)

17. Imagine that the snake in the story 'The Snake and the Mirror' bit the doctor and he was killed. Prepare a news report of the incident. (6)

18. 'Every home should adopt a pet animal'. Prepare a write up expressing your views either for or against this statement in the light of the story 'Adolf'. (6)

19. The story 'The 'Best Investment I ever made' tells us how the narrator's act of kindness transformed the life of a man. Imagine that the narrator makes a diary entry expressing his excitement. Write the diary entry. (5)

Questions 20 to 24. The English Club of your school is organising a film festival. Read the notice carefully and answer the questions that follow.

RAY FILM FEST 2016			
28th- 31stOctober, 2016			
Inauguration by Dr Kamal Haasan , film actor and director at 10.00 a.m. on 28thOctober, 2016			
Venue : MGH School Theatre Hall, Manavapuram			
Festival Convenor: Jyothika P.S. (Secretary, School Film Club)			
Date and time	Film	Category	Duration
28-10-16 , 11 am	Pather Panchali	Bengali feature	2 Hours
29-10-16, 5 pm	Happy Birthday	Short film	15 Minutes
30-10-16, 5 pm	Ottal	Malayalam feature	2 Hours
31-10-16, 5 pm	Life in the Amazon	Forest Documentary	45 Minutes

20. Who inaugurates the film fest? (1)
21. How many non-feature films will be screened in the fest? (1)
22. What is the title of the Malayalam film selected for screening? (1)
23. Where would the film fest take place? (1)
24. Which film in the fest will be screened in the forenoon session? (1)

25. Read the description given below and correct the errors underlined. (4)

Delhi is a crowded city. There are few very (a) people who travel by their own vehicles. The majorities (b) of the people cannot afford to hire a taxi or a three-wheeler. They have to depended (c) on Delhi Transport Company buses, which are the cheaper (d) mode of conveyance. DTC buses are like the blood capillaries of our body spreading all over Delhi.

26. Read the conversation between Ali and the junk collector and complete it suitably. (4)

Ali : Uncle, you collect junk from the town every day, (a).....?

Junk collector: Yes, I do it every day.

Ali :..... (b).....?

Junk collector: Yes, I collected some things from Akbar's shop.

Ali : Was there a parcel of shoes in the junk? I lost my sister's shoes at Akbar's shop yesterday.

Junk collector: I can't say it exactly. I just dumped the entire junk in the company site. If I get it, (c)

Ali :..... (d)

Junk collector : It is very near.

Ali : OK Uncle. Thank you. Bye.

Junk collector : Bye.

27. Complete the passage choosing the correct phrasal verbs from the box. (4)

Athul——(a)—— from his home with his parents to buy some school stationery. He —— (b)—— his favourite clothes and sat down in the car with his father. On the way to the town they ——(c)—— their family friend waiting for a vehicle. They stopped and he —— (d) —— the car.

(came across, got into, put on, turned up, set out)

28. Read the following dialogue: (2)

Ray : Where is the tiger?

Manager: It is in the cage. I will tell Mr Thorat to take you there.

Now, complete the following sentences.

a. Ray asked the manager.....

b. The Manager replied

29. Supply the missing words in the following passage. (4)

‘Project Tiger’ is / (a) extract from ‘Childhood Days’, a memoir by the renowned filmmaker Satyajit Ray. The memoir clearly reveals the stress / (b) strain involved in the process of filmmaking. It tells us how he managed / (c) shoot the scene of a film which included a tiger. Ray begins his article / (d) paying his tribute to the Hollywood filmmaker Alfred Hitchcock who had a high regard for animal actors.
(to , for , by , and , an , the)

30. Write a short profile of Leo Tolstoy using the details given below. (5)

Real name : Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy

Born : September 9, 1828 – Yasnaya Polyana, Russian Empire

Occupation : novelist, short story writer, playwright, essayist

Spouse : Sophia Tolstoya

Notable works: War and Peace, Anna Karenina, Resurrection

Death : November 20, 1910 (aged 82)

.....

Answers (QP1)

1. The days, especially the Christmas eves, when Vanka had lived in the village with his mother and grandfather before he was sent to Moscow had been the happy times.
2. The fig trees, coated with frost, stood motionless waiting to see which one of them was to die.
3. The speed of the hare is compared to the speed of an arrow.
4. Vanka is sad and depressed by the nostalgic feelings of his life in the village.

