

**MAR THOMA RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL**  
Second Terminal Examination 2019-20  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Std. X

Marks: 80  
Time: 2 Hrs.

Question 1

(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question.)

Write a composition (300 -350 words) on any one of the following:

[20]

- a) Write a short story with the central idea 'Advice Not Taken.'
- b) Write about a time when you were late for an important function. What lesson on punctuality did you learn?
- c) *Should Competitive Examinations be abolished?* Express your views either for or against this statement.
- d) You have represented your school in the Inter school athletic meet this year. Describe your excitement on being selected in the team, the competition and your feelings on having won laurels for your school.
- e) Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what the picture suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or may take suggestions from it; but there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



### Question 2

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question)

Select one of the following:

- a) Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper telling him/ her what you think about global warming, its effects and what people should do to prevent it from getting worse. [10]
- b) A friend of yours has been out of station for a month and there was an important function held in the school while he was away. Write him a letter describing the function, your role in it and how you missed the friend.

### Question 3

- (a) You are the music secretary of the music club in your school. Your club is organizing an interschool singing competition. Write a notice to be put up on the school notice board, drawing attention to the event. [5]
- (b) Write an e-mail to the Director, Internal School of Music, inviting him/ her to be a judge for the event. [5]

### Question 4

Read carefully the passage given below and answer the questions that follow: [20]

When he was twelve, his father died. Before he died he saw to it that his son was placed in the care of an uncle, who was also a tribal chief. His parents had already seen how eager he was to learn, and his uncle was asked to provide him with a good education.

**Understandably**, when he first arrived at his new village he kept to himself. But soon he grew more comfortable. His uncle's wife loved him as much as she loved her own child, whose name was Justice. He and Justice became like brothers. They hunted birds, using slings, roamed and romped in the fields. Best of all, they enjoyed racing on horseback.

As before, he worked hard, herding the cattle, milking the cows and he was always ready to lend a hand. He was well behaved and **diligent** in his studies.

The church schools he attended were run by missionaries. Christian missionaries had been coming to Africa for over fifteen hundred years. Their **mission** was to convert Africans to Christianity. Some missionaries tried to convince the Africans to accept foreign rule. But many worked to provide them with a western education.

Like his mother, Rolihlahla became a good Christian. He studied English, History and Geography. His teachers were very good and he received the education his father had hoped he would.

When he was twenty, he enrolled at Fort Hare College, one of the few universities in South Africa that enrolled full-time black students. It was located in the quiet town of Alice, in the Cape Province.

He was interested in Politics and current affairs. He thought he might become a lawyer.

By studying law he might be able to help his people obtain the rights denied to them by the white rulers.

He studied hard at Fort Hare but still had time to learn the foxtrot and the waltz. It wasn't long, however, before he became involved in Politics. He joined the Students'

Representative Council, which was organizing a protest against the living conditions at the university. When the students decided to strike, he joined them and was expelled.

His uncle wanted him to apologize to the university authorities. He urged him to abandon the 'student boycott' and continue his studies.

His uncle also thought it was time for him to marry. According to the custom of the time,

his relative arranged the marriage. The bride had already been chosen. Rolihlahla had no choice. If he wanted to avoid the marriage he had to run away. Like many boys of his age he headed for the bright lights and the big city of Johannesburg.

In Johannesburg he wanted to have a different destiny. He wished to be a lawyer and work to free his people.

He used the European name his father had given to him. The name by which he is known to people all over the world.

Nelson.

Nelson Mandela.

- a) Give the meaning of each of the following words as used in the passage. One word answers or short phrases will be accepted [3]
- i] understandably
  - ii] diligent
  - iii] mission
- b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:
- i] Why was Rolihlahla left in the care of an uncle? [2]
  - ii] How are the missionaries portrayed in the extract? [2]
  - iii] Why did his uncle want Rolihlahla to concentrate on continuing his studies? [2]
  - iv] What did Rolihlahla want to do in Johannesburg? [2]
  - v] Which sentence in the passage tells us that life for Nelson Mandela in Fort Hare was not all work and no play? [1]
- c) In not more than 50 words describe the childhood of Nelson Mandela. [8]

### Question 5

- (a) In the following passage, fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage, but write in correct serial order, the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space.

In the olden days, when merchant ships usually (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (employ) teenage boys as part of the crew, a lad applied for one of these jobs. The owner of the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (ship) company asked him what he (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (can) do.  
"I can do my best," the boy answered, "to do what you are kind enough (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (let) me try."

"What have you done?" asked the owner.

"I (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (saw) and split wood for my mother for nearly two years," replied the boy.

"What have your not done?" asked the employer.

After some (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (think) the boy said, "I have not gossiped in school for over a year." "That is enough," said the merchant, "I (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (take) you aboard my vessel and I hope some day (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (see) you as its captain. A boy who can master a wood-pile and control his tongue must have good stuff in him." [4]

b) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words:

- (i) You should restrain the boys \_\_\_\_\_ mischief.
- (ii) He retaliated \_\_\_\_\_ his enemy.
- (iii) The young man is very sensitive \_\_\_\_\_ criticism.
- (iv) He is slave \_\_\_\_\_ drink.
- (v) We must strive \_\_\_\_\_ success.
- (vi) It is not manly to submit \_\_\_\_\_ failure.
- (vii) Vain people are susceptible \_\_\_\_\_ flattery.
- (viii) He is very orthodox and is very tenacious \_\_\_\_\_ his pet theories.

[4]

c) Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using *and*, *but* or *so*.

- (i) The windows of the temple were smashed by hooligans. It was an ancient temple.
- (ii) There are some things on the shelf. All those things are valuable.
- (iii) You are suggesting something .Tell me that.
- (iv) He was very tired. He could not keep his eyes open.

[4]

d) Re-write the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Make other changes that may be necessary, but do not change the meaning of each sentence.

- (i) Smoking is forbidden in school.  
(Begin: You.....)
- (ii) Prema consulted her parents before accepting the job offer.  
(Begin: Prema did not.....)
- (iii) The driver lost his job because of rash driving.  
(Begin: If the driver.....)
- (iv) Very few doctors in the hospital are as dedicated as he is.  
(Begin: He is .....)
- (v) Had I not helped her, she would not have succeeded.  
(Begin: But.....)
- (vi) His unexpected victory surprised everyone in the school.  
(Use: surprise)
- (vii) Jasdeep has probably forgotten his mother's birthday.  
(Begin: In .....)
- (viii) She deceives people with her looks.  
(Use: 'deceptive')

[8]