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**HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION - 2018**

**STD: XII**

**11.12.2018**

**SUBJECT: ENGLISH**

**ANSWER KEY**

**MARKS : 90**

**Section- A**

I) Answer all the questions.

20x1 =20

Choose the correct options given below:-

1. Choose the synonym of the underlined word in the following sentence.

The most pertinent in relation to women was his relationship with his wife, Kasturba.

**(b) Relevant**

2. Choose the clipped word for 'influenza'.

**(c) flu**

3. Replace the underlined word with the appropriate phrasal verb:

My friend will stand by me during the crisis

**(a) support**

4. Choose the suitable meaning for the idiom found in the following sentence:

Sanjay was on cloud nine when his friend got the state rank.

**(c) Immensely happy.**

5. Choose the most accurate one of the *four* given words opposite to the underlined word:

I found our speech copious without order and energetic without rule.

**(a) Meagre**

6. Choose the right combination for the blended word 'motel'.

**(d) Motorway + hotel**

7. Choose the correct combination for the compound word 'Bench Mark'

**(d) Noun + Verb**

8. Form a new word by adding a suitable prefix to the root word 'cast'.

**(c) Forecast**

9. Choose the appropriate synonym of the underlined word :

Gunga Ram was Squashed.

**(a) Subdued**

10. Choose the correct plural form of 'Fungus'.

**(d) Fungi**

11. Choose the tri-syllabic word

**(c) Furniture**

12. Choose the antonym of the underlined word in the following sentence.

For over five hours he sailed serenely through the lightning sky.

**(a) Calmly**

13. Identify the sentence pattern of the following:

You must remain patient till the end.

**(b) SVCA**

14. Choose the correct American English word for 'full - stop'.

**(c) Dot**

15. Choose the correct expansion of the acronym OPEC.

**(c) Organization of Petrol Exporting Countries**

16. People ..... live in glass houses should not throw stones.

**(d) Who**

17. Leela visits her grandparents quite frequently, ..... ? (Uses a suitable question tag)

**(b) doesn't she**

18. Please, look ..... my pet dogs for a day.

**(a) after**

19. Nandhini's uncle is .....NRI.

**(a) an**

20. Choose the correct plural form of alumnus

**(a) alumni**

### **Section – B**

II. Answer any seven of the following :

7x2=14

*i) Read the following sets of poetic lines and answer any four (4) of the following:*

*(4× 2 = 8)*

21. (a) Snake

(b) Simile

22. (a) Speech referred to English Language.

(b) Leech - craft is an ancient medical treatment, used to remove impure blood.

23. (a) The spider

(b) Vacant Vast

24. (a) Women's show endless love and affection to the surrounding though they are unnoticed.

(b) Hedgerows are the row of bushes or low trees along the sides of a road.

25. (a) Poet

(b) The narrator killed the other soldier/ man because he was his enemy

26. (a) It is a temporary camp made by the soldiers.

(b) Metaphor

ii) Do as directed ( Any three )

3x2=6

27. Were the management to go back on its promise, there would be a strike.

28. Mala was plucking the flowers.

29. The Teacher asked the students if / whether he had read the newspaper that day.

30. In case of your missing the bus, take a taxi.

### **Section – c**

III. Answer any seven of the following

7x3=21

#### **Part-I**

i) **Explain any two (2) of the following with reference to the context:**

(2 × 3 = 6)

31. “And you O my soul where you stand,

Surrounded, detached, in measureless oceans of space,”

#### **Reference**

These lines are taken from the poem **A Noiseless, patient spider** written by Walt Whitman.

#### **Context**

The poet says where the soul stands.

#### **Explanation**

The poet addresses his soul. The soul stands all alone against the vast expanse of space and time. The soul has endless spheres of space.

#### **Comment**

The human soul tries to get some support to attain eternity.

32. “Life is real! and Life is earnest!”

#### **Reference**

These lines are taken from the poem **A Psalm of Life** written by H.W. Longfellow.

#### **Context**

The poet advises us not to waste our time.

#### **Explanation**

The poet says that life is real and purposeful. Death is not the ultimate since the soul is immortal.

**Comment:** Death is not the ultimate end.

33. “And I have something to expiate a pettiness”

**Reference:** These lines are taken from the poem ‘**Snake**’ written by D.H. Lawrence.

**Context:** The poet feels how he missed the opportunity.

#### **Explanation:**

The poet considers him one of the lords of life because he brings awe and alarm. He is ready to make amends for his pettiness.

