

# SSLC 2022

## ENGLISH

### FOCUS AREA & NON FOCUS AREA

Prepared as per the new question pattern of  
SCERT, KERALA

- ❖ Model Questions
- ❖ Possible Answers
- ❖ Summary of all lessons

## PART 1 A FOCUS AREA

**ANY ONE PASSAGE FROM THE FOCUS AREA WILL BE GIVEN HERE**

**1. Answer any four questions. Each carries 1 score.**

4x1=4

Though the house and grounds of our home in India were grandfather's domain, the magnificent old banyan tree was mine-chieflly because Grandfather at the age of 65 could no longer climb it. Grandmother used to tease him about this, and would speak of a certain Countess of Desmond, an English woman who lived to the age of 117, and would have lived longer if she hadn't fallen while climbing an apple tree. The spreading branches of the banyan tree which curved to the ground and took root again forming a maze of arches, gave me endless pleasure. The tree was older than the house, older than Grandfather, as old as the town of Dehra, nesting in a valley at the foot of the Himalayas.

1. Who is the narrator here?
2. How did banyan tree become the narrator's property?
3. How did Countess of Desmond die?
4. What gave the narrator endless pleasure?
5. ' The magnificent old banyan tree '. What's the head noun in this noun phrase?
6. 'The tree was older than the house '. Write the subject in the sentence.

### **ANSWERS**

1. Ruskin Bond
2. As Grandfather could not climb over the tree, it became the narrator's property.

3. Countess of Desmond fell down from the apple tree and died.
4. The spreading branches of banyan tree gave him endless pleasure.
5. Tree
6. The tree

**2. Answer any four questions from 1 to 6. Each carries 1 score.**

Read the passage from 'The Snake and the Mirror ' and answer the given questions.

'Has a snake ever coiled itself round any part of your body? A full-blooded cobra? All of us fell silent. The question came from the homeopath. The topic came up when we were discussing snakes. We listened attentively as the doctor continued with the tale.

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.

1. What was their topic of discussion?
2. Give one word for 'a person who treats illness using homeopathic methods'
3. 'We listened attentively as the doctor continued with the tale'. Who said this?
4. 'The sound was a familiar one'. Why did the sound become familiar to the narrator?
5. Write the noun phrase in object position in the sentence 'I took out my box of matches'.
6. What is meant by a full-blooded cobra?

**ANSWERS**

1. Snakes

2. Homeopath
3. Vaikom Muhammad Basheer
4. Every day he hears the sound of rats in his room
5. My box of matches
6. A cobra born to same type of parents

**3. Answer any four questions from 1 to 6. Each carries 1 score**

Read the following paragraph and answer the given questions (4x1=4)

No one can beat Hollywood when it comes to making films with animals in them. I remember films in my childhood - and there were quite a few of them - that had an Alsatian called Rin-tin-tin. This dog's acting was more impressive than a human's. Later, we got to see three or four other films with a collie called Lassie.

It seemed that the director could make Lassie do just about anything. These trained dogs were famous stars in their own rights, and the money earned was no less than what a real film star got. Their owners could easily make as much as a hundred thousand rupees from just one film.

1. Who is the narrator in this paragraph?
2. What specialty of Hollywood is mentioned here?
3. Suggest one word for 'a dog of long pointed noses and long thick hair'
4. What did the author comment on Rin-tin-tin, the Alsatian?
5. What is the noun phrase in object position in the sentence ' I remember films in my childhood? '
6. The money they earned was no less than what a real film star got.' Who are 'they' mentioned here?

## Answers

1. Satyajith Ray
2. Hollywood is very good in making films with animals
3. Collie
4. Rin-tin-tin's acting was more impressive than a human's
5. Films in my childhood
6. Trained dogs

### **4. Answer any four questions from 1 to 6. Each carries 1 score**

Read the following paragraph and answer the given questions (4x1=4)

On the second day, out from New York, while making the round of the promenade deck, I suddenly became aware that one of the passengers was watching me closely, following me with his gaze every time I past. I want to rest, to avoid the tedium of casual and importunate ship-board contacts. I gave no sign of having noticed the man.

Yet there was nothing importunate about him. On the contrary, he seemed affected by a troubled, rather touching diffidence. He was in his early 40s, rather short in build, with a fair complexion and clear blue eyes. His thin hair had begun to recede, from his forehead. His dark suit, sober tie and rimless spectacles gave evidence of a serious and reserved disposition. At this point the bugle sounded for dinner, and I went below.

1. Who is the speaker here?
2. What's the head noun in the noun phrase 'one of the passengers'?
3. 'I gave no sign of having noticed the man'. Why did the author ignore the stranger?
4. What does the author say about the disposition of that stranger?

5. Write the antonym (opposite) of the word 'diffidence'.

6. Write the synonym (meaning) of the word 'tedium'

## **Answers**

1. Dr A J Cronin

2. One

3. He wanted to rest and to avoid the tedium of casual and importunate shipboard contacts

4. He has a serious and reserved disposition

5. Confidence

6. Boredom

### **5. Answer any four questions from 1 to 6. Each carries 1 score**

Read the following paragraph and answer the given questions (4x1=4)

I am a storyteller. And I would like to tell you a few personal stories about what I like to call 'the danger of a single story'. I grew up on a University Campus in Eastern Nigeria. My mother says that I started reading at the age of two, although I think it probably happened when I was four. So I was an early reader, and what I read were British and American children's books.

I was also an early writer, and when I began to write at about the age of seven, stories in pencil with crayon illustrations that my poor mother was obligated to read, I wrote exactly the kind of stories I was reading. All my characters were white and blue-eyed, they played in the snow, they ate apples, and they talked a lot about the weather, how lovely it was that the sun had come out. But I had never been outside Nigeria. We didn't have snow, we ate mangoes, and we never talked about the weather, because there was no need to.

1. What does Chimamanda call her personal stories?

2. What's the complement in the sentence 'I am a storyteller'?
3. What type of books did Chimamanda read in her childhood?
4. Why did Chimamanda, an African origin write about white and blue-eyed people?
5. What is Chimamanda's mother land?
6. How did the Nigerian people differ from British and American characters?

## **Answers**

1. She calls her personal stories 'the danger of a single story'
2. A storyteller
3. She read British and American children's books
4. Because she was going through only those types of characters
5. Nigeria
6. The Nigerian people didn't have snow. They ate mangoes and they never talked about the weather.

### **6. Answer any four questions from 1 to 6. Each carries 1 score**

Read the given paragraph and answer the questions

The small Texas school that I went to, had a tradition carried out every year during the eighth-grade graduation: a beautiful gold and green Jacket was awarded to the class valedictorian, the student who had maintained the highest grades for eight years. The scholarship Jacket had a big gold 'S' on the left front side and your name written in gold letters on the pocket.

My oldest sister, Rosie, had won the jacket a few years back and I fully expected to also. I was fourteen and in the eighth grade. I had been a straight 'A' student since the first grade and this last year had looked forward very much to owning

that Jacket. My father was a farm labourer who couldn't earn enough money to feed eight children. So when I was six I was given my grandparents to raise.

1. Where was Marta's school located?
2. What tradition was carried out in Marta's school during the eighth-grade graduation?
3. Find out a word which means 'the student who has the highest marks/grades amongst a particular group and who gives a speech at the graduation ceremony'.
4. What are the specialties of scholarship Jacket?
5. Why was Marta sent to her grandparents?
6. Who inspired Marta in winning the scholarship Jacket?

### **Answer**

1. in Texas
2. A beautiful gold and green Jacket was awarded to the class valedictorian.
3. Valedictorian
4. It was awarded to the valedictorian. It was a beautiful gold and green Jacket embroidered with golden letters.
5. Marta's father couldn't earn enough to feed eight children. So she was sent to her grandparents to raise.
6. Her elder sister Rosie inspired her.

### **PART 1 B NON FOCUS AREA**

**ANY ONE POEM FROM THE NON FOCUS AREA WILL BE GIVEN HERE**

**1. Answer all questions from 7 to 10. Each carries 1 score.**

Read the lines from 'Poetry' and answer the following questions (4×1= 4)



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.

1. Do you think the speaker in the poem earnestly wishes to be a poet? Which line says so?
2. What's the figure of speech used in the expression 'poetry arrived'?
3. Find out an expression of contrast from these lines.
4. What was the poet's condition before poetry arrived

### **Answer**

1. No, the line ' The poetry arrived in search of me ' states that he didn't wish to be a poet.
2. Personification
- 3., 'No they were not voices, they were not words'
4. The poet was living without a face ( identity)

### **2. Answer all questions from 7 to 10. Each carries 1 score.**

Read the lines from 'Poetry' and answer the following questions (4×1= 4)

How many roads must a man walk down

Before you call him a man?

How many seas must a white dove sail

Before she sleeps in the sand?

Yes, and how many times must the cannon balls fly

Before they're forever banned?

The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind

The answer is blowin' in the wind.

1. Who is the speaker in the poem?
2. Write the rhyme scheme of the first stanza
3. What does the word 'roads' refer to here?
4. Do the questions given here demand a specified answer? What do you all such questions?

### **Additional questions**

5. Why does the writer say 'the answer is blowing in the wind' ?
6. Give an instance of alliteration
7. Give an example for metaphor

### **Answer**

1. The poet is the speaker
2. Abcbdb
3. Hardships of human life.
4. No, they don't. Rhetorical questions
5. No one is eager to get the answer. Everyone ignores it
6. 'Many', 'must', 'man' - 'm'
7. Cannon balls is metaphor of war

### **PART 2 A FOCUS AREA**

**ANY ONE POEM FROM THE FOCUS AREA WILL BE GIVEN HERE**

Read the given lines from 'Lines Written in Early Spring'.

**1. Answer any three questions. Each carries 2 scores. (3x2=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?

1. What does the expression 'I sate reclined' indicate about the poet's state of mind? Where was he sitting?
2. Why does the poet feel sad while reclining in the grove? Pick out the related line from the first stanza.
3. How does the poet associate himself with nature?
4. 'And much it grieved my heart to think

What man has made of man'

What do these lines convey?

5. Give an instance of hyperbole

**\* Additional questions**

6. Write the rhyme scheme of the first stanza.
7. Give two instances of alliteration

8. 'To her fair works did Nature link'. What poetic craft do you notice here?

### Answers

1. The poet is happy and relieved. He was sitting in the garden.
2. He was worried of the misdeeds of man. 'When pleasant thoughts bring sad thoughts to the mind ' says this.
3. The poet's human soul is linked with the fair works of nature.
4. These lines tell that the poet is sad of the wrong doings of man
5. The line 'I heard a thousand blended notes' exaggerates the sounds he heard in the garden.
6. abab
7. A. 'Much', 'my' - ' m'  
B. 'Man', 'made', 'man' - ' m'
8. Personification. The pronoun 'her' and capital 'N' in 'Nature' show that the poet has treated nature as a woman.

