

# Kerala 10th Second Term (Christmas) English Exam Model Question Paper 2

Time: 2½ hrs

Total Score: 80

## INSTRUCTIONS:

- **15 minutes** is given as cool off time.
- This time is to be used for reading the question paper. You are not supposed to write anything during the cool off time.
- Attempt the questions according to the instructions.

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## Section A: Reading Comprehension (10 Marks)

**Questions 1–5: Read the excerpt from a story about a hidden talent and answer the questions that follow. (5×1=5)**

Maya lived in a village where music was seen as a frivolous pursuit, secondary to farming and fishing. Her father, a stern but loving man, forbade her from touching the old, dust-covered sitar stored in the attic. Yet, every evening, when the village lights dimmed, Maya would sneak up. She didn't just pluck the strings; she coaxed out notes that seemed to weep and soar, notes she had heard only in her dreams. One monsoon night, the local temple's main singer fell ill. The annual festival was on the verge of cancellation. A desperate committee member, overhearing a faint, haunting melody drifting from Maya's home, followed the sound. He found her, sitar in hand, completely lost in her music.

1. What was considered the primary occupation in Maya's village?
2. What instrument was stored in Maya's attic?
3. Why did Maya practice in secret?
4. What event led the committee member to Maya's home?
5. Identify the **Adjective Phrase** and the **Main Verb** from the sentence: "A desperate committee member, overhearing a faint, haunting melody, followed the sound."

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**Questions 6–9: Read the following lines from a poem about the sea and answer the questions that follow. (4×1=4)**

I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky, And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by; And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and the white sail's shaking, And a grey mist on the sea's face, and a grey dawn breaking.

6. What two things does the poet say he must go down to?
7. What does the poet ask for to help him steer the ship?
8. Which line uses the poetic device of **alliteration** most prominently?

9. What mood is created by the description "a grey mist on the sea's face"?

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**Question 10: Read the passage given below and frame four appropriate questions based on it. (1×4=4)**

The Internet of Things (IoT) describes the network of physical objects—"things"—that are embedded with sensors, software, and other technologies for the purpose of connecting and exchanging data with other devices and systems over the internet. These devices range from ordinary household items to sophisticated industrial tools. Experts predict that by 2030, there will be tens of billions of IoT devices worldwide, opening new possibilities for automation and data analysis, but also raising significant concerns about data security and privacy.

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### **Section B: Writing Tasks (48 Marks)**

**Answer either A or B for the following questions.**

**Question 11: (1×7=7)**

**[A]** The story '**A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings**' is a work of magical realism that explores themes of cruelty, exploitation, and compassion. Write a **review** of the story, focusing on the blend of the ordinary and the extraordinary, the way the family exploits the angel, and the eventual triumph of his silent endurance.

**OR**

**[B]** In the play '**Julius Caesar**,' Mark Antony's funeral speech is a masterstroke of rhetoric and manipulation. Prepare a **write-up** on how Antony uses **verbal irony** and **persuasive techniques** to turn the crowd against Brutus and the conspirators.

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**Question 12: (1×6=6)**

**[A]** Bablu, the protagonist of '**A Phoenix Rises**,' is a brilliant example of a grassroots innovator. Prepare a **profile** of Bablu, highlighting his initial awareness of the social problem, his determination to innovate, and his final success.

**OR**

**[B]** After witnessing the inhumane conditions and the acts of survival described in '**In the Attic**,' you decide to express your feelings and thoughts. Write a **diary entry** reflecting on the value of life, the strength of the human spirit, and the importance of humanity shown by the German officer.

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**Question 13: (1×6=6)**

[A] Imagine you are **Elisenda**, the wife of Pelayo. Write a **conversation** between you and Pelayo after the old man has finally flown away, reflecting on the wealth you gained, the renovation of the house, and the mixed feelings of relief and loss.

**OR**

[B] You are the School Correspondent. Prepare a **Notice** for the school notice board informing students about a '**Young Innovator's Meet**' to be addressed by **Arunachalam Muruganantham**, emphasizing his contribution to social innovation.

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**Question 14: (1×4=4)**

[A] '**The Ballad of Father Gilligan**' narrates an extraordinary event. Narrate the events of the poem as a **short narrative**, focusing on the priest's exhaustion, his prayer, the divine intervention, and his realization.