**Comment:** The poet feels remorse for his meanness.

Part-II

ii) Answer any two (2) of the following briefly:

$2 \times 3 = 6$

34. Gunga Ram considered all life sacred. He believed all living things are manifestations. He held even the serpent, scorpion and the centipede in high esteem. He protected them from the boys view. The more dangerous the animal, the more from the drowned the snakes in methylated spirit of Vishnu, the God of reservation.

35. The Sun played truant for most of the day. Howling winds, clouds and hailstorms chased each other through the skies. At a height of 4000m, the trekkers couldn't get firewood. So it was difficult to keep Warm in the Tibetan mountain range.

36. Ahimsa means infinite love. It means infinite capacity for suffering. In the literal sense, it means nonviolence.

Part-III

iii) Answer any three of the following:

$3 \times 3 = 9$

37.

- ❖ The most available source of energy is Oil.
- ❖ Coal is the second largest source of energy
- ❖ Gas is the Third largest source of energy
- ❖ Nuclear and Hydro is the Fourth and Fifth least source of energy

38. Describe the process of preparing four glasses of lemon juice.

1. Take a ripe, yellow and juicy lemon, cut it into two halves.
2. Take a glass. Press the juice into the glass.
3. Remove the seeds.
4. Add sugar or salt to taste.

39. Any suitable answer.

40. Choose the correct option and complete the proverb:

- a) ..... rush in where Angels fear to tread.

**ii) Fools**

- b) Beauty is only ..... deep.

**i) Skin**

- c) ..... kills the cat.

**iv) Curiosity**

## Section – D

IV. Answer the following:

7 x5=35

41.(a) **THE CEASELESS CRUSADER**

Mahatma Gandhi was widely known as the votary of Truth. He had also won accolades world over for his precept and practice of ahimsa and satyagraha. Gandhi was also universally admired for his crusade against the cruelty and the suppression of women. Gandhi was a Ceaseless crusader of Women’s equality. He gave women importance in social as well as political life. He considered men and women equal. “The soul in both is the same. The two live the same life, have same feelings. Each is a complement of the other”. But men dominated and women developed an inferiority complex. Gandhi did not want to follow tradition blindly.

“any tradition, however ancient, if inconsistent, with morality, is fit to be banished from the land”.

Untouchability, child widowhood and child marriage also considered an ancient tradition. Such horrible beliefs and superstitious practices offend the human dignity. Gandhi rowed to sweep them out of existence if he had the power. Similarly a woman was never considered fit for independence. According to Gandhi it was all wrong, unjust and harmful. He says, True morality consists, not in following the beaten track, but in finding out the true path for ourselves and in fearlessly following it”. Gandhi’s life-long “experiments with truth” served that very purpose.

Who can make a more effective appeal to the heart than woman?

b) **HIROSHIMA -F. Raphael**

The scientists had achieved the chain reaction. The new age had been born, not with a bang but with a whimper. For hours afterwards there hung about the span of sky over Hiroshima, Ominous and evil in its brownish – purple colour, the mushroom – shaped cloud. Four and seven – tenths square miles of Hiroshima were devastated. Eight percent of the City’s buildings were damaged or destroyed. About three-fifths of the inhabitants were casualties, major or minor. People shivered, though they burned, skin sloughing off suppurating, scalded flesh. Ten thousand casualties went to a single hospital. It was a catalogue of atrocity defeating its own end. The aftermath of atomization in Hiroshima was monstrous enough, inflicting on 1,60,000 men, women and children, indiscriminately, death, mutilation and irreparable loss. The victims were permanently sterilised. People were afflicted with wasting diseases because of radiation. There were reports of hair-falling, dysentery – like diarrhoea and bleeding gums of people. The corpuscles of blood diminished or rose far above normal bringing death and new disease.

42. (a)

### **WOMEN'S RIGHTS - ANNIE LOUISA WALKER**

Annie Louisa Walker (1836 – 1907) carried the torch of women's liberation through her poems in the late 19th century. In this poem, „Women's Rights“, the poetess indirectly blames men and their dominating nature. It is authentically said that no one is empowered to rob their rights and liberties, and turn their ideal thoughts away from their strongly felt tasks. This world is full of conflict, commotion, din and bustle. They wish to live quietly and privately beneath the household roof. They do not waste their time in laziness. But, gathering up the happiness of home and doing domestic chores, illuminate their homes and decorate their pathway in life. The poetess compares humble plants with the grace and goodness of women. The plants that grow close to the hedges gather rain and yield the gift of fragrant flowers. Similarly, though they are unnoticed and not cared for, women ever live most affectionate with their family members and radiate love and affection to the cherished circle. The poetess regretfully insists that not a soul beyond their family members may know where they are buried.