Read the lines from 'The Ballad of Father Gilligan'.

### 2. Answer any three questions. Each carries 2 scores (3×2=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.

1. Why was Father Gilligan weary night and day?
2. What's the significance of the word 'flock'?
3. Why were his flocks either in bed or lying under green sod?
4. Why did another man send for father Gilligan? Why is the man referred to as 'poor'?
5. What's the rhyme scheme of the first stanza?

**\* Additional questions**

6. Give an instance of metaphor used here.
7. Write two examples for alliteration.

**Answers**

1. Father Gilligan is an old man. He was regularly visiting each dying man's house to offer the last prayers.
2. 'Flock' is used as a metaphor. As a shepherd takes care of his flock, he takes care of his parishioners.
3. An epidemic was killing a lot of people in that locality.
4. Somebody was about to die soon. He came as a messenger of someone at that moth-hour.
5. abcb

**\* Additional questions**

6. The word 'flock' is a metaphor used for parishioners.
7. A. 'Was', 'weary' - 'w'

B. 'Half', 'his' - 'h'

Read the lines from 'Mother to Son'.

**3. Answer any three questions. Each carries 2 scores. (3×2=6)**

Well, son, I'll tell you:

Life for me ain't been no crystal stair.

It's had tacks in it,

And splinters,

And boards torn up,

And places with no carpet on the floor--

Bare.

But all the time

I've been a-climbin' on

And reachin' landin's

And turning corners,

And sometimes goin' in the dark

Where there ain't been no light.

1. Who is the speaker in the poem? Do you feel the presence of a listener? How?
2. What does the expression 'no crystal stair' mean?
3. Was life easy for the narrator? Pick out evidence from this stanza to support your answer.
4. The first stanza ends with the word 'bare'. What does the speaker mean by the word 'bare'?

5. Write two metaphors used for hardships in human life.

## **Answers**

1. A mother is the speaker. Yes, the line 'well son, I'll tell you' points to the presence of her son there.

2. 'No crystal stair' means absence of happy and luxurious life.

3. No, life wasn't easy for her. The words 'tacks', 'splinters' and 'boards tone up' are evidences of her suffering.

4. 'Bare' means absence of basic facilities. Carpet is an essential material in U.S. and it was not available for her.

5. Tacks, splinters. They hurt our feet.

## **\* Additional questions**

6. Write the extended metaphor used in the poem. How does it make the poem attractive?

7. When life becomes challenging, does the speaker give up? How do you know?

## **Answers for Additional questions**

6. The poet has used 'an old, broken stair' as extended metaphor. It represents her whole life.

7. No, she doesn't. She says she had been climbing on through tacks, splinters and torn up boards.

## **PART 2 B NON FOCUS AREA**

Read the given paragraph from 'My Sister's Shoes'.

**1. Answer any two questions. Each carries 2 scores      2x2=4**

## Scene 1

### Cobbler's shop

Close up of a cobbler stitching a girl's shoe. Only the pink shoe and the cobbler's hands are in the frame. The camera moves back to middle distance to show Ali sitting on a low chair next to the cobbler and watching him work. The cobbler finishes stitching the shoe, picks up the other one of the pair and hands them both to Ali.

Cobbler : That'll be thirty Toumans.

Ali: Thank you ( gives money to the cobbler ).

Cobbler : Here is your change ( picks up coins from the money box to give to Ali.

1. What is 'Touman'?
2. Ali is getting his sister's shoe stitched. What idea do you have about Ali's family?
3. Write two character traits of Ali.

### Answers

1. Touman is an old Iranian currency.
2. Ali's family is financially poor. But they are loving and caring each other.
3. He is a loving brother. He is ready to shoulder his responsibilities.

### **2. Answer any two questions. Each carries 2 scores.                    2x2=4**

Read the given paragraph from 'The Never Never Nest'.

The lounge of JACK and JILL's villa at New Hampstead. The essential furniture consists of a table on which are writing materials, and two chairs. As the curtain



rises the lounge is empty, but JACK and JILL come immediately, followed by AUNT JANE.

JILL : And this is the lounge

AUNT JANE : Charming!, Charming! Such a cosy little room! And such pretty.

JACK ( modestly ) : We like it, you know, handy place to sit in and listen to the radiogram.

AUNT JANE : Oh, have you got a radiogram as well as a car and a piano?

JACK : Why, of course, Aunt Jane. You simply must have a radio set nowadays.

1. Write two sentences on the lounge of JACK and JILL's villa at New Hampstead.
2. 'Oh, have you got a radiogram as well as a car and a piano?'. Why did AUNT JANE ask so?
3. 'You simply must have a radio set nowadays '. What attitude of JACK is seen here?

## Answers

1. It's a cosy, little room with essential furniture. It's a handy place to sit in and listen to the radiogram.
2. AUNT JANE had a concept that JACK and JILL are financially poor and unable to buy costly things.
3. JACK is very much concerned of getting the luxuries of modern life.

**3. Answer any two questions. Each carries 2 scores.**

2x2=4

Read the paragraph from 'Vanka'.

Nine year old Vanka Zhukov , who had been apprenticed three months ago to Alyakhin the shoemaker, did not go to bed on Christmas eve. He waited till his master and mistress and the senior apprentices had gone to church, and then took from the cupboard a bottle of ink and a pen with a rusty nib, spread out a

crumpled sheet of paper, and was all ready to write. Before tracing the first letter, he glanced several times anxiously at the door and window, peered at the dark icon, with shelves holding cobbler's lasts stretching on either side of it, and gave a quivering sigh. The paper lay on the bench, and Vanka knelt on the floor at the bench.

1. Why didn't Vanka go to bed on Christmas Eve?
2. Before tracing the first letter, he glanced several times anxiously at the door and window'. What made him anxious?
3. He spread out a crumpled sheet of paper and was all ready to write. Why did Vanka use a crumpled sheet to write a letter?

## **Answers**

1. He wanted to write a letter secretly when all the others left for church.
2. The fear of being caught by others while he is writing.
3. He was hiding it for long from others / He was unable to collect a good sheet of paper.

### **4. Answer any two questions. Each carries 2 scores. 2x2=4**

Read the paragraph from 'The Castaway'.

The battle of the gods and demons began in the evening. The roaring storm, the pouring rain, the bludgeoning thunder and lightning and the black clouds all took their part. The Ganges was furious and one could hear nature's screams, sighs and groans everywhere.

In one of the riverside houses of Chandernagore, an endless verbal battle was going on between Sharat and his wife Kiran about her staying in the house. Kiran fell seriously ill making everyone in her native village terribly anxious. The whole village advocated for a change necessary for her and to be taken to her own

home. But Sharat and his mother gave more importance to their darling than the wisdom of the village.

"The doctor also thinks that you should stay here a few more days to return home strong again".

1. 'One could hear nature's screams'. Give examples for nature's screams described here.

2. Why do Kiran and Sharat stay at the river side house?

3. 'But Sharat and his mother gave more importance to their darling than the wisdom of the village '. Who is their darling? What's the wisdom of the village?

### **Answers**

1. The roaring storm, the pouring rain, the bludgeoning thunder and lightning and the black clouds.

2. Kiran fell seriously ill. Sharat, his mother and Kiran's doctor think that her stay at river side house will make her strong.

3. Kiran is their darling. The village folk believes that Kiran must be taken to her own home for a change.

### **PART 3 A FOCUS AREA**

**Answer any three questions from 19 to 23. Each carries 4 scores.**

3X4=12

### **ANY ONE OF THIS TYPE**

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

(a)

(b)

What this showed, I think is how impressionable and vulnarable we are in the face of a story, particularly as children. Because all I had read were books in

(c)

(d)

what characters were foreign. I became convinced that books by their very nature had to have foreigners in them.

## Answers

- a. shows
- b. vulnerable
- c. which
- d. had become

2. Hissing <sup>(a)</sup> defiance, his forked tongue darting in and out, the cobra raised, <sup>(b)</sup> six of his three feet <sup>(c)</sup> off the ground, and spreaded his broad, <sup>(d)</sup> spectacled hood. The mongoose bushed his tale.

## Answers

- a. defiance
- b. three of his six feet
- c. spread
- d. tail

3. We stood around <sup>(a)</sup> foolish, watching a new and strange <sup>(b)</sup> circus of kind <sup>(c)</sup> which we were getting to see for free! The Camera was still standing on <sup>(d)</sup> its three legs, staring into the wood, but the tiger showed no sign of making its way there.

## Answers

- a. foolishly

- b. kind of circus
- c. camera
- d. was showing

4. Although <sup>(a)</sup> apparent lifeless, there remained the barest chance that the youth  
<sup>(b)</sup> was not quiet <sup>(c)</sup> beyond recall. With the sergeant's help, I had begun <sup>(d)</sup> the work  
of resuscitation.

### Answers

- a. apparently
- b. quite
- c. began
- d. resuscitation

5. In May, <sup>(a)</sup> graduation to close, spring fever had struck as usual with a  
<sup>(b)</sup> vengeance. <sup>(c)</sup> No one paid any attention in class, instead we were staring <sup>(d)</sup> out of  
windows and at each other, wants to speed up the last few weeks of school.

### Answers

- a. close to graduation
- b. vengeance

- c. stared
- d. wanting

**Fill up the blanks with suitable words where the '/' is marked.**

**ANY ONE OF THIS TYPE**

1. Then /(a) squirrel started building a nest. At first /(b) tried building it in my pockets, and /(c) I went indoors and changed my clothes I would find straw /(d) grass falling out.

**Answers**

- a. the
- b. she
- c. when
- d. and

2. There was some pain /(a) my left arm. It was as /(b) a thick leaden rod - no, a rod made /(c) molten fire - was slowly /(d) powerfully crushing my arm.

**Answers**

- a. in
- b. if
- c. of
- d. but

3. In /(a) village called Notun Gram we found a suitable bamboo grove /(b) film the first meeting between Goopy /(c) Bagha and the appearance of /(d) tiger.

**Answer**

- a. a

- b. to
- c. and
- d. the

4. There was in his voice and manner, /(a) in his whole personality, a genuine enthusiasm /(b) was disarming. I found /(c) liking him instinctively. Questioning him further, I learnt that he and his wife had been active /(d) the past 15 years in the field of youth welfare.

### **Answers**

- a. indeed
- b. that
- c. myself
- d. for

5. When I learned, /(a)years ago, that writers were expected to have /(b) really unhappy childhoods to be successful, I began to think /(c) how I could invent horrible things my parents had/(d) to me.

### **Answers**

- a. some
- b. had
- c. about
- d. done

Rewrite the passage given below using suitable phrasal verbs. ( 4×1= 4 )

## ANY ONE OF THIS TYPE

1. Marta (a)..... the argument between Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Boone over the scholarship Jacket. Being shocked at it, she wished to (b)..... from there. She (c)..... to play ground but couldn't (d)..... her frustration.

