



Reg. No. : .....

**SY 601**

Name : .....

**SECOND YEAR HIGHER SECONDARY MODEL  
EXAMINATION, FEBRUARY 2025**

**Part – I  
ENGLISH**

**Maximum : 80 Scores**

Time : 2½ Hours

Cool-off Time : 15 Minutes

**General Instructions to Candidates :**

- There is a 'Cool off time' of 15 minutes in addition to the writing time.
- Write answers to the specific number of questions as instructed.
- Use the 'Cool off time' to get familiar with questions and to plan your answers.
- Read questions carefully before answering.

**Score**

**Questions 1-8. Answer all the questions.**

**(8×1=8)**

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. Each question carries 1 score.

I thought for sometime and said, 'But don't you ever break the confidence and tell others the secrets you hear, even by mistake ?'

'Not even in my dreams. I consider that to be the worst kind of betrayal. I don't think there is a greater sin than betraying someone's confidence. They tell me their worries because they know I will never talk about it or gossip about it to another person. Only when they know their words are secure with me, can they talk to me freely. This way I relieve their burden for a short while till they are ready to pick themselves up and carry on with their journey.'



Score

1. Identify the speakers. (1)
2. Why do 'they' share their worries to one of the speakers? (1)
3. How does one of the speakers help others? (1)
4. Pick out the word that means 'to cheat', from the passage. (1)

Read the following lines and answer the questions that follow. **Each** question carries **1** score.

... I see him there,

Bringing a stone grasped firmly by the top

In each hand, like an old stone savage armed.

He moves in darkness as it seems to me,

Not of woods only and the shade of trees.

He will not go behind his father's saying,

And he likes having thought of it so well

He says again, 'Good fences make good neighbours'.

5. The 'he' referred to in the line is \_\_\_\_\_ (1)
6. 'He' looks like 'an old stone savage armed'. Why? (1)
7. The poet says that the 'darkness' is 'not of woods only and the shade of trees'. What else does he try to convey? (1)
8. The word \_\_\_\_\_ means 'an uncivilized person'. (1)



Score

Questions 9 – 12. Answer any 3 of the following. Each question carries 2 scores. (3×2=6)

9. Fill in the blanks selecting the appropriate form of phrasal verb given in brackets.

I don't think Nomita is an empowered woman, as she \_\_\_\_\_ (a) \_\_\_\_\_ (put up with/ put on) Ajit's patriarchal attitude. Her marriage \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (turn up/turn out) to be tragic for her, though she deserves a better treatment.

10. Report the following conversation between Robert Baldwin and Martha.

Martha : Didn't you accept the money that Gresham offered ?

Baldwin : I have lived an honourable life all these years and so, I won't take bribe from anyone.

11. The teacher in 'Crime and Punishment' shares the bad experiences he had with the boy with one of his friends. Write two pieces of advice that you would give the teacher, if you were his friend.

12. Select the appropriate idioms given in brackets and fill in the blanks.

Irfan Alam proves to be a great social entrepreneur who can \_\_\_\_\_ (a) \_\_\_\_\_ (sit on the fence/think out of the box) and come up with \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (ground-breaking/the last straw) ideas.

Questions 13 – 19. Answer any 5 of the following. Each question carries 4 scores. (5×4=20)

13. The story 'Matchbox' reflects the plight of women trapped in the chains of a patriarchal society. Prepare a review of the story, highlighting its theme and contemporary relevance.

14. Justify the title 'Mending Wall'.

15. You are the anchor of a popular television channel. Antonio and Felix are invited as guests for the morning show on the day that follows the boxing match. How will you introduce them to the viewers ? Draft the script for the introduction.



16. Elaborate on the idea behind the following lines.

I am the house from floor to roof,  
I deck the walls, the board I spread;  
I spin the curtains, warp and woof,  
And shake the down to be their bed.  
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!