“ To live, unknown beyond the cherished circle,  
Which we can bless and aid;  
To die, and not a heart that does not love us  
Know where we're laid.”

Women are fit not only for the hearth(the floor of a fireplace) but also for every existing field in the universe. They are the embodiment of love, kindness and sacrifice.

(b)

### **SNAKE - D.H. LAWRENCE**

D.H. Lawrence is best known for his novels and short stories. He is a fine poet who wrote free verse. In this poem „Snake“, the poet exalted the physical and instinctual over the purely intellectual. In Sicily it was believed that black snakes are innocent and the gold ones are venomous. The voice of poet's education said that if he were a man, he must take a stick and kill the poisonous snake. But the poet, agreeing with his instinctual, liked the snake very much. He felt happy that the snake had come as a guest to drink at his water trough and thought that the snake might leave the place peacefully into the burning holes of the earth. The poet asked himself whether it was his cowardice that he dared not kill the snake, whether it was his perversity that he longed to talk to him or humility to feel honoured. The poet felt honoured. But, he came to terms with again the voices in him that if he was not afraid he would kill it. The snake overcome the poet then turned his head that caused horror in him. He picked up a log and threw it at the snake. But it did not hit the snake. He felt sorry for his action and thought that it was a paltry vulgar and a mean act. He wanted to expiate his action and take up with the snake.

“And I thought of the albatross,  
And I wished he would come back,  
my snake For he seemed to me again like a king  
Like a king in a exile, uncrowned in the underworld,  
Now due to be crowned again”

“ D.H.Lawrence alludes to this poem. In ST Coleridge’s ballad „The Rime of the Ancient Mariner” a sailor made himself cursed by killing an innocuous albatross, a huge sea bird, a symbol of good luck, that sat on his boat. He glorified the slimy sea snake and he was assumed to be given absolution. Similarly the poet glorified the snake a king and lords of life so that he might be exonerated.

43. (a)

### **THE SELFISH GIANT - OSCAR WILDE**

Oscar wilde was a brilliant wit and playwright. He had written novels, short stories and essays. In this short story, Oscar Wilde writes about the transformation undergone by a giant which took him to Paradise from his old castle. There was a selfish giant. He had a large lovely garden. When he was away for seven years, children came to the garden and played there every afternoon. On his return after seven years, the giant became furious to see the children. “What are you doing here”? he cried in a very gruff voice. They frightened, and ran away. The giant built a high wall around it and put up a notice board.

TRESPASSERS WILL BE PROSECUTED

Spring came all over the city. It was still winter in the giant’s garden. The only people who were pleased were the snow and the Frost. They invited the North Wind to stay with them. Soon the Hail joined them. Everyday for three hours he rattled on the roof. There was no summer also. The Autumn gave golden fruit to every garden except the garden of the giant. One morning, the giant heard a lovely music It was only the voice of a little linnet. The giant looked out. It was a most wonderful sight. The 186 children had entered the garden through a little hole in the wall. “ In every tree he could see there was a little child” Only in the farthest corner of the garden it was still winter. A little boy was unable to climb up the tree. The giant put him up into the tree. The tree broke into blossom at once. The giant understood selfishness. He took a great axe and knocked down the wall. As years passed, the giant became old and feeble. Every afternoon the children played with the giant. The giant longed for his first little friend . One winter morning he saw a marvelous sight. In the farthest corner of the garden a tree was covered with lovely white blossoms. The little boy was standing underneath the tree. The giant ran to him. He became furious to see the prints of two nails on the palms and the little feet of the child . The boy said that those were the wounds of love. The boy continued. “You let me play once in your garden, today you shall come with me to my

garden, which is Paradise". That afternoon, the children saw the giant lying dead under the tree. He was all covered with white blossoms. The story drives home the moral that where there is selfishness it is always winter. Selflessness brings Paradise.

Moral : Love affects not only human but also Demons.