[ put up with, carry out, go back, set off, get away, come across ]

### Answers

a. came across

b. get away

c. went back

d. put up with

2. When Ruskin Bond (a)..... a hole in the banyan tree, he (b)..... three white squirrels in it. At first he and his grandfather couldn't (c)..... how the white squirrels appeared there. But when they (d)..... the matter, Bond recollected the frequent visit of white rat in the banyan tree.

[ come across, look into, go on, go over, make out, put on]

### Answers

a. went over

b. came across

c. make out

d. looked into

3. At a hot night the homeopath (a)..... a restaurant and had his dinner. After some time he (b)..... the room and opened the door. A noise (c)..... from above as he entered there. He didn't (d)..... it, as the sound was a familiar one.



[ call on, turn down, turn up, look into, set in, call at]

### Answers

- a. called at
- b. turned up
- c. set in
- d. look into

4. Alfred Hitchcock decided to make a film called 'Birds'. He (a)..... trained birds. Someone (b)..... with almost a hundred trained ravens. The ravens had been (c)..... quite well. They could (d)..... as per the command of the trainer.

[ fall in, give up, bring up, put on, look for, turn up]

### Answers

- a. looked for
- b. turned up
- c. brought up
- d. fall in

5. Dr. Cronin (a).....from New York in a ship. On the second day, he (b)..... Mr. John at the ship-board. Mr. John wanted to speak to Dr. Cronin. Being diffident he (c)..... his meeting with Dr. Cronin. Finally he (d)..... with his wife and Dr. Cronin received them.

[ put off, carry out, fall back, set off, come across, turn up]

### Answers

- a. set off
- b. came across

c. put off

d. turned up

**Complete the conversation suitably. 4 marks**

**ANY ONE OF THIS TYPE**

1. Boy : Grandpa, today I saw a fight in the garden!

Grandpa : In the garden? (a).....?

Boy : A cobra and a mongoose.

Grandpa : Really? Then you were scared, (b).....?

Boy : Yes, I was scared. I was in the tree and couldn't run away.

Grandpa : Don't worry. If there is a mongoose in our garden, (c).....

Boy : Yes, you're right, Grandpa. It killed the cobra.

Grandpa : Still more snakes might be there in the garden. (d)..... .

Boy : I know Grandpa. I will be careful.

**Answers**

a. Who were fighting there?

b. Weren't you?

c. it will kill the snakes.

d. You should be careful.

2. Homeopath : Gopi, I saw a cobra in my room!

Gopi : A cobra in your room?

(a).....?

Homeopath : Just now. It fell down from the roof and coiled onto my arm!

Gopi : I can't believe it. Stop telling lie, (b).....?

Homeopath,: No, it's true. If(c)....., I wouldn't come here at this night.

Gopi : I see. Then (d) .....

Homeopath : You're right. I will stay here now.

### Answers

a. When did you see it?

b. Will you?/ Won't you?

c. I was lying / it was a lie

d. you please stay here now

3. Satyajit Ray : Hello! I'm Satyajit Ray from India. I'm here to watch you taking shots.

Cameraman : You're welcome. You work in film field, (a).....?

Ray : Yes. I'm a director. (b).....?

Cameraman : A dog is the protagonist

Ray : Wonderful! I think (c)..... .

Cameraman : No, it's easy to manage that dog. He is well experienced in film field.

Ray : If he is well experienced, (d)..... .

Cameraman : You're right. He is a good actor.

### Answers

- a. Don't you?
- b. Who is the protagonist?
- c. It will be difficult to manage the dog.
- d. he will be a good actor

4. Dr. Cronin : Hello, John! You're back. (a) .....

John : I'm quite ok, sir.

Dr. Cronin : John, why did you do it?

John : (b) .....

Dr. Cronin : Debt? If you tell me, (c).....

John : I'm troubling you, (d)..... ?

Dr.Cronin : No, it's not a trouble. I will help you.

### **Answers**

- a. How do you feel now?
- b. I have fallen in debt
- c. I will pay it / I can help you
- d. Aren't I?

5. Mr. Schmidt : Marta is going to win the scholarship jacket this year. No one can beat her.

Mr. Boone : (a)..... I don't think the management is happy with her.

Mr. Schmidt : What's wrong in being a Mexican? She deserves the jacket.

Mr. Boone : But Joann's father is in the Board,(b)..... ?

Mr. Schmidt : So what? If Marta topped in her studies, (c)..... .

Mr. Boone : I know Marta deserves it. But (d)..... ?

Mr. Schmidt : No need to challenge the Board. Let's ask them to be honest in this matter.

### Answers

- a. Marta is Mexican.
- b. Isn't he?
- c. she would get the jacket
- d. how can we challenge the board?

### Constructing word pyramid.

4 marks

[Model - 1]

Noun

Det + Noun

Det + Adj +Noun

Det + Adj + Adj + Noun

Det + Adj + Adj+ Noun + Rel clause

1

War

The war

The Russian war

The horrible Russian war

The horrible Russian war that killed many.

2

Jacket

The Jacket

The scholarship Jacket

The green scholarship Jacket

The green scholarship Jacket that Martha won

3

Speech

The speech

The inspirational speech

The long inspirational speech

The long inspirational speech that Adichie made

[Model 2]

Noun

Det + Noun

Det + Adj + Noun

Det + Adj + Noun + prep. phrase

Det + Adj + Noun prep. phrase + Relative clause

4

Boy

The boy

The small boy

The small boy in the banyan tree

The small boy in the banyan tree who is brave

5

Snake

The snake

The big snake

The big snake in homeopath's room

The big snake in homeopath's room that coiled onto him

## PART 3 B

## GENERAL

Answer any one question from 24 to 25. Each carries 4 scores.

Read the following table and answer the questions.

Main Alliances' Vote share in Kerala state Elections (2006-2021)

Alliances	2006	2011	2016	2021
LDF	48.6%	43.6%	38.5%	40.4%
UDF	43%	45.8%	38%	37.5%
NDA		6.1%	14.6%	12.5%

1. Name the alliance which won the Election in 2021
2. Which alliance made its first appearance in 2011?
3. What's the vote share of LDF in 2021 Election?
4. Which alliance has scored the least vote share in 2021 Election?

Answers

1. LDF
2. NDA
3. 40.4%
4. NDA

Read the passage given below and answer the questions. 4 marks.

Alexandria was the capital of the Ptolemys in Egypt. It became a great city, famous in the ancient world. The glory of Athens had diminished greatly, and gradually Alexandria took its place as the cultural centre of the Greeks. Its great library and museum attracted large numbers of students from far countries, who discussed philosophy, mathematics, religion and other problems that filled the minds of the ancient world. Euclid was a resident of Alexandria and a contemporary of Ashoka.



Alexandria was also a great trading centre, and merchants from other parts of the civilized world came to it. There was a colony of Indian merchants in Alexandria. Alexandrian merchants had a settlement in South India on the Malabar coast

1. Name a town which was the capital of Ptolemys in Egypt.
2. What was the first cultural centre of Greeks?
3. Why did students from far countries reach Alexandria?
4. Mention an ancient settlement of merchants in South India

Answers

1. Alexandria
2. Athens
3. Alexandria had a great library and museum.
4. The Malabar coast

#### **PART 4 A FOCUS AREA**

**[Letter, Diary, Appreciation, News Report, Paragraph, Write up, Interview questions]**

ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS. EACH CARRIES 6 SCORES.

7. The boy in the lesson "Adventures in a Banyan Tree" was very much thrilled by his acquaintance with the squirrel. Imagine he writes a letter to his friend. Prepare a likely letter. 6 marks.

**Answer LETTER**

1. Ivy Cottage

Landour Cantt

Dehradun

28 April 1997

Dear Sravan,

Hope you're enjoying your vacation there. Do you have many friends to play with? Hope you're happy with them.

Here I have got a new friend. A young squirrel it is! I met him in the banyan tree. It's grey in colour. At first he was scared of me. But I remained very friendly to him. Slowly he also became friendlier. And when I started leaving him pieces of cake and biscuit, he grew bolder. Now he takes food from my hands. He often delves into my pockets! Can you believe it? I really enjoy his company now.

Try to make friends with animals also, Sravan. It gives you a lot of pleasure. Hope we'll meet soon.

Yours lovingly

sd/-

(name)

Sravan Chandra 31/1891 B, Silk street Gandhi Nagar, Nasik
--

4. Imagine the homeopath is writing a letter to his friend on his confront with snake. Write a likely letter. 6 Marks

LETTER

Dr. Suresh Kumar,

'Devinilayam'

Panniyankara.

6 April 1935

Dear Balan,

Hope this letter meets you in good health. It's long since I heard from you. You all are doing well, I think.

Here, in Panniyankara I started my career a few months back. I have set up a small clinic and it functions smoothly. But a severe thing occurred yesterday. I was staying alone in an old lodge. Yesterday night while I was sitting in front of the mirror, a big cobra fell down from the roof. Then it wriggled over my shoulder and coiled around my left arm! You may not believe it, but it's true. It raised its hood close to my face. Death lurked only four inches away, Balan. Then another wonder occurred. it saw its image in the mirror and moved towards it. I slowly got up and moved out. Then I ran and reached my neighbour.

Balan, even now I can't believe that I'm alive. I really met my death yesterday. Today morning I shifted to another room. I can't risk my life there again. Hope we will meet soon. Convey my regards to everyone in your family.

With lots of love

Suresh

Sd/-

To

Mr. Balan K,  
33/1697 A  
Mahe, Kannur

8. Imagine Satyajit Ray writes a letter to the Chairman of Animal Welfare Board of India informing him the details of the shoot and ensuring him that the rules will be strictly adhered to. Draft the likely letter.

5 marks

Ans.

LETTER

Satyajith Ray

16/ 220 A, Garpar

Kolkata

11 July 1969

The Chairman

Animal Welfare Board

Kolkata.

Dear sir,

Subject: Use of tiger in film

I, Satyajit Ray, seek your kind attention to the matter that a Royal Bengal tiger is going to be used in my next film "Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne". It will be taken from Bharat Circus and its ring master will accompany it throughout the shooting. The shooting will be done in Notun Gram on 20 July 1969. It will take only a couple of hours for the shooting. I will ensure that the rules of Animal Act will be strictly adhered to the handling of tiger.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely

Satyajith Ray

Sd/-

2. The principal of Texas school feels uncomfortable and unhappy about the policy change. Imagine he expresses his resentment in a letter to the management. Write the likely letter.

6 marks

LETTER

The Principal

Texas City Highschool

Texas.

30/03/1964

The Manager

Texas City Highschool

Texas

Dear sir,

Subject : Resentment on policy change

Being the principal of this school, I feel it is totally unfair to change the policy regarding the scholarship Jacket. If you ask for money, it's not going to be an award but only a purchase. It will affect the prestige of our school in future.

So kindly look into this matter and do the needful.