**OR**

[B] Prepare a short **questionnaire** with four questions for your school's Eco Club members to assess their knowledge and usage of **eco-friendly products** (like the seed pens mentioned in the Srikanth Bolla chapter context).

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**Question 15: (1×6=6)**

Based on the information available about **Srikanth Bolla's** life and achievements, prepare a **letter** to the editor of a local newspaper highlighting his journey and advocating for better educational and employment opportunities for the differently abled.

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**Question 16: (1×4=4)**

You are the school head. Prepare a short **speech** to be delivered in the morning assembly on the importance of **empathy and human compassion**, drawing inspiration from the character of the German officer **Wilm Hosenfeld** in Szpilman's memoir.

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**Question 17: (1×6=6)**

Prepare a **character sketch** of **Gowri**, Bablu's wife in '**A Phoenix Rises**,' focusing on her practical nature, initial skepticism about Bablu's expenses and the pads, and her role as a grounding force in his life.

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**Question 18: (1×4=4)**

Develop a **Word Pyramid** based on the word **PHOENIX**, relating each letter to a theme, idea, or character from the lesson '**A Phoenix Rises**.'

Letter Word/Phrase

P

H

O

E

N

I

X

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 **Section C: Grammar and Language Skills (22 Marks)**

**Question 19: Edit the passage. Errors are given in bold. (6×21=3)**

The angel **was** (a) a burden to Pelayo and Elisenda. They were **concern** (b) with the money they could **made** (c) from him. Later, the spider woman show **attract** (d) more crowds. Finally, when the angel **flew** (e) away, Elisenda **is** (f) relieved.

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**Question 20: Complete the paragraph using appropriate forms of the phrasal verbs given in the bracket. (5×1=5)**

The priest had to (a) **go on** his life as the people needed him. His duties would (b) **take up** every hour of the day. When he returned, the priest was (c) **come to** by the news that the man was dead. He decided he should not (d) **take back** his promise to the dying man. He was thankful to God for the angel who had (e) **carried out** for him.

*(go on, come to, carry out, take back, put up, call back, make up)*

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**Question 21: Complete the following passage choosing the right words from the bracket. (6×21=3)**

Antony's speech had **(a) a** profound effect **(b) on** the Roman citizens. He spoke, not **(c) to** disprove Brutus, but to present **(d) the** facts. He constantly repeated that Brutus was **(e) an** honourable man. This irony worked **(f) with** devastating effect.

(an, for, to, a, with, by, of, some)

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**Question 22: Complete the conversation between Bablu and Gowri. (5×1=5)**

**Gowri:** I'm worried about the expense of these pads.

**Bablu:** (a).....?

**Gowri:** Yes. If we keep buying them, we won't have money for milk.

**Bablu:** If you had seen the plight of women in the village,  
(b).....

**Gowri:** Maybe. But what are we going to do now?

**Bablu:** (c)..... the raw material cost?

**Gowri:** It's very low, I know.

**Bablu:** So, (d)..... a better pad myself!

**Gowri:** If you succeed, (e)..... a huge help to all of us.

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**Question 23: Report the following dialogue. (2×1=2)**

**Wilm Hosenfeld:** You are a pianist. Play something for me.

**Szpilman:** Sir, my hands are stiff and dirty.

a. Wilm Hosenfeld told Szpilman that he was a pianist and asked him to play something for him. b. Szpilman replied respectfully that his hands were stiff and dirty.

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**Question 23: Seminar Presentation (Speech) (1×6=6)**

**Question:** The chapter highlights that **birdwatching is both a hobby and a critical conservation activity**. Prepare a **speech** to be delivered at a school Nature Club seminar, arguing for the importance of **birdwatching as a scientific tool for ecological conservation**. (You may invent necessary details like date, venue, etc.)

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**Question 23: Dialogue / Conversation (1×6=6)**

**Question:** Imagine a conversation between an **experienced, older birdwatcher (Mr. Salim)** and a **curious, young student (Ria)** who is just starting the hobby. Ria asks Mr. Salim about the equipment needed, the initial challenges, and the best places in India for birdwatching. Write the **conversation** of at least seven meaningful exchanges.

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