(b) **TWO FRIENDS - GUY DE MAUPASSANT**

Guy de Maupassant has carved out a niche for himself in writing short stories. His style is scrupulous, lucid and concise. Through this short story, he insists upon the importance of patriotism. Paris was under the attack of the Prussians. Besieged Paris was in the throes of famine . People were eating anything they could get. Monsieur Morissot, a watchmaker by profession and Monsieur Sauvage, a draper were companions in fishing. They would meet on Sundays at the Ile Marante. Being enthusiastic anglers, they often spent half the day side by side. They spoke a few words but they understood and appreciated each other. This was before the war broke out. The two friends met after a long gap. They entered a café and took absinthe. They recalled the happy times. Suddenly Monsieur Sauvage expressed a desire to go for fishing at the old place. It was risky because the Prussians were moving about Colombes. Sauvage knew Colonel Dumoulin and he was hopeful of getting the password. Morissot accepted it with excitement.

**"Suppose we go there ? Where/" , Fishing?.**

The two friends reached the French outpost. They were given a password. They made their way through deserted Colombes and reached the river. They began to fish with beating hearts. They had a good catch of the fish gudgeon. They were filled with the joy of once more Prussians were thundering with their cannons Suddenly they trembled with alarm at the sound of footsteps behind them. Four tall Prussians appeared and arrested the two friends at gun point. The angling rods slipped from the two friends. They were seized, bound and thrown into a boat and taken across to the Ile Marante. The German officer called the two friends spies. He told them that they would be shot dead. He would let them go if they told him the password. The two friends were true patriots. They remained silent. At the orders of the German they were shot dead. Their bodies were tied and thrown into the river for the fishes to eat. The German told a soldier to fry those fish for him at once while they were still alive.

Moral: " Friendship is great but patriotism is greater. Those who die or their country attain eternity"

45.

From

XXXX,  
YYYY.

yyy,  
20.12.2012.

To

M/s ABC Pvt. Ltd.  
100, Car Street, Chennai - 600 007

Sir,

Sub : Application for the post of **Sales Excutive** regarding.

Ref : Your advertisement in 'THE HINDU' dated 17.12.2012.

With reference to your advertisement in 'THE HINDU' dated 17.12.2012, I wish to apply for the post of **Sales Excutive**. I have herewith enclosed my bio-data for your perusal and favourable consideration. If I am appointed, I assure you Sir, that I will discharge my duties in an exemplary manner.

Thanking you,

Place : YYYY

Yours faithfully,  
XXXX.

Date : 20.12.2012.

**BIO - DATA**

Name : XXXX  
Father's Name : ABC  
Postal Address : YYYY  
Age / Date of Birth : 30-03-80 (32)  
E-mail id : 1. xxx@yahoo.com  
[2.xxx@hotmail.com](mailto:2.xxx@hotmail.com)  
Gender : Male.  
Religion : Hindu.  
Nationality : Indian.  
Marital Status : Single.  
Qualification :

S.No.	NAME OF THE DEGREE	NAME OF THE COLLEGE	NAME OF THE UNIVERSITY	PERSENTAGE OF MARKS	YEAR OF PASSING
1.	B.Com.,	TMG Arts College., Pollachi.	M.K.University., Madurai.	75 %	2001

Experience : 5 years in Madura Coats, Madurai  
Languages known to speak : Tamil, English, Hindi  
Languages known to write : Tamil, English, Hindi  
Salary expected : 10,000.  
Other Skills : DCA with Tally. Senior Grade in type writing and short hand.

### DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all the above given details are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Station : YYYY.

Date : 20.12.2012.

XXXX

Signature of the applicant

Address to the envelope:

Application for the post of salesman	
To	stamp
M/s ABC Pvt. Ltd. 100, Car Street, Chennai - 600 007.	

#### 46. Read the following Sentences and spot the errors and correct them:

- Every student **have** to show their ticket.
- The box is **too** heavy for me to lift.
- They about **a** unique style of writing.
- He studied **hard** for the exam to get first rank.
- You have lost your pen, **havn't you?**

**(OR)**

Fill in the blanks appropriately

- Don't **steal** the **steel** plates from the factory.
- You **ought to** help friends, when they are in need.
- If I **had not gotten** the first rank, I would not have been appreciated.
- Mr. Prasad **is** a man whom we can always trust.

47) Identify each of the following sentences with the field in the list given below, by understanding the word or words serving as the clue:

- a) Archeology
- b) Social Service
- c) Commerce
- d) Sports
- e) Computer

(OR)

- a) Gifford Pinchot
- b) Europe
- c) His most important contribution to conservation was persuading President Theodore Roosevelt to set aside millions of acres in the west as forest reserves.
- d) President Theodore Roosevelt
- e) Chief Forester

**SMART WORK LEADS TO SUCCESS!!!**

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## **Department of English**

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