Yours sincerely

Sd/-

Antony Tom

**DIARY**

1. Imagine the narrator in 'Adventures in a Banyan Tree ' is writing a diary after watching the fight between cobra and mongoose. Write a likely diary.

5 marks

### DIARY

Date

It's an unforgettable day! It's the first time in my life I happened to watch a fight between a cobra and a mongoose! God! It was really a battle.

I was on the tree as usual and a huge black cobra appeared right beneath it. At the same time a mongoose also emerged from the bushes. When they came face to face I never expected such a fight. It was really a battle of champions!

Cobra raised three of his six feet off the ground and fought with swift movements. The mongoose bushed his tail and his long hair stood up on his spine. Both of them fought vigorously. When the combat was going on, a crow and a myna arrived at the spot. Both of them hurled themselves at the cobra. Cobra struck the crow and killed it. Then myna refrained from interfering. When cobra weakened mongoose raised himself on his short legs and had the cobra by the snout. It was a lightning snap. Cobra writhed and lashed about but all to no avail. Mongoose dragged it into the bushes.

When I narrated all these grandfather was very happy with mongoose. Even I'm happy. I can fearlessly go there when he is patrolling there.

2. 'And amongst the wool were the three baby squirrels - all of them white!'. Imagine the boy scribbled down this unforgettable sight in his diary. Write a similar diary.

5 marks

### Diary

25 May 1997

Today is a day of surprise! One of my squirrel friends has done a miracle! She has given birth to three baby squirrels! The surprising factor is that all the three babies are white! God, I can't believe it! I have never seen white squirrels. Even Grandfather hasn't seen. How did it happen? I used to take Grandfather's white rat to the banyan tree. And I've seen it going off together with a squirrel on little excursions. But I never expected them raising a family!

I was wondering why the squirrel was putting straw and grass in my pockets. She was trying her nest! Oh! God, I never thought she was expecting three white squirrels! They are the offspring of grey squirrel and white rat! Grandfather told me, squirrel and rat are related to each other. God! My banyan tree is a spot of miracles

3. Imagine the homeopath is writing a diary after he escaped the snake. Write a similar one. 5 Marks

### **Diary**

5 April 1935

Yesterday was an unforgettable day in my life. I met a big cobra face to face! God! What a snake it was! A huge one! It wriggled over my shoulder and coiled around my arm! I can't just believe it. What a horrible experience! Even now I remember that spread hood. It was there only three or four inches away from my face!

I sat there holding my breath. How could I sit like a stone image? God! You were with me! It's you who gave me that will power. Will power or shock? Even now I'm not sure. Anyway I could manage those moments. I didn't die. I didn't fall unconscious. I didn't scream! I didn't even make a single move.

That's why I'm alive. Had I made a single move, it would have bitten me. I sat there like a stone. But I was fully aware of death lurking only four inches away. The snake was crushing my arm. I felt it as a thick leaden rod. No, a molten fire. Luckily now my arm is fine. And I'm alive now. It's God who directed the snake to that mirror. That's why I could escape. I will never forget it, I think. So horrible it was!

4. Imagine Satyajit Ray is writing a diary after he completed the tiger scene in Boral. Write a likely diary. 6 Marks

### Diary

27 July 1969

Today is a special day for me. I've achieved a tough task now. It was a task which troubled me, challenged me, and inspired me. And now I could successfully accomplished that task. I'm really happy now. It had been a two weeks' project to shoot that scene. Anyway it worked out well today. Even the camera behaved well this time. I was really anxious of it. I was praying not to repeat last week's tragedy. We all were praying for that. Now we all are really happy. The most challenging task is done with this shot, I think. I've almost completed the important scenes to the film. Still there should be a detailed discussion and review. Any way I'm relieved now. The deal with Bharat Circus also is over. I am really thankful to them. How co-operative that team was! And my dear tiger, I'm thankful to you too. Meet you again in big screen.

- 5 Imagine that Mr. John after meeting the narrator for the second time, writes his diary. What would be the possible diary entry? Write it down.

5 marks

### Diary

Date

This is the happiest day in my life. For many years I was eagerly waiting to meet Dr. Cronin once again. I could make it happen today. For my wife also it was a happy day.

I'm very happy to find him healthy and active even now. He couldn't recognize me. But I will recognize him ever in my life. He is the person who virtually resuscitated my life.! When I regained consciousness, he asked me to pay off my debt and gave me seven pounds and ten shillings. It might be a small amount for



him. But for me it was a boosting thing. That doctor brought life back not only to my body but to my soul also. So I could better the life of many delinquent and maladjusted youth. God!, I remain thankful in front of You today. Thankful for having met him once again. And thankful for making me a tool to uplift many delinquent youth.

6. Imagine Dr. Cronin is writing a diary after his meeting with Mr. John. Write a similar diary. 5 Marks

### **Diary**

15 April 1959

I feel I very happy and contented today. I met a couple, Mrs. and Mr. John from London on shipboard, today. They were staring at me for the past few days. And I was quiet annoyed of that. But when the couple came and talked to me, it gave me an immense pleasure. That gentleman, Mr. John, is one of the best human I have ever met. He is now working for the betterment of the delinquent and maladjusted youth for the past fifteen years. God! You please bless them again continue that selfless service. Let God bless you, my dear ones!

What you're doing now is a divine action, Mr. John. Only angels can do it. How many derelict adolescents had been saved by you! Incredible it is! You're conveying an inspiring message to the society. Surely you people are role models. Now I feel pity on me. What could I do for the derelict ones in my life? What could I spend for them? And what could I earn in my life? I have made a lot of investments in different fields. Surely some of them were profitable. But many of them created only anxiety, disappointment and frustration in my life. That seven pounds and ten shillings was the only good investment I've done so far. Sure that's the best investment I've ever made.

7. When Chimamanda reached United States she found that her roommate had got a single story on Africa. Being unhappy with her attitude she is writing a diary. Prepare a similar one. 5 marks

### **Diary**

25 September 1996

It's my first day in this campus. When I reached here first, I had had a different concept on Americans. I thought all Americans are broadminded to others. I thought they learn and understand others well. But now I feel I was wrong. They have a single concept on Africans. They think all Africans are illiterate and uncivilized. God! I can't just believe it.

Today my roommate asked me where I learnt to speak English so well. She knows nothing about Nigeria. And nothing about Africa, I think. She asked me to sing African tribal music. I haven't even heard it. Better consult my mom on tribal music. Not only my roommate, all Whites in the campus hold similar view on Africans, I feel. They all believe that Africa is a dark continent. They think people don't have basic education and facilities there. What a pity! They should learn more on Africa. They should improve their general knowledge. Any way I'm here to express myself. I may get chances to show off what an African is. Hope I can wipe out these people's single story on our continent.

### **APPRECIATION**

1. Write an appreciation of the poem ' Lines Written in Early Spring ' 4 marks

### **APPRECIATION**

It's written by a major English Romantic poet, William Wordsworth. He is celebrating the bond of man with nature and rejoices in the beauty of it.

When he sits in the garden he enjoys every sight and sound of nature. Nature has linked human souls to her fair works. But the misdeeds of man leave the poet pensive and disappointed. He enjoys the beautiful wreaths of primrose and periwinkle. He happily watches the playful birds and the fanning twigs. Nature has blessed man a lot. The coexistence of living beings in harmony is its holy plan. But man destroys ecosystem, fights and kills each other and harms the glory of nature. The poet laments on it.

We see many poetic crafts here. The exaggerated statement 'I heard a thousand blended notes', is hyperbole. We see alliteration in 'what man has made of man? '. 'To her fair works did nature link' is a good example of personification. We also see visual and auditory images in the poem. The rhyme scheme of the poem is 'abab'. All these poetic crafts add beauty to poem. We get a lot of visual Images in this poem. Auditory image also is present in the first line.

In my opinion the poet could successfully reflect his mind here.

2. Prepare an appreciation of the poem 'The Ballad of Father Gilligan'

4 marks

### **APPRECIATION**

The poem 'The Ballad of Father Gilligan' is written by the famous Irish poet W.B. Yeats. It's written in the backdrop of a fatal epidemic in the countryside where people were dying day and night.

On a day of tiredness, father Gilligan couldn't reach a dying man's home in time. But the next morning he came to know that God himself had sent one of his angels down there to perform his own priestly duties. Then he knelt there to thank God.

The poem comprises four stanzas with a rhyme scheme 'abcb'. We feel the sad and serious tone of a narrative writing here. At the end of the poem, we also enjoy the relief of father Gilligan. The poet has tried his best to transfer his feelings into the reader's mind. He has successfully used poetic crafts. The rhyme

scheme is 'abcb'. There are instances of alliteration in the poem. Eg. 'The old priest Peter Gilligan'. The consonant 'p' repeats in 'priest' and 'Peter'. The word 'flock' is a metaphor used for parishioners. We see a lot of visual and auditory images here. These poetic crafts make the poem attractive.

3. Write an appreciation of the poem 'Mother to Son'

4 marks

### **APPRECIATION**

The poem 'Mother to Son' is written by Langston Hughes. It's a monologue of a Black mother uttered to her son. It shows the dignity and determination of a mother in challenging the hardships in her life.

The poet has used an extended metaphor (metaphor used throughout the poem) of a rough and tough stair. Mother brings her real life bitter experiences to her son through this metaphor. She says her life was never a crystal stair. It had many tacks and splinters, torn up boards, bare floor and dark corners. Still she didn't give up. She proceeded her climbing with a fighting spirit. So she asks her son also to proceed without taking rest. The words 'tacks', 'splinter's etc. are examples for metaphor. The single word 'Bare' in the first stanza emphasizes the severity of her poverty. In my opinion it's an inspiring poem.

The poet has used a figurative language with imagery and metaphors. He has also used sound devices effectively.

### **NEWS REPORT**

1. Imagine a newspaper reporter prepares a news report on the shooting of tiger scene in Boral. Write a similar report

5 Marks

#### **Tiger Acts in Satyajit Ray Film**

Staff reporter

Boral, 25 July 1969: Satyajit Ray, the renowned Bengali film director shot a scene with a tiger in it at Boral for his new film 'Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne'. The shooting occurred yesterday in a bamboo grove here at 10 o'clock morning.

The tiger was hired from Bharat Circus which is now staging a show in Calcutta city. The tiger's ringmaster Mr. Thorat had accompanied it to the location. He had tied a thin but strong steel wire around its neck to control its movement in the location. But when ring master opened the cage, the tiger emerged with a loud roar. It jumped towards the viewers. As if by magic the crowd melted away. But the tiger calmed down very quickly. Like an obedient child it walked to the spot and followed the instructions of the director. The shooting went well. But it's heard that Satyajit Ray had shot the same scene a few days back in Notun Gram. As the camera failed to work, all those efforts had gone in vain. But today a happy Satyait Ray commented that the use of a tiger would be innovative in Bengali film industry.

