

**MAR THOMA RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL**  
First 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]

- Narrate an incident from your experience which brings out the following message, "Never leave till tomorrow what you can do today".
- Describe in detail the view from your bedroom window. Does your room overlook a park? A busy street? What are the sights, sounds and smells that you would typically see, hear and experience at different times of the day?
- 'Boarding schools are better than day schools for the all-round education of a child'. Express your view either *for* or *against* this statement.
- 'Every cloud has a silver lining'. Write a story to bring out the truth of this statement.
- Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, 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:

[10]

- Write a letter to your friend, describing how you, along with a group of friends, intend to undertake cleanliness drive in your area.
- Write a letter to the manager of an ice cream factory requesting him to grant permission to you and your classmates to visit the factory. Mention the probable date of the visit and the number of the students who will accompany you.

### Question 3

- (a) You are the Games Captain at school. The school is organizing an inter house basketball competition. Write out a notice to be put in your school informing students about it. [5]
- (b) Write an e-mail to a prominent basketball coach of your town inviting him to be the referee at the event, giving all relevant details. [5]

### Question 4

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

I rested for a moment at the door of Anand Bhavan., on Market Road, where coffee drinkers and tiffin eaters at their tables sat transfixed uttering low moans on seeing me. I wanted to assure them, "Don't fear, I am not out to trouble you. Eat your tiffin in peace, don't mind me... You, nearest to me, hugging the cash box, you are craven with fear, afraid even to breathe. Go on, count the cash, if that's your pleasure. I just want to watch, that's all... If my tail trails down to the street, if I am blocking your threshold: it is because, I'm told, I'm eleven feet tip to tail. I can't help it. I'm not out to kill... I'm too full- found a green pasture teeming with food on the way. Won't need any for several days to come, won't stir, not until I feel hungry again. Tigers attack only when they feel hungry, unlike human beings who slaughter one another without purpose or hunger..."

To the great delight of children, schools were being hurriedly closed. Children of all ages and sizes were running helter- skelter screaming joyously, "No school , no school, Tiger, tiger!" They were shouting and laughing and even enjoyed being scared. They seemed to welcome me. I felt like joining them, and bounded away from the restaurant door and trotted along with them, at which they gleefully cried, "The tiger is coming to eat us ; let us get back to the school!"

I followed them through their school gate while they ran up and shut themselves in the school hall securely. I ascended the steps of the school, so an open door at the far end of a veranda, and walked in. It happened to be the headmaster's room, I believe, as I noticed a very dignified man jumping on his table and heaving himself up into an attic. I walked in and flung myself on the cool floor, having a partiality for cool stone floors, with my head under the large desk-which gave me the feeling of being back in the Mempi cave...

As I drowsed, I was aware of cautious steps and hushed voices all around. I was in no mood to bother about anything. All I wanted was a little moment of sleep; the daylight was dazzling. In half sleep I heard the doors of the room being shut and bolted and locked. I didn't care. I slept.

While I slept a great deal of consultation was going on. I learnt about it later through my master, who was in the crowd- the crowd which had gathered after making sure that I had been properly locked up- and was watching. The head master seems to have remarked some days later, "Never dreamt in my wildest mood that I'd have to yield my place to a tiger..." A wag had retorted, "Might be one way of maintaining better discipline among the boys."

"Now that this brute is safely locked up, we must decide," began a teacher. At this moment my master pushed his way through the crowds and admonished, "Never use the

words "beast" or "brute". They're ugly words coined by humans in their arrogance. The human being thinks all other creatures are "beasts". Awful word!"

- a) Give the meaning of each of the following words or phrases as used in the passage. One word answers or short phrases will be accepted. [3]
- (i) transfixed
  - (ii) helter-skelter
  - (iii) admonished

b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:

- (i) In what way are tigers different from human beings? [2]
  - (ii) Why were the children delighted? [1]
  - (iii) What did the head master say some days later? [2]
  - (iv) What was the wag's response? [2]
  - (v) Which sentences tell us that the tiger's owner had great respect for the tiger? [2]
- c) In about 50 words describe the tiger's activities from the time it followed the school children till it slept. [8]

### Question 5

- (a) 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.

It was (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (gaze) at its own reflection in the mirror. I (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (go) for grandfather but by the time we (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (return) to the room, the python (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (move) on. He was seen in the garden and once the cook saw him (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (crawl) up the ladder to the roof. Then we (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (find) him on the dressing table again (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (admire) himself in the mirror. "He's trying to look better for Aunt Mabel" I said. I (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (regret) this remark immediately because grandmother overheard and held up my pocket money for the rest of the week! [4]

b) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words:

- (i) He found the key just \_\_\_\_\_ the front door.
- (ii) I could not accompany my cousin \_\_\_\_\_ the trip because I had fever.
- (iii) The noise prevented us \_\_\_\_\_ sleeping.
- (iv) The young man put the flute \_\_\_\_\_ his lips and began to play.
- (v) Ashok leaned \_\_\_\_\_ the wall tiredly.
- (vi) The paper dart went gliding \_\_\_\_\_ the air.
- (vii) The cyclist rode quickly \_\_\_\_\_ the path.
- (viii) The young child carried the heavy bucket \_\_\_\_\_ the stairs. [4]

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

- (i) He has learnt to cycle. He has yet to learn to swim.
- (ii) The child helped her mother to make breakfast. She washed the tomatoes
- (iii) They bought a new car .They can travel long distances.
- (iv) Sunita opened her purse. She found the money missing.

[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) Arun gave Ramesh some excellent advice.  
(Begin: Ramesh was.....)
- (ii) As soon as Sania sat down to study, the lights went off.  
(Begin: No sooner.....)
- (iii) Has Alia written to you?  
(Begin: Have you.....)
- (iv) As soon as the function got over, the crowd dispersed.  
(Begin: Hardly had .....)
- (v) The monsoon is the best season in our country.  
(Rewrite using: good)
- (vi) Harish was so tired that he could not keep his eyes open.  
(Rewrite using: too)
- (vii) Father said to Sunil, "I can help you with your homework."  
(Begin: Father told Sunil .....)
- (viii) Naresh goes to a school which has over a thousand students.  
(Begin: There.....)

[8]