SECOND TERM SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT 2026-27

ANSWER KEY / SCORING INDICATORS

ENGLISH

Std: X SET 2 **Score: 80**

For teachers **Time: 2½ Hours**

Note to the teacher: These are scoring indicators. For discourses, value content, organisation, language and format as usual. Accept suitable answers in the learner's own words.

Questions 1 to 10 **(1 score each)**

1. The hermit begged him not to kill the deer, as it belonged to the hermitage. (1)

2. To show respect for the hermitage and enter humbly (not as a king or hunter). (1)

3. B. As her sisters (1)

4. Of picking up (stealing) the lost pocketbook. (1)

5. B. (ii) and (iv) (1)

6. Noun phrase: The old man; verb phrase: was shocked (1)

7. To a bird (a thing with feathers). (1)

8. A. (i) and (iii) (1)

9. B. Metaphor (1)

10. "And never stops – at all –" (1)

Question 11 **(5 scores)**

11. (A) Indicators: both poems are about inner strength; the seedling, though weak, resolves to do its best and begins to grow; hope is a bird that sings in the soul without stopping; both use personification/metaphor and simple, musical language; both tell us not to lose heart in difficulties; personal response and conclusion. (5)

(B) Indicators: theme of poverty, homelessness and indifference; contrast between people living in comfort ("paradise") and those suffering on the streets; irony of the title; images of a woman asking for help and being ignored; the refrain asks us to think twice; message – empathy and action; relevance today. (5)

Questions 12 to 15 **(1 score each)**

12. In holes of tall old trees. (1)

13. They eat fruits and drop the seeds far away, helping new trees to grow. (1)

14. B. (ii) and (iv) (1)

15. The Great Hornbill (1)

Questions 16 to 22 **(discourses)**

16. (A) Review: title and author; setting – market day at Goderville, Normandy; plot – Hauchecorne picks up a string, is accused of stealing a pocketbook, is not believed even after it

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is returned, and dies protesting his innocence; character; theme – suspicion, gossip and the cruelty of society, the loss of dignity; style – realism, irony; relevance today (fake news, rumours); recommendation. (7)

(B) Review: author and setting (a train during the First World War); characters – the grieving mother and father, the fat man; the fat man's speech glorifying sacrifice; turning point – the woman's question "Is your son really dead?"; his breakdown; theme – grief of war is universal, words cannot heal it; message for peace; recommendation. (7)

17. (A) Character sketch: a young woman living in Sage Kanva's hermitage; simple, graceful and kind; loves nature – treats plants as sisters and animals as family; modest and shy; devoted to her duties; a child of nature who lives in harmony with all living things. (6)

(B) Diary: date and time; shock and humiliation at being called a thief; showing the string and not being believed; anger towards Malandain; worry about his name in the village; feeling of loneliness; resolve to prove his innocence; written in the first person with feelings. (6)

18. (A) News report: headline, place and date; Class X students of GHSS Thirunelly found an injured hornbill near the school; informed the forest department; first aid by a veterinary doctor; released after a week; Headmaster praises the students; forest officer's message on protecting tall trees. (6)

(B) News report: headline, place and date; book fair by Vidyarangam Kala Sahitya Vedi; 3 days; 2,000 books; stalls of six publishers; discount for students; inauguration by a local writer; reading competition. (6)

19. (A) Poster: title (World Wetlands Day – 2 February); slogan; brief message on the importance of wetlands; organiser, date, venue of any programme; layout and visual appeal. (4)

(B) Paragraph: kindness shown by ordinary people (e.g. Hosenfeld helping Szpilman in "In the Attic", the hermitage protecting the deer) shows humanity can survive war; war brings only grief ("War"); compassion and empathy are needed; conclusion. (4)

20. Any suitable questions, e.g. Who watered the plants? What did Shakuntala water? Where did she water the plants? When did she water them? / Did Shakuntala water the plants every morning? (1 score each) (4)

21. Invitation: name of the club and school; the event (inauguration of the Literary Club); chief guest; date, time and venue; programme details; request for presence; issued by – secretary/Headmaster. (4)

22. Profile: name; born 5 August 1850 in Normandy, France; French writer; disciple of Gustave Flaubert; master of the short story; about 300 short stories and six novels; "Boule de Suif" (1880) made him famous; other works "The Necklace", "A Piece of String"; realistic portrayal of ordinary people; died 6 July 1893 in Paris. Written as connected prose. (6)

Questions 23 to 33

23. The Energy Club of St. Mary's HSS (1)

24. 200 houses (1)

25. 18 December (1)

26. A. (i), (ii) and (iv) (1)

27. (a) to (b) in / on (c) behind (d) in (e) of (f) in (½ score each) (3)

28. a) put off b) look for c) takes after d) carry on (4)

29. a) but b) Since c) were disturbing d) wasn't (½ score each) (2)

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30. The hermit requested the king not to kill that deer. The king replied (promised) that he would not harm any creature in his (the hermit's) hermitage. (2)

31. (a) Why are you late? / What happened? (b) couldn't you? (c) Be on time / Please inform us (d) I will be careful next time / It won't happen again. (Accept suitable answers.) (4)

32. (a) wrote (b) are read (c) was (d) taught (e) had become (f) enjoy (½ score each) (3)

33. a) sanctuary b) playwright (dramatist) c) autobiography d) nocturnal (½ score each) (2)

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