17. The poem 'Rice' throws light on the shift in attitude of the farmers to the cultivation of food crops. Write a paragraph on the need to encourage cultivation of food crops.
18. The 'Green Belt Movement' founded by Wangari Maathai stands for the conservation of the environment. You are asked to develop the content for a blog for the organisation. Draft the blog entry.
19. Read the following passage and edit the errors, if any.

The Postal Assistant was feed up with the silly nature of the customers. She is sure that the foregin tourist would complaint against her. So, she left for the animal dispensary.

**Questions 20 – 25 . Answer any 5 of the following. Each question carries 6 scores. (5×6=30)**

20. You are one of the participants of a panel discussion on the topic 'The Role of Education in Empowering Indian Women'. You are asked to welcome the panellists and introduce the topic. Draft the introductory speech.



Score

21. The teacher in 'Crime and Punishment' slaps the boy for not being studious. Can corporal punishment make children better learners? Write your comment in about 200 words, referring to your personal experiences and instances from the story.
22. Ajit in the story 'Matchbox' is a true representative of the male-dominated society. Prepare a character sketch of Ajit, referring to his attitude to Nomita and women in general.
23. On the next day of his visit, Mr. Marshall sends an email to Robert Baldwin, confirming his appointment at the Third National. He also appreciates Baldwin for his honesty. Draft the likely email.
24. As part of the centenary celebrations of your school, the English Club conducts a seminar on 'Entrepreneurship : The Future of Our Economy'. The programme is inaugurated by Irfan Alam. Prepare a seminar report to be published in the school magazine.
25. Your class gets an opportunity to visit Shaheen Mistri at her office in Mumbai. Write the questions that you might ask her during an interaction and the likely responses.  
(3 exchanges)

**Questions 26 – 28. Answer any 2 of the following. Each question carries 8 scores. (2×8=16)**

26. Dr. Hardin B. Jones details the negative impact of alcohol and intoxicants, and the health issues that drug abuse may result in. It is high time we sensitised our youth on the ill effects of drugs. You are asked to deliver a speech, addressing a group of children in your junior classes. Draft the likely speech, using points from the article 'Dangers of Drug Abuse'.



27. Read the following advertisement and draft a letter of application along with CV.

Looking for

**CONTENT DEVELOPERS**

**GO GREEN INITIATIVE**

GO GREEN INITIATIVE is a multinational company selling organic products. We have offices across India and in many countries around the world.

We are hiring Content Developers (to be posted at our headquarters in New Delhi) for maintaining our webpage.

Graduates in Communicative English with proficiency in the language may apply. We encourage freshers as well.

Rush your entries to :

The Manager (HR)

#14, GSM Buildings,

Panampilly Nagar,

Cochin.

You may also send your application to

[gogreenhr@gmail.com](mailto:gogreenhr@gmail.com)

[www.gogreenn.com](http://www.gogreenn.com)



28. Read the given poem and prepare an appreciation with reference to its theme, poetic devices and style.

### The Call of Spring

Sarojini Naidu

CHILDREN, my children, the spring wakes anew,  
And calls through the dawn and the daytime  
For flower-like and fleet-footed maidens like you,  
To share in the joy of its play-time.

O'er hill-side and valley, through garden and grove,  
Such exquisite anthems are ringing  
Where rapturous bulbul and maina and dove  
Their carols of welcome are singing.

I know where the ivory lilies unfold  
In brooklets half-hidden in sedges,  
And the air is aglow with the blossoming gold  
Of thickets and hollows and hedges.

I know where the dragon-flies glimmer and glide,  
And the plumes of wild peacocks are gleaming,  
Where the fox and the squirrel and timid fawn hide  
And the hawk and the heron lie dreaming.



Score

The earth is as hine like a humming-bird's wing,  
And the sky like a kingfisher's feather,  
O come, let us go and play with the spring  
Like glad-hearted children together.

### Glossary

|           |   |                           |
|-----------|---|---------------------------|
| brooklet  | : | a small, natural stream   |
| fawn      | : | a young deer              |
| plume     | : | a long, soft feather      |
| rapturous | : | expressing great pleasure |
| sedges    | : | a grass-like plant        |
| thicket   | : | a dense group of trees    |

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