2.Marta is awarded the Scholarship Jacket by the Vice chancellor of the University. Prepare a news report of the award ceremony. 6 marks

### **News Paper Report**

#### **MEXICAN GIRL RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP JACKET**

Staff Reporter

Texas, March 31, 1963 : A thirteen years old Mexican girl, Marta Salinas bagged the Scholarship Jacket from Texas City High School in Texas for her commendable achievement in curricular and co-curricular activities. The Scholarship Jacket is an award given by this school to the best outgoing student in eighth standard, every year. The award giving ceremony was conducted at the valedictory function organized in school yesterday.

At the function Marta Salinas received the award from her school manager, Mr. John William. He explained the procedure of selecting the valedictorian. In his words the child who tops in curricular and co-curricular activities will own the jacket.

Mr Anthony Tom, the principal of Texas City High School remarked that Marta Salinas is the best outgoing student in this batch. In his words Martha is

ambitious and hardworking. He said he hasn't seen such a bold and brilliant girl so far.

Mr. Schimdt, a teacher in Texas city high school, said that Marta is the most deserving student and this award will add her competence. He wished a bright future to Marta.

In a thanks giving speech the awardee, Marta Salinas expressed her gratitude to everyone, especially her family members for promoting her always.

### **WRITE UP**

1. The boy was thrilled at seeing the fight between the cobra and the mongoose. You may also have the same feeling. Narrate the fight scene in your own words.

6 marks

It was an April afternoon. When the boy was in the banyan tree he saw a huge black cobra gliding out of a cactus. At the same time a mongoose emerged from the bushes and went straight for the cobra.

They came face to face and started to fight. Mongoose was very clever and aggressive. He was a superb fighter. Cobra also was skillful and experienced. He moved swiftly and struck with the speed of light. It was to be a battle of champions.

Then a myna and a jungle crow arrived there. They stood for mongoose and interfered. Cobra struck the crow and it died. Myna, then wisely refrained from interfering. After a few minutes of vigorous fight, cobra weakened. Mongoose caught on the snout of the cobra. It writhed and lashed about but couldn't escape. Mongoose killed it and dragged it into the bushes.

2. Critically analyse the speech of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and prepare a write-up based on the points given in it. 7 marks

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, the famous story teller, is unveiling the dangers of holding a single story in perceiving people and events in the world. She cites some examples from her own life. She says she read only American and British books in childhood and developed a single concept on literature. She mentions the story of Fide, the domestic help also. These instances in her own life show how vulnerable and impressionable people are in the face of a story.

Developing a single concept on others makes ourselves narrow minded. It blocks our opportunity to learn more about others. When we use a single yardstick to measure people of different cultures and nations, we lock ourselves up in the cages of prejudices. We have to unlock these types of hackneyed and stereotyped viewpoints.

Adichie says how bad she felt with the stereotypical attitude of Americans to her. In this article, she could successfully reveal her mind on holding a single story in perceiving people. Every good reader will appreciate her for having transferred this concept.

3. In the story 'The Snake and the Mirror' the snake didn't harm the homeopath. The homeopath in turn didn't hurt the snake. Keeping Basheer's vision on nature and its beings, comment on this story.

In the story 'The Snake and the Mirror' we see a dynamic bond between man and nature. The homeopath who lives along with the rats in his rented house, doesn't think of killing them. Instead he merrily shares his room with rats. The attitude of the author is reflected in homeopath also. Throughout the stories of Vaikom Muhammad Basheer, we can see the conservation of nature, afforestation and balance of the ecosystem as his basic principles. He believes that every creature is striving at its level best to beautify this nature.

As per the views of Vaikom Muhammad Basheer, a full blooded cobra has the right to enter the room of a homeopath. The cobra can seek its food in the roof, fall down to the ground and slither along the shoulder of the inmate. Here

Basheer thinks that the doctor has no right to scream or run out as he might disturb it. Only after the snake moving towards the mirror, Basheer is allowing the homeopath to run and escape. His vision on nature has reflected in this story.

4. Ray begins his article with the topic sentence 'No one can beat Hollywood when it comes to making films with animals in them'. Can you substantiate Ray's argument with the evidences provided in the passage 'Project Tiger'?

The first paragraph of the article Ray describes how trained dogs are being treated in Hollywood film industry. He cites the examples of two film stars - an Alsatian called Rin-ti-tin and a collie called Lassie. He says these trained dogs were famous stars in their own rights, and the money they earned was no less than what a real film star got. Their owners could easily make as much as a hundred thousand rupees from just one film.

When Satyajit Ray visited the Disney studio in Hollywood, he realised how reverently the animal actors were treated there. He witnessed a dog, which was the protagonist in the movie, getting a human as stand-in! It was really shocking for Ray to watch that the human stand-in walking on four limbs.

Satyajit Ray says every animal in a Hollywood film is well trained. For them it's not difficult to train any animal. The famous film director Alfred Hitchcock could direct a film called 'Birds', using nearly hundreds of trained ravens. The availability of trained animals in Hollywood shows that no one can beat them when it comes to making films with animals in them.

5. Change the perspective of the narrative 'The Best Investment I Ever Made' to the third person point of view using the pronoun 'he' and narrate the events in the story.

It was the second day of the narrator's voyage. Suddenly he became aware that one of the passengers was watching him closely. As he wanted to avoid the casual and importunate shipboard contact, he gave no sign of having noticed the man.



After 2 days that man came along with his wife to meet the narrator. He introduced himself as John. When the narrator talked to the couple, he realised that he had saved the life of that man nearly 25 years back. Then the narrator had just set up his practice in a working class district of London. On a foggy November night a sergeant of police came to him and took him to the next building. There he found a teenager lying unconscious on his bed. On enquiry he came to know that the teenager had tried to commit suicide as he was in debt. Actually it was only a paltry sum. The narrator felt pity on him and gave him the needed amount to pay off his debt.

When John described all these at the ship-board, the narrator could easily recognize him and felt proud. He felt that paltry sum was the best investment he had ever made.

6. Narrate the events that led to Marta's winning the Scholarship Jacket.

Martha had been a straight 'A' student since the first grade. So she looked forward very much to owning the scholarship Jacket. But one day at the school she happened to hear an argument between her teachers Mr Boone and Mr Schmidt. Mr Boone was advocating for another girl Joann. Joann's father was not only on the school Board but he owned the only store in the town. So Mr. Boone had every reason to please him.

As Martha feared, the next day the school principal wanted her in his office. He asked for fifteen dollars as the price of the Jacket. Martha was shocked. Her grandfather told that if she was asked to pay for the jacket, it's not scholarship Jacket. Though she was disappointed, she made up her mind for losing it.

The next day when the principal asked again about the payment, she boldly conveyed the reply of her grandfather. But the principal was impressed at her reply and decided to force the school Board. As a result, Martha finally won the scholarship Jacket.

## **INTERVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. Imagine you're getting a chance to interview Chimamanda Ngozy Adichie.  
Prepare 6 questions.

1. Chimamanda, what's your opinion on African's life in America?
2. Have you ever felt apartheid?
3. How can we get rid of our single concept on others?
4. Do our single stories on others make us narrow minded?
5. What message do you like to give to the new generation?
6. How do you like to promote the weak and the marginalised people?

2. Imagine you are interviewing Marta Salinas after the valedictory function.  
Prepare 6 questions for the interview.

1. Marta, how did you achieve this scholarship Jacket?
2. Has any one inspired you?
3. How did feel when the principal demanded 15 dollars?
4. Were you angry with the Board of the school?
5. What's your opinion on the academics of Texas school?
6. Are all the teachers supportive?

## **PART 4 B NON FOCUS AREA**

### **[Conversation, Profile, Notice]**

Answer any two questions from 30 to 32. Each carries 6 scores.

## **CONVERSATION**

1. Write an imaginary conversation between Ali and Zahra after Ali losing Zahra's shoes in the market.

Zahra : Ali, did you get my shoes repaired?

Ali : I am sorry Zahra. I can't tell it.

Zahra : What happened? What's the matter, Ali?

Ali : I lost your shoes in the market.

Zahra : Lost my shoes? How could it be?

Ali : I kept it in the vegetable store before I collected potatoes.

Zahra : Then what happened?

Ali : When I came back, it was missing.

Zahra : Oh,My! How can I go to school tomorrow onwards?

Ali : You can wear my sneakers.

Zahra : Then what about you? How will you go?

Ali : I will wear them when you are back

2. Imagine Vanka meets his grandfather once again after he escaped from the shoe maker. Prepare an imaginary conversation between Vanka and his grandfather.

Vanka : Hello Grandad!, I'm so glad to meet you once again!

Grandad : Oh, my sweet boy! How are you?

Vanka : My God! I think it's my rebirth!

Grandad : Why? Was it horrible living there?

Vanka : Really horrible! Alyakhins were very cruel to me.

Grandad : God! How could he do this? He told he would take care of you.

Vanka : Grandad, I never thought I could ever meet you again.

Grandad : Why? Had they locked you up there?

Vanka : It's something like a lock up. I never knew happiness since I left you.

Grandad : My poor little fellow! You may stay here itself.

Vanka : Yes, I will find out some work here.

Grandad : But you're too small to work hard.

Vanka : But it will be far better than working with Alyakhins. I'll manage it.

## **PROFILE**

### 1. Prepare a profile of Majid Majidi

Born : 17 April 1959, Tehran, Iran

Occupation : Film director, film producer, screen writer

Famous works : The Color of Paradise, Baran, The Willow Tree, Children of Heaven

Awards : Crystal Simorgh for Best screenplay

### Majid Majidi

The famous Iranian director Majid majidi is born on 17 April in 1959, in Tehran. He has worked as film director, producer and screenwriter. His famous works are 'The colour of Paradise', 'Baran', 'The Willow Tree' and 'Children of heaven'. He has won the award 'Crystal Simorgh for Best screenplay'.

### 2. Prepare a profile of Anton Chekhov

Born : 29 January 1860, Taganrog, Russia

Spouse : Olga Knipper

Books : The Chameleon, About Love, Fat and Thin, Misery, The Lady With The Dog, The Death of a Clerk

Movies : Uncle Vanya, The Lady With The Little Dog, Sad, A Hunting Accident, The Seagull

Died : 15 July 1904, Baden Weller, Germany

### Anton Chekhov

The prolific Russian author Anton Chekhov was born on 29 January in 1860 in Taganrog, Russia. Olga Knipper was his spouse. His important books are The Chameleon, About Love, Fat and Thin, The Lady With The Dog and The Death of a Clerk. His famous movies are Uncle Vanya, The Lady With The Little Dog, Sad, A Hunting Accident and The Seagull. He died on 15 July in 1904, in Baden Weller, in Germany.

### 3. Prepare a profile of Rabindranath Tagore

Born : 7 May, 1861, Kolkata

Spouse : Mrinalini Devi

Famous works: Gitanjali, The Golden Boat, Cabuliwalah, The Post Office, and The Broken Nest.

