

MAR THOMA RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL, TIRUVALLA

Class: VII

Second Terminal Examination-December, 2018
Paper-II English Literature

Time: 2 hours
Marks: 80

Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow.

Extract-1

Trees came running towards them but then stopped as the bus reached them and simply stood there helpless for a moment by the side of the road before rushing away in the other direction. Suddenly Valli clapped her hands with glee. A young cow, tail high in the air, was running very fast, right in the middle of the road, right in front of the bus.

- What painstaking, elaborate plans did Valli take for the journey? (3)
- Why did she clap her hands? (3)
- What did the driver do? (3)
- Where did the bus reach then? (3)
- Do you think Valli is a cautious person? How can you say that? (4)

Extract-II

*Alone she cuts and binds the grain,
And sings a melancholy strain;
O listen! For the Vale profound
Is overflowing with the sound.*

- Name the poet. What is he speaking about? (3)
- What does the poet seem unsure about? Why? (3)
- What is the reaper doing? What is the impact of her voice on the valley? (3)
- What does the poet say about the song of a cuckoo bird and that of the reaper? (3)
- Why did the poet keep listening to the song? How did he feel as he walked away from the scene? Do you think the song affects him so deeply? (4)

Extract-III

Swat is one long valley with little valleys we call *darae* off to the sides like the branches of a tree. Our village lies about halfway along on the east. It is in the Kana *darae*, which is enclosed by craggy mountain walls and so narrow there is not even room for a cricket ground.

- Who is the narrator? What do you mean by Swat valley? (3)
- What is called a suicide bridge? (3)
- What was on the either end of the villages? What do you mean by *jumartika*? (3)
- How did the villagers get electricity? (3)
- Do you think the narrator and others were excited and happy about travelling to the village? (4)

Extract-IV

*One self-denying deed, one word
That eased the heart of him who heard,
One glance most kind
That felt like sunshine where it went—
Then you may count that day well spent.*

- a) What does the speaker want the reader to do at dusk? What do you mean by self-denying? (3)
- b) How can we make our day well spent? (3)
- c) What will the self-denying deed achieve? Why is yea or nay important? (3)
- d) *One glance most kind
That felt like sunshine where it went*
Explain the figure of speech used here. (3)
- e) How can a day be worse than lost? What is the message given through the poem? (4)

Extract-V

By 1927, the English Channel had acquired notoriety as virtually impassable by swimming. Less than ten swimmers had been able to cross the Channel successfully. Until the Channel Swimming Association issued notices promising to acknowledge the achievement of swimmers who would manage to cross the Channel, very few ventured to cross the dangerous waters.

- a) Why was it difficult to cross the Channel? Where was it? (3)
- b) What do you mean by *notoriety*? What efforts were taken to revive the competition by the Channel Swimming Association? (3)
- c) What was there against the cerulean backdrop of the postage stamp? (3)
- d) What was the breakthrough that took place in 1958? (3)
- e) What do you mean by *accolades*? Why did Brojen Das receive them? What was special among them? (3)