

MAR THOMA RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL, THIRUVALLA  
FIRST TERMINAL EXAMINATION , 2017

Time: 1½ hr  
Marks: 80

ENGLISH LANGUAGE (Paper-I)

Class: VII

Question: 1  
Write a composition in 250-300 words (three paragraphs) on the topic 'An unexpected incident in your life'. (20)

Question: 2  
Write a letter to your cousin explaining your excitement in getting first place in western solo singing competition held during the cultural program in your school. (10)

Question: 3  
Read the following passage carefully:

**The Night of the Scorpion**

During the rains there were scorpions on all the pathways, glistening wet in the dark. Unlike snakes, scorpions moved out of the way when they heard someone coming, or saw the flash of a torch. Instead they curved their tails ready with a drop of poison at the tip. Stepping on them was painful, as a few of my friends had discovered, but these scorpions looked large and fierce, their bite was uncomfortable, not fatal.

Some of us used to push them off the pathways when we saw them, because otherwise they would either bite an unwary person or get killed themselves.

It was as usual a rainy night when I heard my neighbor frantically calling for me. "Come out, come out," he was shouting, but when I opened the door and was about to do so, he yelled instead: "Don't! Don't come out". I wondered what was wrong with him. Then I saw on doormat, this large scorpion.

I felt threatened by the man's shouting and its tail was raised and ready. I was about to tell him to go inside and close the door and go to sleep, the scorpion was much too large to get through any crack, it was at least six inches long, but I guessed he wouldn't, he was already in panic so I fetched a soft broom and swept the scorpion off the verandah into the street.

"Kill it! Kill it!" said my neighbor, hopping about at a safe distance.

"No," I said.

"Leave the light on outside tonight," he pleaded, "or it will return."

"Okay," I said.

Later I switched the light off and early the next morning, when I opened the door, the scorpion was on the mat. It didn't raise its tail, as I stepped over it and pulled the mat on one side, somewhat out of the way of my neighbor. Later, it had gone.

Soon this became a ritual on rainy nights. The scorpion would arrive on my doormat, and after a while my neighbor would yell and ask me to kill it. I'd sweep it away and it would come back when the light was off to spend the night. It stopped raising its tail at me even when I swept it off my verandah; in fact, at the touch of the broom it would walk away and return when the man was asleep.

Then I had to go away for a few weeks. On my return it was a rainy night. I waited, but no scorpion came. I wondered whether in my absence, my neighbor had called someone and got it killed.

After a few days I asked him, "The scorpion doesn't come these days?"

"No", he said. "Since you left it hasn't come".  
 I walked outside that night searching under the trees, but I never saw it again. It felt a strange loss. It seemed to be in communion with a scorpion, which simply wanted shelter from the rain, than a man who wanted to kill someone sheltering from the rain.

1. Answer the following questions:
  - i. How were the scorpions different from snakes?
  - ii. Why do people push the scorpion off the pathways?
  - iii. Why did the neighbor call for the narrator? How did the neighbor react?
  - iv. What was the narrator's attitude towards the scorpion?
  - v. What was the ritual that happened on rainy nights?

(10)
  
2. Give one word for the following:
  - i. Reflecting light.
  - ii. React violently.
  - iii. Causing death.
  - iv. A religious ceremony performed regularly.
  - v. A porch along the outside of a building.

(5)

#### Question 4

1. Rewrite these sentences replacing the verbs in the *infinitive* with *gerunds*:
  - i. Sebastian likes to play tennis in the evenings.
  - ii. The birds start to build their nests in the spring.
  - iii. Pallavi hates to get up in the morning.

(3)
  
2. Complete these sentences with a correct *adverb*:
  - i. Akshay is generous -- he agreed \_\_\_\_\_ to lend me his tennis racquet.
  - ii. Being an avid reader, Minal speaks English \_\_\_\_\_.
  - iii. After a hard day's work, Pierre walked \_\_\_\_\_ to the bus – stop.

(3)
  
3. Complete these sentences with the *correct modal* and the form of the verb:
  - i. Pierre \_\_\_\_\_ (hear) the driver's warning if he had not been so lost in grief.
  - ii. The flight has arrived but my friend is not in it. He \_\_\_\_\_ (miss) the flight.
  - iii. Naveen must have lost his way to the club. He \_\_\_\_\_ (not lose) his way, because he has been here twice before.

(3)
  
4. Complete these sentences with the *infinitives* or *gerund* forms of the verbs in the brackets:
  - i. \_\_\_\_\_ (working) hard always brings good results.
  - ii. His father refused \_\_\_\_\_ him a mobile phone. (buy)
  - iii. My cousin agreed \_\_\_\_\_ me. (help)
  - iv. She finished \_\_\_\_\_ on time. (cook)

(4)

5. Complete these sentences with the *correct forms of the verbs* :

- i. We \_\_\_\_\_ our lunch half an hour ago. (finish)
- ii. We thanked her for what she \_\_\_\_\_ for us. (do)
- iii. I \_\_\_\_\_ her for a long time. (know)
- iv. Do not worry about the assignment. I \_\_\_\_\_ you. (help)

(4

6. Answer these questions using *since* or *for* with the words in the brackets:

- i. How long have these books been lying here? (last week).
- ii. How long have you known each other? (five years).
- iii. How long has the shop existed? (1897).
- iv. How long will you be away from home? (three weeks).

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7. Rewrite these sentences using *-if*:

- i. everyone work fast, we finish in time.
- ii. grandfather was able to walk, he certainly come.
- iii. lend me your notes, it be a great help.
- iv. principal in the office, I spoken to her.

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8. Form compound sentences using *and*, *or*, *so*, *therefore*, *whereas* and *yet*:

- i. Tom started laughing at her. She began to feel bad.
- ii. She had better go down to dinner soon. Her mother would be angry.
- iii. Maggie was crying her heart out. Tom only wanted to enjoy the sweets on the table.
- iv. The sum was difficult. I could not solve it.
- v. You should work hard. You will fail.

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9. Change these simple sentences into *complex sentences*:

- i. We hope to visit a wild life sanctuary this summer. (we can)
- ii. She leaned out of the window to wave goodbye. (so that)
- iii. It is too crowded to relax on the beach today. (so.....that)
- iv. Deepak laughed at his reflection in the mirror. (he saw)
- v. I saw an injured puppy limping down the road. (which)