5. The hare.
6. Small Children and their innocent childhood.
7. Winter is the coldest of all seasons and its blasts take all moments of joy from the nature. The child wants to enjoy the joyful moments of a summer morning.
8. ABABB is the rhyme scheme.
9. “Blossoms blown”.
10. These are lines from the poem ‘Poetry’ by Pablo Neruda and he talks about poetry that arrived in search of him. It came at a time when he was as a person without a personal identity. He did not know where it came from, or how or when. He did not hear any voices speaking to him. He says he was summoned away by an invisible force, and the poetry touched him. He had in his mind ideas which he could not express effectively before the arrival of poetry. When the poetry touched him he was blessed with the poetic creativity and became a poet. The theme of the poem, in simple words, is the ecstatic experience of the poet embraced by the poetic creativity. There was a ‘violent fire’ in his mind- a fire of poetic passion which he was unable to burn or express till the touch of poetry. When the poetry touched him he could decipher the fire and could compose his ideas into verses and create poems. **Free verse** is the style of the poem; passion or ecstasy is the tone. Assuming poetry as a person, the poetic device **Personification** is very aptly applied when he wrote ‘... *poetry arrived in search of me...and it touched me*’. The poet has not used the end-rhyme, but instances of **assonance** in the line “*I don't know how or when*” (internal rhyme) are there to add to the rhythm.

11.

a) Teams of DAV HSS Karnal and Govt. HSS Shahabad participated in the match
b) Grounds of SD HSS Karnal.
c) Govt. HSS Shahabad.

12. Towards the end of the match the DAV HSS Karnal could score a goal and bring the match to a draw.

13. No winner or loser in the match; it ended in a draw.

14. (A)

**Salinas' Villa
Coalinga
California, USA.
22 Jan 2018**

**The Managing Director
The Texas School
Texas, USA.**

Dear Sir,

I am Martha Salinas, an eighth grade student of the Texas School. Being the daughter of a poor Mexican farm labourer, I have been in severe financial troubles throughout my school years. Although I am from an agile and athletic family, I could not participate in sports, as often I was unable to pay the registration fees and buy uniforms and sports jackets. My only chance is to win the Scholarship Jacket of our school.

I have worked hard and maintained the 'A' grade for the last eight years and this is my last year to win the jacket. I am the first in the list of the qualified students. Unfortunately, I happened to overhear a conversation between my two teachers and I came to know that some foul-play and falsification are going to happen. I understand that someone wants to favour Miss. Joann, who is second only in the list but an American and daughter of the school-board member. The principal has asked me to pay 15 dollars for the jacket, which is injustice. The principal and others favouring Joann know that I cannot afford to pay the amount and thus the award will go to the next one in the list. My grandfather, who is taking care of me, is not ready to pay the sum. He believes that 'if paid, it won't be an award'.

I would like to request you to do the needful to maintain justice in this regard and help me receive my deserving award which is the fruit of my eight years' efforts and dreams. Thanking you in advance,

Yours faithfully,

**Sd/
Martha Salinas.**

14 (B)

Vanka's Tearful Letter

The renowned Russian writer Anton Chkhov's story 'Vanka' is a miserable story of a nine year old boy namely Vanka. By the death of his mother he became an orphan and his grandfather sent him to Moscow to apprentice to a shoemaker Alyakhin. Under his master he had to lead a miserable life which was worse than that of a dog. The master together with his wife punished him severely for silly matters. The other apprentices also treated him cruelly. It had been only three months since he reached there. But the tortures he underwent were beyond description. Saddened by the loneliness and miseries he experienced there, he decided to write a letter requesting his grandfather to come and save him. The nostalgic feelings of his joyful life with his mother and grandfather in the village, especially at the time of Christmas, doubled his mental pains. He had secretly made arrangements for writing a letter, and he wrote it when the others had gone to church on the Christmas eve. He imploringly wrote: "come to me dear Granddad and take me away from here". This single sentence is enough for the readers of the story to know about the plight of a child labourer like Vanka. The poor little child somehow completed writing the letter and ran out to post it. He even did not know the fact that a letter should have a proper address and enough postage stamps to reach it to the destination. He posted it in the letter-box and came back. He went to sleep lulled by the rosy thoughts of his grandpa coming to his rescue and dreamed of going to have his happy days once again in his village.

15.

Ray : Good Morning Sir!

Manager: Hi Mr. Ray, good Morning! How was your shooting?

Ray : It's over successfully. If you had not helped me, it would not have been possible.

Manager: The tiger misbehaved in the beginning, didn't it?

Ray : Yes, perhaps because of the presence of the crowd. But Mr. Thorat managed to control it and brought it in our way.

Manager: Do you need anything more now?

Ray : No, sir. I just came to express my gratitude towards you. Thank you for your supports.

Manager: Don't mention! It's my pleasure. You had better appreciate Mr. Thorat for his efforts.

Ray : Yes, of course. I'm going to see him. Bye!

Manager: Bye!

NOTICE

Seminar on “Books and Internet”

Dear friends,

The English Club of our school has decided to conduct a seminar on the aforementioned subject on 10 February 2018 at 10:00 am. The Chief Librarian of the District Library will be participating in the seminar. All are welcome.

30 January 2018

*Secretary,
English Club,
ABC HSS, Kollam.*

Programme Details

Welcome Speech: The Secretary, English Club
Presidential Address: The Principal
Inauguration: The Chief Librarian, District Library
Felicitation: The School Librarian
Vote of thanks: The School Leader

Doctor dies of snake bite

Wed, 23 Jan 2018. 09:00am IST.

