

MAR THOMA RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL, THIRUVALLA

Class : 8

Second Terminal Examination December, 2018

Time : 2hrs

Paper I – English Language

Marks: 80

Question: 1

Write a composition (300-350 words) on :

(25)

Human beings destroy the environment in the name of development. Give your views for or against the statement.

Question: 2

a) Write a letter to your friend telling him / her of an accident in which you played a heroic role. (10)

b) Your friend from Kolkata has invited you to visit him or her after your examinations are over. Write an e-mail to him or her expressing your inability to reach there. (5)

Question: 3

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. (25)

There were other boys in Manjari village, but Bisnu was the only one who went to school. His mother would not have fussed if he had stayed at home and worked in the fields. That was what the other boys did; all except lazy Chittru, who preferred fishing in the stream or helping himself to the fruit of other people's trees. But Bisnu went to school. He went because he wanted to. No one could force him to go; and no one could stop him from going. He had set his heart on receiving a good schooling. He wanted to read and write as well as anyone in the big world and so he walked to school every day.

A colony of langoors lived in the forest. They fed on oak leaves, acorns, and other green things, and usually remained in the trees, coming down to the ground only to play or sun themselves. They were beautiful, supple-limbed animals with black faces and silver-grey coats and long sensitive tails. They leapt from tree to tree with great agility. The young ones wrestled on the grass like squirrels.

A dignified community, the langoors did not have the cheekiness or dishonest habits of the red monkeys of the plains; they did not approach dogs or humans. But they had grown used to Bisnu's comings and goings and did not fear him. Some of the older ones would watch him quietly, a little puzzled, they did not go near the town; because the boys threw stones at them. And anyway, the forest gave them all the food they required.

Coming from another direction was a second path, and at the junction of the two paths Sarru was waiting for him. Sarru came from a small village about three miles from Bisnu's and closer to the town. They hailed each other, and walked along. They often met at this spot, keeping each company for the remaining two miles.

'There was a panther in our village last night,' said Sarru.

This information interested but did not excite Bisnu. Panthers were common enough in the hills and did not usually present a problem except during the winter months, when their natural prey was scarce.

'Did you lose any animals?' asked Bisnu.

'No. It tried to get into the cowshed but the dogs set up the alarm. We drove it off.'

'It must be the same one which came around last winter. We lost a calf and two deer in our village.'

'Wasn't that the one the shikaris wounded? I hope it hasn't become a cattle-lifter.'

'It could be the same. It has a bullet in its leg. These hunters are the people who cause all the trouble. They think it's easy to shoot a panther. It would be better if they missed altogether, but they usually wounded it.'

'And then the panther's too slow to catch the barking-deer and starts on our own animals.'

'We're lucky it didn't become a man-eater. Do you remember the man-eater six years ago? I was very small then. My father told me all about it. Ten people were killed in our village alone.'

'What happened to it?'

'I don't know. Some say it poisoned itself when it ate the headman of the village. Bisnu laughed. No one liked that old villain. They linked arms and scrambled up the stony path to school.'

- a) How was Chittru different from other boys? (2)
- b) What was Bisnu's wish? What did he do for that? (3)
- c) What information did Sarru give Bisnu? (3)
- d) How did the information affect Bisnu? Why? (3)
- e) Why did the panther become a cattle-lifter? (4)
- f) What joke did Sarru make? (4)
- g) Describe what the narrator tells us about the langoors. (4)
- h) Find out words from the passage which mean the same. (2)
 - i) nimbleness
 - ii) confused
 - iii) greeted
 - iv) bad or wicked person

Question: 4

1. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words. (2)
 - a) My parents frown _____ the music I usually hear.
 - b) He inspires respect _____ his friends.
 - c) He is true _____ his kings.
 - d) No guests are allowed _____ office time.
2. Convert the following sentences as directed. (2)
 - a) They hurried to the hospital. They got the news of his accident. (**complex**)
 - b) My mother asked me to accompany her to the mall. I didn't go. (**compound**)
3. Fill in the blanks with the suitable form of the verbs given in the brackets. (2)
 - a) We finally _____ (reach) a village where I _____ (meet) a lady whose age I _____ (can) not immediately make out. My translator _____ (find) it difficult to interpret the lady's words because her dialect was quite indifferent. She _____ (is) a dark skinned and dark haired lady. She must have been around seventy years old but _____ (is) _____ (is)

was no grey in her hair. She obviously could not afford to dye her hair. So what was her secret? Nobody _____ (know). It must have been a 'secret' common to all for not one person in the whole village _____ (has) a trace of grey hair! I _____ (think) about it for a long time.

4. **Transform** the following sentences as directed. (4)
- a) In spite of his richness, he is unhappy. (use **still**)
 - b) She is slim. She can wear slacks. (use **enough**)
 - c) Anwar was a great doctor. He was a singer also. (use **besides**)
 - d) He is very fat. He cannot run. (use **too...to**)
5. Rewrite the sentences in **indirect speech**. (5)
- a) The teacher said, "Oil floats on water."
 - b) Raj said, "I will post the letter tomorrow."
 - c) He said, "Let me go, I'm already late."
 - d) "Do you really come from China", said the prince.
 - e) Rohan said to the nurse, "Please call the doctor immediately."