

**MAR THOMA RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL**  
Second Model Examination- January 2020

STD:X

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

Marks:80  
Time:2Hrs

**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]

- Write an original short story with the theme 'Every cloud has a silver lining'.
- You meet a person who is different from all the people you have ever interacted with so far. Describe this person and state how he is different from others. Also, include what effect he has on you.
- Polythene bags should be banned.* Express your views either for or against this statement.
- A memorable day in your life as a student.
- 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:

[10]

- a) Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper expressing your views on an article recently published in the newspaper.
- b) Your father has been transferred and you had to shift with him. Write a letter to your friend who stays in your old town describing the new town, the new school you are attending and how you are coping up with the change.

## Question 3

- (a) Your school is hosting an inter-school culinary competition. Write a notice to be displayed in your school, giving all details for the event. [5]
- (b) Write an e-mail to a renowned chef, requesting him/ her to be the judge for the event. [5]

## Question 4

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

“Which flowers do you like the best?” Octavian asked the children with eagerness in his voice.

“Those with all the colours over there.” Three little children pointed to a distant tangle of sweet-pea. Childlike, they had asked for what lay farthest from hand, but Octavian trotted off to obey their welcome behest. Octavian pulled and plucked and brought a lot of flowers he could see into his bunch. Then he turned to retrace his steps, and found no trace of Olivia, his two-year-old daughter. Far down the meadow three children were pushing a cart at the utmost speed they could muster in the direction of the cowshed; it was Olivia’s cart and Olivia sat in it.

Octavian stared for a moment at the rapidly moving group, and then he started in hot pursuit, shedding as he ran sprays of blossom from the mass of flowers that he still clutched in his hands. Fast as he ran, the children had reached the cowshed before he could overtake them. He arrived just in time to see Olivia being hauled and pushed up to the roof of the nearest cowshed.

“What are you going to do with her?” he panted.

“We are kidnapping her and keeping her with us,” said the boy.

“You surely wouldn’t treat my poor little Olivia in that way?” he pleaded.

“You had injured our cat,” came in stern reminder from three throats. A few days ago, Octavian’s poor helpless chickens had gone one by one to their doom, so it was in order that the cat, their destroyer had to be given a sound beating.

“I’m very sorry I did that,” said Octavian.

“We shall be very sorry when we’ve kidnapped Olivia,” said the girl. Before Octavian could think of any fresh line of appeal, his energies were called out in another direction. Olivia had slid off the roof and fallen into a dirty muck. Octavian scrambled hastily over the wall to her rescue, and at once found himself in a loose wet ground that

engulfed his feet. Octavian, battling on the slippery ground, saw his daughter slowly disappearing in the engulfing slush.

"I can't reach her in time," gasped Octavian; "she'll be choked in the muck. Won't you help her?"

"But you had injured our cat," came inevitable reminder.

"I'll do anything to show you how sorry I am about that," cried Octavian.

"Will you stand in a white sheet under the oak tree for three hours holding a candle?"

"Yes," screamed Octavian.

"All right," came the reply from the roof, and a moment later a short ladder was pushed across to Octavian, who lost no time in propping it against the low wall. Scrambling carefully along its rungs he was able to lean across the messy ground that separated him from his slowly sinking Olivia and extract her like an unwilling cork from its slippery embrace.

That same evening when twilight was deepening into darkness, Octavian took up his position as penitent under the lone oak tree. He held in one hand a lighted candle and in the other a watch. He felt certain that three pairs of solemn eyes were watching his moth – shared vigil.

- (a) Give the meanings of the following words as used in the passage. One-word answers or short phrases will be accepted. (3)
- behest
  - clutched
  - penitent
- (b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:
- What was the welcome behest which Octavian obeyed? (1)
  - Where did Octavian see Olivia first? What did Octavian see on arriving at the cowshed? (2)
  - What were the children going to do with Olivia? How was Octavian responsible for the children's action? (2)
  - Quote the lines which tells that both Octavian and Olivia were in a precarious position a little later? (2)
  - What penance did Octavian do for injuring the cat of the three children? (2)
- c] In not more than 50 words explain why Olivia was held captive by the three children and how she was rescued. (8)

### Question 5

- a) In the following passage, fill each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in the brackets. Do not copy the passage, but write in correct serial order, the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]

Once there was a swallow who 1 (decide) not to fly for the winter. However, when the weather turned cold, he reluctantly started 2 (fly) southwards. In a short time ice began to form on its wings and it fell to the earth frozen still.

A cow passed by and \_\_\_\_3\_\_\_\_ (drop) its dung on the little swallow. The dung warmed it and defrosted its wings. Warm and happy, able \_\_\_\_4\_\_\_\_ (breathe), it started to chirp. Just then a large cat came by and \_\_\_\_5\_\_\_\_ (hear) the chirping, found out where it was coming from, clawed away the dung and \_\_\_\_6\_\_\_\_ (swallow) the swallow.

The story shows that everyone who \_\_\_\_7\_\_\_\_ (drop) dung on you is not necessarily your enemy; everyone who gets you out of the dung is not necessarily your friend; and if you're warm and happy in a pile of dung, \_\_\_\_8\_\_\_\_ (keep) your mouth shut.

b) Fill in the blanks with appropriate words:

- (i) The noise is too much, but you'll have to put \_\_\_\_\_ with it.
- (ii) Our proposal was turned \_\_\_\_\_ by the teacher.
- (iii) The boy jumped \_\_\_\_\_ the wall.
- (iv) How did such a situation come \_\_\_\_\_?
- (v) The two neighbours have broken \_\_\_\_\_ their relations.
- (vi) This conversation brings \_\_\_\_\_ the difference between the two participants.
- (vii) We are doubtful \_\_\_\_\_ his ability to finish the project.
- (viii) You must protest \_\_\_\_\_ what is unjust.

[4]

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

- (i) My brother fell asleep. He was reading a novel.
- (ii) Lead an active life. Then you can be healthy.
- (iii) He is quiet honest. She knows it.
- (iv) He was praised. He was rewarded.

[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) Delhi is one of the most crowded cities in India.  
(Use: more crowded)
- (ii) Besides passing the examination well, he won the first prize.  
(Use: not only ..... but also)
- (iii) If you complete your homework by evening, you will not be punished.  
(Use: unless)
- (iv) No sooner had they searched the room than an alarm was raised.  
(Begin: Hardly...)
- (v) This was the best drama I had ever enjoyed.  
(Begin: Never...)
- (vi) Put your bags away, children may fall over them.  
(Use: lest)
- (vii) The students will have completed the work before Sunday.  
(Begin: The work...)
- (viii) If he were to hear of your success, he would be happy.  
(Begin: Should...)

[8]