Staff reporter.

Kochi: Mohammed Basheer (28), a young homoeopathic doctor died of a cobra bite last night here at the city hospital. He was bitten by a cobra at his residence.

Dr. Basheer was a native of Kozhikkode and was working in a private clinic in Kochi. He was unmarried and only just started his practice and was staying alone in an old rented house. Last night after his meals while he was preparing to go to bed, he heard a thud. He didn't take much care of it, as it was usual for him such noises created by rats. While he was sitting on his chair, a full-blooded cobra slithered up on him and coiled on his left arm. He was very much frightened and in his frantic efforts to escape from the cobra, it bit him. Unfortunately, he had no medicine in his room. When the snake left him and moved towards a mirror, he ran out to his friends and explained everything to them. They immediately took him to the city hospital, but could not save his life.

“He was a very friendly and humorous young man having many dreams in his life. He was very ambitious of his career and hoped for having a good family life. But everything ended unexpectedly like a bubble”, his friends lamented.

18.

“Happiness is a warm puppy”

The title is the words of the famous American cartoonist Charles M Schulz, the author of the famous comic strip ‘Peanuts’. His words sum up what a pet means to a pet lover.

Almost all the people around the world like keeping a pet at their homes. While most people keep dogs and cats as their pets, many others go for rabbits, turtles, monkeys, horses, squirrels, birds and even snakes. It is a great way to have a time-pass for those who have enough free time. It is a great way to have some enjoyments and relieve mental stress for those who have a busy and stressful life. Keeping pets is an effective remedy against being lonely in life. Most people pet animals for their love for them while others pet them for their need for security purpose, companionship, etc. However, whatever be the case pets eventually become an integral part of the family. Like in the chapter “Adolf” in our English textbook, pets often become an object of enchantment and enjoyment but at times they can be an object of great grief. If they die or disappear, it will create an atmosphere of bereavement in the family, especially among children. Anyhow, pet keeping is a good hobby and good for our health. We will have a feeling that we too have somebody to give and take pure love. Our pets’ love is free from all kinds of selfishness and vested interests unlike that of some humans. The strong bonding and affectionate relationship with our pets can create immense emotional satisfaction, happiness and joy of mind which ultimately gift us with a healthy mind and body. I like having pets at home and I suggest others too have the same habit and hobby.

19.

24 Jan 2018, Wednesday

10:00pm

It’s really a fun-play of fate! Who knew seven pounds and ten shillings would change a rogue to a saint! I couldn’t recognize Mr. John in the beginning. When he whispered in my ear about the tragic event, everything that happened a quarter of a century ago came into my mind clearly as if it just happened yesterday. The land-lady of the lodge where a young man attempted suicide informed a police sergeant about the incident. The sergeant sought my service as I was a practicing doctor there at that time. When we reached in his room, he was at the brink of death. We three tried hard and brought him back to life. He ran after pleasure, craved for treasure and stole a sum from his work-place. Lost everything, fallen prey to depression he decided to take his own life. Moved by his pathetic story, we resolved to help him. I gave him the amount to replace in his office safe. Mr. John determined to pledge the rest of his life for charity services. Since then he and his wife have been travelling far and wide of the world in service of the needy youths. My meager investment has now brought me an immeasurable dividend in the form of Mr. John’s saintly life; God is great!

20. Dr. Kamal Hasan, the film actor and director, inaugurates.

21. Two non-feature films.

22. Ottal is the title of the Malayalam feature film.

23. MGH School Theatre Hall, Manavapuram.

24. The Bengali feature film “Pather Panchali.”

25. **a.** very few **b.** majority **c.** depend **d.** cheapest

26. **a.** don't you? **b.** Did you collect anything from Akbar's shop yesterday? **c.** I will inform you/I will give it back to Akbar. **d.** Where is your company site?

27. **a.** set out **b.** put on **c.** came across **d.** got into

28. **a.** Ray asked the manager where the tiger was.

b. The Manager replied that the tiger was in the cage and he would tell Mr. Thorat to take him there.

29. **a.** an **b.** and **c.** to **d.** by

30. **Leo Tolstoy**

Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy, popularly known in English as Leo Tolstoy, was a Russian writer who is regarded as one of the greatest authors of all time. He was born on September 9, 1828 at Yasnaya Polyana, Russia. Yasnaya Polyana is now a writer's house museum, the former home of Leo Tolstoy. Although he was a noted novelist, short story writer, playwright and essayist, he is best known for his novels 'War and Peace', 'Anna Karenina' and 'Resurrection'. He married Sophia Tolstoya at the age of 34 and when she was only eighteen. Tolstoy's finest work is "War and Peace" which is regarded as a central work of world literature. The work is more famous than its author. At the age of 82, Leo Tolstoy left this world on November 20, 1910.

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Prepared/Compiled by Mahmud K Pukayoor (englisheduspot.blogspot.com)