



Reg. No. :

Name :

SAY-701

SAY / IMPROVEMENT EXAMINATION, JULY – 2022

Part – I

Time : 2½ Hours

ENGLISH

Cool-off time : 15 Minutes

Maximum : 80 Scores

General Instructions to Candidates :

- There is a 'Cool-off time' of 15 minutes in addition to the writing time.
- Use the 'Cool-off time' to get familiar with questions and to plan your answers.
- Read questions carefully before answering.
- Write answer to the specific number of questions as instructed.
- Keep in mind, the score and time while answering the questions.
- Electronic devices are not allowed in the examination hall.

PART – I

A. Answer any 4 questions from 1 to 6. Each carries 1 score.

(4 × 1 = 4)

Read the passages and answer the following questions :

Education is the foundation upon which any change is built. Learning helps women to help themselves and break the shackles of exclusion. Nowhere is this more essential than in the developing world.

1. Identify the speaker of the passage.
2. How is learning helpful to women ?



Her words uncannily echoed my grandfather's, sitting on the stone bench under the banyan tree. Perhaps, in their own small ways, without access to great wealth, both these people were doing tremendous social service.

3. "Her words uncannily echoed my grandfather's." 'Her' in the passage refers to _____.

4. (a) Identify the text from which this passage is taken.

(b) Who is the narrator ?

I am their wall against all danger,
Their door against the wind and snow,
Thou whom a woman laid in a manger,
Take me not till the children grow !

5. Identify the figure of speech used in these lines.

6. Who is the person referred to as 'Thou' in the third line ?

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

(4 × 1 = 4)

Fill in the blanks using the correct tense form of the words given in brackets :

I 7. (walk) around that afternoon 8. (speak) with children, 9. (wonder) how life 10. (will) be different if each one of them had access to the opportunities that would fill their greatest potential.

PART – II

A. Answer any 3 questions from 11 to 15. Each carries 2 scores. (3 × 2 = 6)

11. True friendship and brotherhood is disappearing from the society. In ‘The Hour of Truth’, we find Mr. Baldwin, who is not willing to give up his friend Mr. Gresham, during a crisis. What is your opinion about the importance of friendship ?

12. Comment on the significance of the title of Robert Frost’s poem ‘Mending Wall’.

13. Your class is going to present a skit on ‘The Dangers of Drug Abuse’. Prepare an announcement for the skit.

14. “Good fences make good neighbours” is a repeated statement in the poem ‘Mending Wall’. What is your opinion about ‘walls’ ? Prepare a write-up on the symbolic significance of wall in modern life.

15. Change the voice of the given sentences :
 - (a) The authorities have refused him a visa.
 - (b) Mr. Baldwin was offered a job in the Third National by Mr. Marshall.

B. Answer any 2 questions from 16 to 18. Each carries 2 scores. (2 × 2 = 4)

16. “Stammer is no handicap
It is a mode of speech.”
Do you agree ? Why/Why not ?

17. Report the conversation :

Policeman : Is this your parcel ? I'm going to undo it.

Tourist : Are you mad ? Leave alone that parcel.

18. Your friend is suffering from severe tooth pain. But he is hesitant to consult a dentist after reading the poem 'This is Going to Hurt Just a Little Bit'.

Write two pieces of advice that you would give him. Use expressions like It's better /

You could / It is advisable

PART – III

A. Answer any 3 questions from 19 to 23. Each carries 4 scores. (3 × 4 = 12)

19. "God has given me two years to listen to others. I hear them out with sympathy and without any judgement. This is the attitude of Ratna, as mentioned by Sudha Murty in her anecdote 'Horegallu'. Write a brief character sketch of Ratna.

20. Elaborate the idea of the African adage, "If you educate a boy, you train a man. If you educate a girl, you train a village."

21. After reading Chemmanam Chacko's poem 'Rice', you become worried about the condition of paddy cultivation in your locality. So you decide to share your thoughts on the need of planting rice through a blog. Prepare the blog.

22. Imagine that Irfan Alam visits your school as part of ED club inauguration. As the School Leader, how will you introduce him ? Prepare the introductory speech.
23. Imagine that you are participating in a debate on the topic 'Food Crops should be preferred to cash crops.' Write four arguments either in favour of or against the topic.

B. Answer any 1 question from 24 to 25. Carries 4 scores. (1 × 4 = 4)

24. The sports club of your locality has decided to invite Antonio Cruz and Felix Vargas to inaugurate the Football Match : 2022. As the Secretary of the club, prepare an e-mail inviting any one of them.
25. Prepare a blurb of R.K. Narayan's short story 'Crime and Punishment'.

PART – IV

A. Answer any 3 questions from 26 to 29. Each carries 6 scores. (3 × 6 = 18)

26. The Anti Drug Club of your school has conducted a seminar on 'Consequences of Drug Abuse' as part of observing International Day Against Drug Abuse. Prepare a Seminar Report.
27. While travelling by a bus, Nomita's mother meets Ratna. During their conversation, she narrates her problems and worries to Ratna. Prepare the likely narrative by Nomita's mother.
28. On the eve of Mr. Gresham's trial, Mr. Baldwin visited him. Write the conversation between them (Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Gresham).
29. After receiving her mother's letter, Nomita decides to write a reply to her mother. Draft the letter which Nomita plans to write.

B. Answer any 2 questions from 30 to 32. Each carries 6 scores. (2 × 6 = 12)

30. You meet Wangari Maathai, the first African woman who won Nobel Prize. As the editor of the school magazine, prepare an interview with her. (At least six exchanges)
31. Shaheen Mistri comes to your locality as part of the anniversary of your Residents' Association. Draft a speech that she would deliver on the occasion. (Experiences in Mumbai – formation of Akanksha)
32. You are a participant in a panel discussion on the 'Importance of Planting Trees'. Draft a script of your presentation.

PART – V

Answer any 2 questions from 33 to 35. Each carries 8 scores. (2 × 8 = 16)

33. In her speech 'The 3 Ls of Empowerment', Christine Lagarde speaks about three different ways of empowering women. Do you think that Indian women are empowered? What are the challenges which women of the 21st Century face? Suggest possible solutions also.
34. Samman foundation is looking for teachers to give training in various subjects. As you are a graduate with an aptitude for teaching and have social commitment, you are willing to serve them as a teacher. Write an application letter and a resume that you would send to them.

35. Read the poem given below :

WOMAN

My opinions

I have many

They are my veil of beauty

Don't you know

My scars

They decorate me shoulder to toe

Like a marvellous gown

I'm not afraid to let them show

My Pride

Adorns me

Like fine jewels

I know my worth

My strength

It protects me

Like a shoe handcrafted with care

I can go anywhere

Call me Queen like it's my name

I won't forget to take my claim.

I don't care what they say

Being a woman can look this way.

Elle M.

Compare the poem with Katharine Tynan's 'Any Woman'.