Award : Nobel Prize for literature for Gitanjali

Died : 7 August 1941, Kolkata

### Rabindranath Tagore

Rabindranath Tagore, the famous Indian English writer is born on 7 May in 1861 in Kolkata. His spouse is Mrinaini Devi. His famous works are Gitanjali, The Golden Boat, Cabuliwalah, The Post Office and The Broken Nest. He won Nobel Prize for literature for his celebrated work Gitanjali. He died on 7 August in 1941 in Kolkata

#### 4. Prepare a profile of Bob Dylan

Born : 24 May, 1941, Minnesota, United States

Occupation : Singer, song writer, artist and writer.

Famous works : Blowin' in the Wind and The Times They Are a - Changin.

Award : Nobel prize in Literature in 2016

#### Profile - Bob Dylan

Bob Dylan was born on 24 May, 1941 in Minnesota, in United States. He has worked as singer, song writer, artist and writer. Blowin' in the Wind and The Times They Are a - Changin are his famous works. He won Nobel prize in Literature in 2016.

#### 5. Prepare a profile of Pablo Neruda

Born : 12 July 1904, Parral, Chile

Real name : Neftali Ricardo Reyes Basoalto

Education : University of Chile

Awards : Nobel prize in Literature( 1971), Lenin Peace prize, Golden Wreath

Died : 23 September 1973, Santiago, Chile

#### Profile - Pablo Neruda

Pablo Neruda was born on 12 July 1904 at Parral, in Chile. His real name is Neftali Ricardo Reyes Basoalto. He received education from University of Chile. He won Nobel prize in Literature in 1971, Lenin Peace prize and Golden Wreath. He died on 23 September, 1973 in Santiago in Chile.

## NOTICE

1. The English Club in your school is about to conduct a seminar on 'Child Labour'. Prepare a notice for it

ABC SCHOOL  
POST OFFICE, PIN CODE  
DISTRICT

NOTICE  
SEMINAR ON CHILD LABOUR

Dear friends,

The English Club in our school has decided to conduct a seminar on CHILD LABOUR. All are requested to attend it without fail. The PTA President is expected to inaugurate the programme.

Venue : School Auditorium  
Date : 14 November  
Time : 10.00 am

All are welcome

Convenor  
English Club  
Sd/-

2. Imagine a Talent Search Competition is going to be conducted in your school under the auspices of English Club. Write a notice for it

ABC HIGH SCHOOL  
KOZHIKODE

TALENT SEARCH COMPETITION

NOTICE

All the students will be pleased to know that the English Club in our school is going to conduct 'A Talent Search Competition ' in our school on 2 October at 10.00 am at our school auditorium.

Competitions :

- \* Recitation
- \* Mono act
- \* Extempore
- \* Quiz
- \* Role play

Those who are interested may register their names on or before 25 September.

For further details please contact the under signed.

Secretary  
English Club  
Sd/-



**[ Review, Speech, Narrative ]**

**Answer Any TWO**

1. Prepare a review of the story 'Adventures in a Banyan Tree'

**Adventures in a Banyan Tree**

**Review**

Adventures in a Banyan tree is a beautiful short story written by Ruskin Bond. Ruskin Bond is an Indian author of British descent. Here we could see the enormous pleasure he gets from nature.

This is an autobiographical write up. It showcases the four important characteristics of a short story - character, setting, plot and theme. The fifth characteristic, conflict is missing. From the beginning to end the little boy enjoys the pleasures of nature and doesn't feel any pain.

When we think of the characters in a short story, only human faces come to our mind. Of course we have the boy and his grandparents here. But I feel it's the banyan tree, which is playing a major role in this story. The whole plot is woven in and around the tree. Here we see a rare situation where this tree itself becomes the setting in the story.

The title 'Adventures in a banyan tree' leads us to the theme of the story. In the plot we come across a lot of childish adventures of a lone boy. He makes friends with squirrels and spends a lot of time with them. Being the member of a British family, he might have been kept away from his Indian counterparts. In the

story we see his aged grandparents as his only companions. So he made banyan tree and squirrels his close friends.

This short story reveals the delightful moments of a nature lover. I like Bond's simple and easy going writing style. The first person narration takes us also to the town of Dehra, to the magnificent old banyan tree and to the agile, lovely little boy. When we finish our reading it, we are also tempted to climb up that tree and hang on its prop roots.

2. Prepare a review of the story ' The Snake and the Mirror ' . 8 marks

#### The Snake and the Mirror Review

Vaikom Muhammad Basheer is taking us to a clan of middle aged people here. It's a circle where Basheer and his friends share their happy moments and personal affairs.

Once when they were discussing snakes a homeopath came up with a past, horrible incident. When he had just set up his medical practice he was staying alone in an old rented house. It was not electrified. Every night he confronted rats in it. At a hot summer night a big cobra happened to land on his shoulder. Spreading its hood out, it stood nearly four inches away from his face. Luckily after a short while, it saw a mirror on the table and moved towards it. Homeopath ran and escaped.

In this short story Basheer has followed his own innovative writing style. We feel we get the story in homeopath's words. And he himself becomes the protagonist. The minor characters, including the writer plays their roles well to make it afresh.

Actually the writer has adopted a double speaker narrative style. When we proceed with our reading, we smoothly switch from Basheer's narration to homeopath's description of incident.

But it never confuses us or putting us in trouble. When homeopath stops his heartfelt narration, we also return to Basheer again. And we also join the ring of listeners.

This short story is a good example for Basheer's vision on nature. He allows the rats, the snake and the homeopath to share the single room without hurting each other!

3 Prepare a review on ' The Scholarship Jacket'. 8 marks

## The Scholarship Jacket

### Review

Marta Salinas tells us an autobiographical childhood experience in a first person narration.

As her father couldn't afford feeding eight children, Martha was sent to her grandparents to raise. In her small Texas school the class valedictorian was awarded a beautiful gold and green Scholarship Jacket. The big, gold 'S' and student's name written in gold letters proclaim the best out going student of the year.

In this plot we see Martha's determination to win the jacket. When the School Board decides to give the jacket away to the second girl in the line, the conflict starts. But we see the strength of the protagonist here. Though she is sad and disappointed, she willfully joins her grandfather. She stood with all dignity in front of the principal. She stared at his eyes and decided to put him in pressure. And it worked! When the principal changes his decision, we see the winning smile on Martha's face.

Here the story teller could successfully convey the pride and dignity of a little girl, regardless of her social or financial status. Being a first person narration, the story creates a positive impression that the writer is honest and sincere in revealing her mind. When I finished my reading the story I really felt proud of her

#### 4.Prepare a review on 'The Best Investment I Ever Made'

##### Review The Best Investment I Ever Made

In the autobiographical article 'The Best Investment I Ever Made', A J Cronin is taking us to his own experience in a voyage. When we come across it, we feel that the author was very much appropriate in selecting this title.

Being an article, we do not look for the characteristics of a short story in it. Still we see the protagonist, Dr Cronin appearing with a serious disposition on the board. He tries to avoid ship-board contacts. He is very keen upon maintaining his privacy.

In this article, the author has used the setting: the ship, well to develop his narration. He meets Mr and Mrs.John at the deck. They take us to another situation. Hearing their description, we feel the working-class district of London. We walk along with the doctor, and reach the body of that young man stretched on a narrow bed.

Mr. John rises from that narrow bed to the seat of a social servant. That man stands as a tall figure of charity in front of us. He improved the life of many maladjusted and delinquent youth. Hearing it, we realise that the seven pounds and ten shillings, what Dr. Cronin spent for him, was his best investment.

### **SPEECH**

1. From the state of loss and despair, John in the lesson 'The Best Investment I Ever Made' came to a life of success and joy. What helped him do so? Prepare a speech on the topic 'Self-help is the best help'.

5 marks

Answer

Dear friends and teachers,

Here I like to share my views on the topic 'Self-help is the best help'. We have received a commendable instance of self-help in the lesson 'The best

investment I ever made'. The character Mr. John, who had fallen victim to the loose society of the streets, could make up his lifestyle by self-help. He became a lawyer by profession. He spent his free time for the development of the maladjusted and delinquent youth. Thus he brought them to the mainstream of the society.

Self-help means our emotional, intellectual, and behavioral improvement. It also comprises of one's socio-economic uplift. We can achieve all these by lending an ear to our well-wishers, following their instructions, learning new skills, confronting our fears, giving up our bad habits, reconnecting with old friends etc. Mr. John is a very good example of self-help. He could beat all his draw backs without any one's guidance. He could give up his bad habits. He found his own socio-economic uplift, and he made an emotional, Intellectual and behavioral Improvement.

Friends, in my opinion, waiting for someone else's help is meaningless. Whenever you're in need of a help, think, there is a hand always ready at the end of your sleeve. So let me stop here. Thank you all.

2. After receiving the Scholarship Jacket, Marta delivers a speech. Prepare a similar speech. 6 marks

Respected principal, teachers, parents and my dear friends,

Good morning to one and all present here. Today I'm very happy to be on this stage to receive the Scholarship Jacket. And I am very happy to deliver this valedictory speech. For me it's a dream come true. I really have been dreaming it for the past many years. I always wanted to be the class valedictorian. My oldest sister Rosie, had won the Jacket a few years back. I had been a straight 'A' student since the first grade. So I look forward very much to owning that Jacket.

My oldest sister, Rosie, had won the Jacket a few years back. Then I also started working for it. I had been a straight 'A' student since the first grade. Now I really deserve it, I know. It's the achievement accomplished after a lot of hard work and

persistence. Still I had met with some unexpected troubles on my way. Our principal's timely intervention helped me win it. So I'm very much thankful to him. And I express my immense gratitude to all my teachers. My dear parents and grandparents have played a major role in my achievement. They are the ones who brought me up. They're the ones who contributed a lot to my success. I'm always bound to them with much gratitude in my heart. And I'm thankful to all my friends. I discovered my true potential in their company. So I'm indebted to them also.

This scholarship Jacket is not only an award to me. It's my long ambition coming true. This green Jacket with golden 'S' letter inspired me a lot. Being the member a poor Mexican family, I'm very proud of wearing it.

In this beautiful day, I once again express my sincere gratitude to every one of you. Have a nice day, dear ones.

## **NARRATIVE**

1. A single banyan tree creates such beauty and harmony. How will it be if we have such beauty everywhere? What should we do for the conservation of nature?

Conservation of nature means the care and protection of nature. Nature includes diversity of species and a variety of ecosystems.

In the story 'Adventures in a Banyan tree', we see a rich flora and fauna. Ruskin Bond, the small boy enjoys every single moment he spends in the banyan tree. Every reader shares his happiness.

Creating such beauty everywhere is really challenging. Still we can do many things. In my opinion, creating awareness in the society is a major factor. Nowadays we lose our beauty of nature mainly because of people's ignorance. So we should make them aware of the need for conserving nature.

