



Sl. No. 340101

**S.S.L.C. EXAMINATION, MARCH - 2014****ENGLISH**

Time : 2 ½ Hours

Total Score : 80

**Instructions :**

- + The first 15 minutes is cool-off time.
- + This time is to be spent for reading the question paper.
- + You are not supposed to write anything during the cool-off time.
- + Read the instructions carefully and attempt the questions.

[SCORE]

**Questions 1-5 :** Read the excerpt from the story 'Games at Twilight' and answer the questions that follow:

It then occurred to him that he could have slipped out long ago, dashed across the yard to the veranda and touched the 'den.' It was necessary to do that to win. He had forgotten. He had only remembered the part of hiding and trying to elude the seeker. He had done that successfully. With a whimper he rushed out of the shed and flung himself at the white pillar and bawled, 'Den! Den! Den!'

Out of the lawn, the children stopped chanting. They all turned to stare at him in amazement. They stared, wondering at his reappearance, his passion, his wild animal howling. Their mother rose from her basket chair and came toward him, worried, annoyed, saying, 'Stop it, stop it, Ravi. Don't be a baby. Have you hurt yourself?'

- Q1) What was the most necessary thing to do to win the game? [1]
- Q2) Which aspect of the game did Ravi alone remember? [1]
- Q3) How do we know that the children at play had forgotten all about Ravi? [2]
- Q4) Was Ravi crying? How do we know about it from the passage above? [1]

P.T.O.



Q5) Which word in the passage means 'extreme surprise'?

[1]

**Questions 6-9 :** Read the lines from the poem 'The Master' and answer the questions follow:

And he installed himself and his brushes amid the dung  
and the flies,  
and studied the horses – their bodies' keen alertness –  
eye-sparkle of one, another's sensitive stance,  
the way a third moved graceful in his bulk –  
and painted at last the emperor's favourite,  
the charger named 'Nightshining White,'  
Whose likeness after centuries still dazzles.

Q6) Pick out the lines which show the dedication of Han Kan to his craft.

[1]

Q7) How did his stay in the stables help Han Kan?

[1]

Q8) What did Han Kan paint?

[1]

Q9) The painting by Han Kan has stood the test of time. Which line gives you this idea?

[1]

**Questions 10-13 :** Read the lines from the poem 'Once Upon a Time' and answer the questions that follow:

But believe me, son.  
I want to be what I used to be  
when I was like you. I want  
to unlearn all these muting things.  
Most of all, I want to relearn  
how to laugh, for my laugh in the mirror  
shows only my teeth like a snake's bare fangs!



Q10) Who is the speaker in the poem and who is he speaking to? [1]

Q11) The poet himself wants to change. How? [1]

Q12) The poet intends to 'unlearn' and 'relearn' many things. What are they? [1]

Q13) Pick out an instance of simile from the above lines. Comment on the aptness of the comparison. [2]

**Questions 14-18 :** Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

A robot is a special kind of machine. It is a machine that moves and follows instructions. The instructions come from a computer. It does not usually make mistakes, doesn't get tired and it never complains unless you tell it to!

Robots are all around us. Some robots are used to make things. For example, robots can help make cars. Some robots are used to explore dangerous places. For example, robots can help explore volcanoes. Some robots are used to clean things. Some robots can even recognize words and they can be used to help answer telephone calls. Some robots look like humans. But most robots do not. Most robots just look like machines.

Long ago, people imagined robots. Over 2,000 years ago, a famous poet imagined robots. The poet's name was Homer. His robots were made of gold. They cleaned things and they made things. But they were not real but imaginary. Nobody was then able to make a real robot. The first real robot was made in 1961. It was called Unimate. It was used to help make cars. It looked like a giant arm. In the future, we will have even more robots. They will do things that we can't do. Or they will do things that we don't want to do. Or they will do things that are too dangerous for us. Robots will help us fight fires. They will help us fight wars. They will help us fight sickness. They will help us discover things. They will help make life better.



**Q14)** What idea do you get about a robot? [1]

**Q15)** Robots help us in many ways. Write two ways in which they help us? [1]

**Q16)** What was the poet's imagination about robots? [1]

**Q17)** When was the first real robot made? What was it called? [1]

**Q18)** How will robots help us in the future? [1]

**Q19)** Answer any one of the following in about 120 words. [7]

- (A) The resistance against autocratic governance is depicted in the play 'The Beggar and the King'. Prepare a brief **review** of the play in about 120 words highlighting the theme.

[Hints : the king represents authority – the beggar stands for the common man – king intolerant to the cries of the beggar – beggar cries for food – issues orders to kill the beggar – the beggar overcomes the punishments – acquires strength to dethrone the king – the collective strength of the common people is greater]

OR

- (B) Imagine that the speaker in the story 'The Blue Bouquet' tells you the strange experience he had while he was walking alone in the Street. What would he tell? **Describe** his strange experience in the words of the speaker.

