

WEFI - SSF
SSLC - EXCELLENCY TEST - 2023



ENGLISH

Standard : X
Time : 2 1/2 Hours

Total Score : 80

Instructions :

- *There is a cool-off time of 15 minutes in addition to the writing time of 2 1/2 hours.*
 - *This time is to be used for reading the question paper.*
 - *You are not supposed to write anything during the cool off time.*
 - *Attempt questions according to the instructions in the question paper.*
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Questions 1-5. Read the following excerpt from “The Snake and the Mirror” and answer the questions that follow. Each question carries one score (5x1=5)

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

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

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

Questions 6-10: Read the lines from the song ‘Blowin’ In The Wind’ and answer the questions that follow. Each question carries one score. (5 x 1 =5)

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.

6. ‘How many roads must a man walk down, Before you call him a man?
What idea is conveyed in these lines?
7. Identify the lines that tell you about the need to put an end to the violence?
8. Why can’t the white dove sleep peacefully in the sand?
9. The poet wishes cannon balls to be -----
10. Pick out an instance of alliteration from the lines above?
11. Read the following lines from the poem “*Mother to Son*” and prepare a note of *appreciation* focusing on the theme, images and poetic devices. (1 x 5 =5)

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.

Question 12-16 Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions (5x1=5)

From Rameswaram to the Rashtrapati Bhavan, it's been a long journey. Taking to Nona Walia on the eve of Teacher's Day, President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam talks about life's toughest lessons learnt and his mission being a teacher to the Indian youth. "A proper education would help nurture a sense of dignity and self-respect among our youth," says President Kalam.

There's still a child in him though, and he's still curious about learning new things. Life's a mission for President Kalam. He remembers his first lesson in life and how it changed his destiny. "I was studying in Standard V and must have been all of 10. My teacher, Sri Sivasubramania Iyer was telling how birds fly. He drew a diagram of bird on the blackboard, depicting the wings, tail and the body with the head and then explained how birds soar to the sky. At the end of the class, I said, "I didn't understand." Then he asked the other students if they had understood, but nobody had understood how birds fly," he recalls.

That evening, the entire class was taken to Rameshwaram shore the President continues, "My teacher showed us sea birds. We saw marvellous formations of them flying and how their wings flapped. Then my teacher asked us. Where is the bird's engine and how is it powered?' I knew then that birds are powered by their own life and motivation. I understood all about birds' dynamics."

12. What did Kalam discuss with Nona Walia?
13. What was Kalam's teacher trying to teach?
14. How did Kalam's teacher explain the subject clearly?
15. Dr. Kalam considers life as.....
16. Pick out a word from the story which means Mechanism of motion.

Questions 17-18. Answer any ONE of the following. (1 x 7 =7)

17. Satyajit Ray had to face several difficulties while shooting the film 'Goopy Gyne Bagha Byne.' Prepare a **narrative** based on Ray's experience in shooting the film with the tiger

(Hints: Shooting at Notun Gram-needs tiger for shooting meets Mr. Thorat-two tigers unable to control the tiger – shots taken-dark- retake- shooting at Boral- Tiger charges at the villagers- shots taken –perfect scenes)

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

Questions 19-21. Answer any TWO of the following

(2x5=10)

19. After reaching home Ali informed his sister Zahra that he had lost her shoes. Zahra was disappointed. Write the likely *conversation* between Ali and Zahra.
20. Imagine that you are Martha and you are asked to deliver the valedictory speech in the farewell party. Prepare the text of the *speech*.
21. Aunt Jane in the one act play The Never Never Nest is highly practicable in her dealings. Prepare a *character sketch* of Aunt Jane.

Questions 22--26. Answer any THREE of the following (3X6=18)

22. Adichie and her mother went to Fide's village for a visit. His mother showed them a beautifully patterned basket which his brother had made. Adichie was excited to see that. Suppose she wrote it in her diary on that night. Prepare that *diary*.
23. The story 'Vanka' narrates the unfortunate experiences faced a boy named Vanka at Alyakhin's house. Write a brief *paragraph* describing Vanka's experiences at Alyakhin's house.
24. Suppose the suicide attempt made by Mr. John and the attempts to save him by Dr. Cronin and the sergeant appeared as a news report in an English Daily. Prepare the possible *news report*.
25. Imagine that Kiran meets Nilkanta after many years of his disappearance. She asks Nilkanta why he took the inkstand of Satish and hid it in his box. Write down the *possible reply* of Nilkanta.
26. Prepare a *profile* of Rabindranath Tagore using the given details.

Born	: 7 May, 1861
Place of Birth	: Calcutta, India
Famous as	: Writer, Song Composer, Playwright, Essayist, Painter
Nationality	: Indian
Notable Works	: Gitanjali, The Golden Boat, Chitrangada, The Post Office, Chandalika
Notable Awards	: Nobel Prize in Literature in 1913
Died	: 7 August, 1941

27. Complete the conversation suitably

(5 x 1= 5)

Boy : Grandpa, I saw a mongoose fighting with a cobra
Grandpa : Really? ----- (a)-----?
Boy : In the garden, I have seen it just now,
Grandpa : You were standing close to them, ----- (b) -----?
Boy : No, I was sitting in the banyan tree.
Grandpa : Thanks God. If you had fallen down, -----(c)-----?
Boy : I know, the cobra was a big one, but the mongoose killed it
Grandpa : still there may be many other snakes, you had better
----- (d) -----
Boy : But I like sitting on the banyan tree I would rather you
----- (e) -----
Grandpa : ok .Let me see.

28. There are some errors in the passage. The errors are underlined. Edit them. (4x1=4)

Another lovely thought struck me. I would got (a) married to a woman doctor who have (b) Plenty of money and a good medical practice .She had to be fat for a valid reason. If I made some mistake(c) and needed to run away. She should not be able to ran after(d) me.

29. Complete the following with suitable phrasal verbs from the bracket (4x1=4)

Satyajit Ray..... (a) towards the circus company to meet the manager. On the way he..... (b) him. Ray.....(c) his idea to shoot a scene with a tiger. At first he couldn't. ----- (d) anything.
(went on, put across, came across, set off, make out)

30. Fill in the blanks using the words given in brackets. (4x1=4)

Nilkanta turned out to be a boon (a) / everyone in the house. Kiran had a warm interest in him (b) / he had escaped from the clutches of death. Sharat(c) / his mother were also happy. Nilkanta felt delighted as he had become a part of (d) / wealthy family.
(and, for, as, a, to)

31. Read the following dialogue and answer the questions that follow (2x1=2)

Principal: What did your grandfather say?
Martha: He will not pay the money.

The principal asked----- (a) -----
Martha replied----- (b) -----

Questions 32-35. Study the table and answer the questions that follow.

(4x1=4)

<i>Name of the book</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Language</i>	<i>Year of publication</i>
Nalukettu	MT Vasudevan Nair	Malayalam	1958
Wuthering Heights	Emily Bronte	English	1847
Under the Green Wood Tree	Thomas Hardy	English	1872
Heart of Darkness	Joseph Conrad	English	1899

32. Identify the year of publication of Heart of Darkness

33. Which is the first published book in the list?

34. How many books are written in English?

35. Who is the Malayalam writer in the above list?

36. Read the following sentences and identify the noun phrases in the subject position of each sentence. (2x1=2)

a. The dark scenes had to be retaken.

b. The beautiful Christmas tree in front of the house came to his memory.

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