The governments should prepare an action plan to protect nature. And it should work out. We all must pay attention in conserving measures. We must

volunteer cleanups in our community. We have to reduce, reuse and recycle plastic and other harmful things.

Protecting biological diversity is very important. So the governments should take necessary steps to protecting species from extinction. In addition with that, conservation of water, planting new trees etc. will help in conserving nature.

2. Imagine you are a friend of homeopath. Narrate the entire incident in your point of view.

It was a hot summer night. Homeopath had his meal at the restaurant and returned. He heard the familiar sound of rats from the roof.

He took off his black coat and sat in front of the mirror. He said, he was dreaming of his marriage and bride. Suddenly a big cobra fell down from the roof! It then wriggled over the chair and landed on his shoulder. Then the snake slithered along his shoulder and coiled around his left arm. God! I don't know how he managed it. I would have died out of fear, had it happened to me. But he stood motionless, exactly like a stone. That worked, I think. The cobra held its hood close to his face, but didn't strike him. Homeopath said, he cried 'O, God' in his mind. Poor doctor. The snake was powerfully crushing his arm. He felt it like a molten fire. Death lurked only four inches away from him. He had no medicines in his room to treat a snake bite.

Luckily after a few moments, it saw the mirror on the table. It slowly unwound itself and moved towards it. Homeopath, then ran out and escaped.

What a lucky man he is! I can't believe it!.

3. Satyajith Ray has undergone a lot of troubles in shooting the tiger scene. Narrate his experiences in your own words.

Satyajith Ray was at the work of his new movie, 'Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne'. In this film, Goopy and Bagha see a tiger in the forest and freeze. To shoot this scene,

Ray wanted a tiger. The obvious thing for him to do was to approach a circus company.

In those days Bharat circus was holding shows in Marcus Square. Ray took an appointment and met its Tamil manager. He was happy to receive Ray. The manager sent for ringmaster and he arrived. Ray and the ringmaster had a discussion on using a tiger in the set. Neither of them were confident of taking the animal to the wilderness. Anyway they fixed a thin steel wire around its neck and covered it with a collar made up of tiger skin.

A village called Notun Gram was their location. Mr. Torat arrived the location with two well - fed and robust tigers. They selected one and opened the door of the cage. The tiger sprang out of its cage and started prancing around. It rolled about and dragged the trainer behind it. He desperately clutched the wire to control it. All were watching a free circus in the jungle. Finally it calmed down and they took a few shots. But when Ray looked at the scenes, the camera hadn't worked properly.

Again the tiger was taken for a second shot. When they reached the second location, Boral, the whole village also arrived to watch. They didn't pay any attention to pleading of Ray and others. But when the cage of the tiger was opened, it emerged with a loud roar and the crowd melted away. This time the camera behaved well and Satyajith Ray shot the tiger scenes.

## **SUMMARY OF ALL LESSONS**

### **UNIT 1**

#### **Adventures in a Banyan Tree**

#### **Summary**

The narrator, Ruskin Bond is describing his childhood experiences in this autobiographical piece. He was staying along with his grandparents in his boyhood days. He was very fond of the banyan tree in the garden.



He had set a small platform in the tree. A young grey squirrel made friends with him. He enjoyed the presence of many birds, especially rosy pastors, parrots, bulbuls and crows in spring season. He had a good habit of reading. He read Huckleberry Finn, Treasure Island, Mowgli stories and novels of Edgar Rice Burroughs and Louisa May Alcott.

On a warm April afternoon when Bond was sitting in the tree, he accidentally saw a black cobra coming out of a cactus. Suddenly a mongoose appeared from bushes. They came face to face in a clearing underneath the tree. They started fighting. It went on severely with flashing movements. Unexpectedly a myna and a jungle crow arrived the spot. They interfered twice. Luckily they escaped. But at the third attempt, cobra struck the crow and it fell dead. Again the fight between mongoose and cobra continued for a while. Ruskin Bond was moved by the flashing movements of both the worriers. After sometime, the cobra became weak. The mongoose still remained agile. At a special moment the mongoose could hold on the snout of the snake. It writhed and lashed about to escape. But mongoose won the battle. Cobra died and mongoose dragged it into the bushes.

The boy, Ruskin Bond was happy. He narrated all these to grandpa. Grandpa was happy with mongoose and allowed him to stay in garden. Though it stole eggs from poultry house grandfather forgave it.

One day grandfather bought a white rat from the market. Bond took it to the tree and it made friends with grey squirrel. Both of them moved on trees happily. After a few weeks the boy, Ruskin Bond happened to see three white squirrels in a hole in the tree. It was a surprise for grandfather and Bond to know that the white squirrels were the offspring of grey squirrel and white rat!

Lesson 2

THE SNAKE AND THE MIRROR

Summary.

The famous Malayalam writer Vaikom Muhammed Basheer is retelling a strange incident occurred in the life of a homeopath. It happened many years back, when he was a young, handsome bachelor.

The homeopath was staying alone in a rented house. In a hot summer night, he was sitting on a chair and admiring his own beauty in mirror. There was a regular traffic of rats at his roof and he was familiar to it.

That day he heard a peculiar noise from above but didn't pay attention. Suddenly something fell down with a dull thud. By the time he turned back, a fat snake wriggled over his chair and then to his left arm. Homeopath sat like a stone. He cried in mind, "O, God!" and thought of his imminent death. The snake coiled around his arm like a rod of molten fire and held its hood close to his face. Death lurked inches away.

Luckily the snake turned its head and saw the mirror. It unwound itself and climbed over to the table to watch its image in mirror. By then homeopath got up and ran out. When he returned next day to collect his belongings he found them all stolen. The thief had left only an ugly vest there. Narrating all these homeopath burst into laughter.

Lesson 3.

Lines Written in Early Spring

Summary

William Wordsworth is a famous Romantic poet. In most of his poems beauty of nature is premier.

Stanza 1.

When I sat in the garden I heard a thousand mixed sounds of nature. Even in that sweet mood my heart was filled with happy and sad thoughts.

Stanza 2.

Nature has linked the soul of every human to its own beauty. And now I worry on the wrongdoings of man.

Stanza 3.

In that green, shady place the periwinkle hung its flowers down through primrose. And I believe that every flower enjoys the surroundings.

( primrose, periwinkle - plants., tufts - a number of pieces., bower - a pleasant place in shade., trail ( here) - hang downwards., wreath - circle of flowers )

Stanza 4.

Birds hopped and played around me. I don't get thoughts. But I get their extreme pleasure in every movement.

Stanza 5.

Even the small, thin branches are spreading out their leaves to enjoy the breeze. And I remain happy, extremely happy there. ( twigs - small, thin branches., fan ( here ) - leaf., breezy air - light wind )

Stanza 6.

If this pleasure is a gift of God and Nature, I'm here to cry on the misdeeds of man.( lament - to express great sadness )

William Wordsworth is here presenting the notable role of nature in human life.

## UNIT 2 Lesson 1 PROJECT TIGER

The famous Indian film maker Satyajit Ray is describing his various first-hand experiences of using animals in films. He is starting this narrative with Hollywood and its animal actors.

He remembers an Alsatian called Rin -tin-tin and a collie called Lassie which was impressive. He happened to watch the shooting of a film in Disney Studio in

which the main character was a dog. That animal was treated very reverently with the status of a superstar and enjoyed even the facility of a stand-in! (Dupe)

Getting trained animals is really a challenge in film industry. Satyajit Ray is narrating how difficult it was for Alfred Hitchcock to get some trained ravens.

In India, it's again a tiring task. In 'Pather Panchali', Ray managed to get a trained police dog to enact the role of Bhulo. In 'Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne' he was supposed to collect a trained tiger to shoot a scene in forest. His only option was to approach a circus company. From 'Bharat Circus' he got a trained tiger. But it was trained only to perform in the ring and not in open areas. The ring master, Mr.Thorat was all set to take the tiger to the location in Notun Gram. He had tied a thin wire around its neck and covered it with a tiger skin collar. That wire was to control the beast in wilderness.

Ray and his team got ready for a tiger shot. The tiger was about to walk sedately in the forest in a dignified manner. But when Mr. Thorat unfastened the cage, it sprang out and started prancing around. Later they managed to take some shots but the camera had failed to work properly. When they came to know of this, they made a second attempt in a village called Boral and succeeded.

Satyajit Ray, the veteran film maker is describing the troubles of using animals

## Lesson 2 MY SISTER'S SHOES

### SUMMARY

This lesson is a piece taken from the famous Iranian film "CHILDREN OF HEAVEN" directed by Majid Majidi. It tells the story of two young siblings Ali and Zahra. They are very much loving and obedient to their parents. They take care of their sick mother and baby brother. They study well and play a role model for other students. As they belong to a poor family, they don't want to add a financial burden on parents even by mistake.

One day Zahra wanted to stitch her shoe up and she sent it with Ali. Ali got it done with a cobbler. Then he went to the bakery and bought some nan. When he entered a vegetable store he kept the shoe bag down near a pile of boxes. When he was collecting potatoes, a junk collector happened to take Ali's shoe bag also. Ali found Zahra's shoes missing and he got scared. He searched near the vegetable boxes and happened to upset them all. The shopkeeper Akbar shouted at him but he searched the spot once again. It was again futile. Ali reached home in anguish. Zahra asked for shoes. Ali then consoled her. But Zahra's school going without a shoe will create problems. They didn't know what to do. Their parents were discussing their daily issues. These siblings were scared to share the matter with them. They planned to solve the issue all by themselves without disturbing parents. So they thought to share Ali's shoes and keep the matter a secret.

### Lesson 3

#### Blowin' in the wind

#### SUMMARY

It's a protest song written by Bob Dylan. It's written mainly against war and social discrimination.

#### Stanza 1

How much a man should suffer before he attains some basic respect? How long a white dove (symbol of peace) fly before it finds a land of peace? How many wars and killings should occur before we ban them? The answer is flying away.

#### Stanza 2

How long can a mountain of social injustice and discrimination exist before it disappears? How much time will it take to set the people free of chains? And how long can we ignore all these social issues? The answer is flying away.

#### Stanza 3

How hard must a man try to get freedom? How many times can we ignore other's plight? And how long can we pretend that we don't see deaths? The answer is flying away.

## Unit 3

### Lesson 1

#### The Best Investment I Ever Made

##### Summary

This article is an autobiographical write up by Dr. A.J.Cronin. He is narrating an unforgettable meeting with a social activist. When he was setting a sail from New York, one day he happened to meet a couple on the deck. They introduced themselves as Mrs.and Mr.John. They were eager to speak to him. When he listened them in detail, Dr. Cronin came to know that it was his second meeting with that man.

Before a quarter of a century, when Dr. Cronin was practicing as a young doctor in a working class district of London, he had had an opportunity to save this man's life. Mr.John, an orphan by then, was working as a clerk. Utterly friendless, he had fallen victim to the loose society of the streets. He had lost all his small savings and happened to steal seven pounds and ten shillings from his office. Terrified of the prosecution, he made an attempt to commit suicide. When Dr. Cronin came to know of his plight, he gave seven pounds and ten shillings to Mr. John and asked him to put it back in office.