You may begin like this : *I was staying in a hotel...*

**Q20)** On the evening of the eventful day Swami gets back home and narrates the day's events to his mother. What would Swami tell her? **Narrate** the events in Swami's own words. You may begin like this :

*When I reached my class, Samuel ....*

[6]



- Q21)** Pepe's mother is thankful to Balthazar for gifting her son with the beautiful cage. She expresses her happiness and admiration for Balthazar's work in a letter. Draft the likely **letter** written by Pepe's mother addressed to Balthazar. [6]
- Q22)** A seminar cum photo exhibition is held in your school on the topic 'Milestones in Indian cinema'. Prepare a **report** of the event including details about the inauguration of the function, paper presenters, the photos exhibited etc. [5]
- Q23)** Swami speaks of his teacher Samuel as a very violent, harsh and unkind person who spares no occasion to cane his students. But as the story advances, we come across a totally different Samuel. Prepare a **character sketch** of Samuel. [6]
- Q24)** Write a short profile of Nissim Ezekiel, one of the prominent figures in Indian English literature, making use of the hints given below. [6]

<b>Born</b>	:	24 December, 1924
<b>Place of birth</b>	:	Mumbai, India
<b>Noted as</b>	:	poet, playwright, critic, broadcaster, social commentator
<b>Major works</b>	:	Time to Change, Sixty Poems, The Unfinished Man, The Exact Name, The Three Plays
<b>Notable poems</b>	:	In the Theatre, The Couple, The Professor, Night of the Scorpion
<b>Awards</b>	:	Sahitya Akademi Award (1983) Padmashri (1988)
<b>Died on</b>	:	9 January 2004 (aged 80)



**(Questions 25-29): Study the table given below and answer the questions that follow:**

Writer	Country	Language	Category	Award
Mo Yan	China	Chinese	Short Story, Novel	Nobel Prize in Literature - 2012
Yann Martel	Canada	English	Fantasy and Adventure Novel	Man Booker Prize for Fiction – 2002
Kiran Desai	India	English	Novel	Man Booker Prize for Fiction – 2006
Doris Lessing	United Kingdom	English	Novel, Drama, Poetry, Short Story, Memoir	Nobel Prize in Literature – 2007
Seamus Heaney	Ireland	English	Poetry	Nobel Prize in Literature – 1995
Peter Carey	Australia	English	Historical Novel	Man Booker Prize for Fiction – 2001

**Q25)** Who is the Nobel Laureate in Literature in 2012? [1]

**Q26)** The only Irish poet in the list is \_\_\_\_\_ [1]

**Q27)** What are the varieties of works written by Doris Lessing? [1]

**Q28)** Name the author who won the Man Booker Prize in 2006. [1]

**Q29)** Under what category can we place Yann Martel's works? [1]



**Q30) Look at the notice given. There are a few errors in it which are underlined. Edit the notice.** [5]

**NOTICE**

Our class have(a) decided to bring out a new class magazine titled 'Our Voice'. All students is (b) invited to contribute there (c) creative articles to this new endeavour. The articles should submit (d) to the chief editor in(e) or before 14<sup>th</sup> November. For further details, please contact the chief editor.

(Sd/-)

Chief Editor

**Q31) Complete the following conversation suitably.** [5]

- Narrator : I had a frightful experience yesterday.
- Wife : \_\_\_\_\_ (a) \_\_\_\_\_ ?
- Narrator : I was attacked by a stranger. \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_.
- Wife : Your eyes! What for?
- Narrator : To gift to his lover.
- Wife : Eyes! For his lover? Sounds strange.
- Narrator : If I had blue eyes, he \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_.
- Wife : Thank god. You shouted for help, \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_ ?
- Narrator : There was not a single soul in the street. Somehow I returned to my hotel room. I want to get away from here at the earliest.
- Wife : You had better \_\_\_\_\_ (e) \_\_\_\_\_.





**Q32) Fill in the blanks with suitable phrasal verbs choosing from the box given below:**

[4]

One morning, Swami \_\_\_\_\_ (a) \_\_\_\_\_ his uniform and started to school. On his way a stray dog \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ him. Swami ran very fast calling out for help. The people around could not \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ what he was shouting for. Poor Swami was again late for school. Samuel, his teacher could not \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_ this and warned him for being late.

went for	gave up	make out	put up with	put on
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**Q33) Read the following dialogue and answer the questions that follow:**

Boy : Why did the fox come here?

Mother : The fox came here to give this baton.

a) What did the boy ask the mother?

[1]

b) What did the mother reply?

[1]

**Q34) Read the following sentences:**

a) My sister played the music and I danced to the tune.

b) The Principal was strict but gentle.

c) The boys went to the ground and practised their play.

In the first sentences, two sentences are combined using the linker 'and'. In the second sentence two adjectives are linked using 'but.' In the third, two verb phrases are linked using 'and.'

**Now, frame three sentences of your own. Two of them using 'and' and one using 'but' as in the same pattern as above.**

[3]