That paltry sum, which was spent to save an orphan, turned out the best investment in Dr. Cronin's life. Later Mr.John dedicated his life for the uplifting of the backward, maladjusted and delinquent youth. For the past twenty five years, he was searching Dr. Cronin to express his gratitude. When the couple narrated all these, Dr. Cronin proudly realized that seven pounds and ten shillings was the best investment he had ever made in his life. It could save the life of a maladjusted youth and created a saviour for many other maladjusted ones in the society.

## Lesson 2

### The Ballad of Father Gilligan

#### Summary

It's a ballad written by the Irish poet W. B. Yeats. A ballad is a song/poem which tells a story in simple language. 'The Ballad of Father Gilligan' narrates the plight of an old priest Peter Gilligan and the divine help he received from God during a fatal epidemic. Then the priest was supposed to reach every dying man's home in time for last prayers.

#### Stanza 1

The old priest Peter Gilligan was very tired that day as he was serving his flock (people in his parish) day and night. Half of his people were either lying on their death bed or buried under green sod (soil covered with grass).

#### Stanza 2

Once, when he was asleep on chair at the evening, he was again called to a dying man's home. He became very sad.

#### Stanza 3

'I don't get any rest as people die again and again. Oh God, forgive me, it's my body speaks; not I', he cried.

#### Stanza 4

He knelt down to pray but slept leaning on the chair. Time passed. It became night.

#### Stanza 5

A lot of stars appeared in the sky. Leaves shook in the wind. God took care of the world, especially mankind.

#### Stanza 6

The old priest Peter Gilligan got up only at the early morning. By the time sparrows and moths had reappeared. He was shocked as he couldn't reach that dying man's house in time.

Stanza 7

'Oh, God! that man died when I slept'. He rode his horse to that home in a hurry.

Stanza 8

He rode very fast through rocky lane and wetland. When he reached that home, the sick man's wife opened the door. In a wonder she said, "Father, you came again!".

Stanza 9

Father enquired whether that man had died. "He died an hour ago" was the answer from that dead man's wife. He felt very bad and was about to fall down.

Stanza 10

The woman said, "when you returned, he died happily". Having heard it, the old priest knelt down and thanked God.

Stanza 11

He said, "Oh! God, you have created the night of stars. You take care of the tired and bleeding people. You have sent one of your angels down to earth to help me in time".

Stanza 12

"Oh,! God Almighty, you wear the purple robes and you are guarded by heavenly bodies. But you remembered me and had pity on me when I was asleep ". (He believes that God sent an angel in disguise to perform the last prayers for the dying man).

Lesson 3



## The Danger of a Single Story

### Summary

'The Danger of a Single Story' is a speech given by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, a Nigerian writer. It reveals us the danger of having a single concept on other's life.

In this speech she illustrates her own experiences. She is from a middle-class Nigerian family. Being the daughter of a professor and an administrator, she enjoyed good schooling, read English stories and had the assistance of a domestic help. She read only English books and wrote stories only on Whites. Because it was the only concept she had developed on literature.

When her mother told that Fide, the domestic help is from a poor family, she thought that he and his family members are utterly helpless to do anything good. But when she visited Fide's home she saw beautifully patterned baskets made by his brother. As Chimamanda had a single concept that poor people are good for nothing, those artistic works startled her.

Chimamanda personally had similar experiences in U S. Her American roommate was shocked with her English speaking skill. That roommate had a single story on Africans, that all of them are illiterate and uncivilized. Chimamanda's professor also had the same concept on them. So he couldn't find authenticity in her stories as her characters were educated and much like him. In the view of these Americans there was no possibility of Africans being similar to them.

In Chimamanda's opinion, single stories on others create stereotypes. Stereotypes are incomplete. They make one story become the only story. So she means us to be open-minded to others.

### Unit 4

#### Lesson 1

#### The Scholarship Jacket

## Summary

Marta Salinas is an American writer. In the article 'The Scholarship Jacket' she narrates an unforgettable experience of her school-days. Having been the daughter of a poor farm laborer, she was given to her grandparents to raise.

At school, she had been a straight 'A' student since the first grade. She was about to receive the scholarship Jacket during the eighth-grade graduation. It was a beautiful gold and green Jacket awarded to the class valedictorian.

But that year the school Board wanted to award the Jacket to the second student in the line. It was because that girl's father was a member of the Board. So they played a trick. The principal told Marta that the Board has decided to charge fifteen dollars for the scholarship Jacket. He asked her to pay it if she needs it. This news shocked Marta. She informed the matter to grandfather but he said if she is asked to pay for it, it's not a scholarship Jacket. He denied the request.

Next day Marta informed the same to the principal. Though he was upset first he made up his mind. He said he'll force the Board to change their decision. Hearing it Marta became very happy and ran home.

## Lesson 2

### Poetry - Summary

The poet Pablo Neruda is describing the three stages of poetic development in his life.

### Stanza 1

It narrates the confusion of poet how and when he identified his own poetic skill.

Unexpectedly at that age poetry arrived in search of me. I don't know where it came from. From winter or river? Don't know...I don't know how or when it came. In the form of voice, words or silence? Don't know.... When I was in street it

summoned (ordered to appear) me from others. I think it came from branches of night (from unknown source ). I don't know whether I was involved in any violent action or was being alone and returning home. Anyway poetry came into my life abruptly ( suddenly and unexpectedly ). When it touched me actually I was a person with no face ( identity ).

He means poetry brought him identity and fame.

## Stanza 2

In this stanza he discloses his initial difficulties in poem writing and his eventual progress.

I didn't know what to say or what to write. I didn't get any words. I couldn't gather any worthy visual to write on. But something, (a poetic spirit ) started in my soul. It disturbed me like a fever. I felt it like the forgotten wings of childhood fantasy. Then I could decipher (succeed in finding the meaning of something ) it as poetry. Then I wrote the first line. It was faint and foolish. It was like the wisdom of an idiot. But suddenly I could enter the world of poetry. I started writing in an excellent manner. I saw heavens of poetry opened in front of me. In that heavenly world I saw planets, palpitating (beating rapidly) plantations, shadows of trees, fire, flowers, dawn and the entire universe.

Though he met with some initial troubles, he could write on each and everything in the universe

## Stanza 3

Here the poet unveils his great pleasure of poem writing.

And now I feel I'm an infinitesimal ( extremely small ) being in this universe. In this great starry void (emptiness of space), I can travel anywhere and write on anything. I felt myself a part of the abyss ( deep bottomless chasm) and an image of mystery. Now, as I've reached the apex level of poetic skill, I enjoy travelling with stars. And my heart flies with great pleasure.

## Lesson 3

## The Never-Never Nest

It's a one act play with a single scene. The playwright Cedric Mount criticizes the 'buy now-pay later' lifestyle of young middle-class people.

In this play Jack, his wife Jill, Aunt Jane and nurse are the characters. When the play starts we see the lounge of Jack and Jill's villa at New Hampstead. Jack, Jill and Aunt Jane enter the lounge. Aunt Jane expresses her wonder and delight at the charming, cosy house and their facilities there. She is confused of this poor, young couple's source of income to buy all those. She asks whether she had gifted them two thousand pounds by mistake, instead of giving two hundred during their wedding.

Then Jack and Jill disclose their source of income. They speak of the installment scheme they are engaged in. Aunt Jane was shocked to hear the details of their payment. Because the couple was earning only a small amount per month. As they couldn't pay the installments regularly, they were borrowing the rest of the money for the payments from Thrift and Providence Trust Corporation. Again they pay it back in another installment scheme!

Having been annoyed and upset by hearing all these, Aunt Jane warns the couple of the financial snare they had fallen in. She wonders how the couple escapes this trap. She gives a cheque of ten pounds to Jill and asks her to pay off at least one of their bills. When she left, Jill sent the money with her nurse to Dr. Martin. When Jack questioned it she said, with that payment doctor's delivery fee is completed and their baby is really theirs!!

## Unit 5

### Lesson 1

#### VANKA - SUMMARY

It's a beautiful short story written by the prolific writer, Anton Chekhov. The plight of an orphan and child labour become the theme of this story.

Grandfather Konstantin Makarich is the only relative of Vanka. He is a watchman in the estate of Zhivarev family. He is remarkably lively and agile. In the day time he slept or sat joking with kitchen maids. In the night he walked around, sounding his rattle. His pet dogs, Eel and Kashtanka would follow him. Grandfather offered his snuffbox to women and made his free times merry.

Thinking Vanka will find his fortune, Grandfather took this nine year old boy to Moscow. There he was about to learn shoemaking and earn his bread. But the cruel master, Alyakhin treated him as a slave. He was badly hurt there. The masters beat him with last whenever they got angry. The poor, little boy didn't get enough food there. The senior apprentices made him steal vodka and cucumbers for them. He had no voice to resist. He thought he would die out of these sufferings. So he decided to write a letter to his Grandfather in the village.

At the Christmas Eve, when all had gone to church, he took a piece of paper and narrated his desperation. He put this letter in an envelope and wrote only ' To grandfather in the village, TO KONSTANTIN MAKARICH '. After posting the letter, lulled by rosy hopes, he dreamt his grandfather reading it. But we feel pity on him.

This story creates compassion and love towards orphans.

## Lesson 2

### Mother to Son

#### Summary

In this poem we see a mother, speaking to her son. It's a monologue. The son remains silent throughout the poem.

The poet Langston Hughes has used an extended metaphor of old, broken stair to represent this woman's life. She says there were tacks and splinters ( hardships and miseries ) on her way. The boards were torn up on the way. It was never a crystal stair ( a happy and luxurious life). Still she didn't give up. She was always moving forward and climbing steps.

She advises her son also not to give up. She says life is hard and challenging. But we should always fight it and proceed.

### 3 The Castaway - Summary

The word 'castaway' means a person who had been shipwrecked and stranded in an isolated place. But in this story the protagonist, Nilkanta reaches a very loving and wealthy family after his boat capsized.

Kiran, the homemaker, was very much affectionate to him. Actually she was sick. It was for her treatment, this family staying at the river side house. Kiran found herself very happy in the company of this boy. He was a member of a drama troop and was skilful in entertaining others. Kiran loved him a lot.

Nilkanta, a street boy by then, couldn't adapt himself to the mannerisms of that rich, aristocratic family. He was often beaten by Kiran's husband, Sarath. But Nilkanta strongly believed that the world was made up of eatings and beatings in which beatings played the predominant part.

Eventually everyone except Kiran, wanted to get rid of this boy. When Sarath's brother Satish arrived, things worsened. He accused Nilkanta of stealing his costly inkstand. During their return after Kiran's treatment, everyone forced Kiran to leave the boy. Thus the abandoned boy, bearing the stain of stealing an inkstand, went missing at last.

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