

MARTHOMA RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL, THIRUVALLA
Second Terminal Examination December, 2019
Paper II - English Literature

Class - VII

Time: 2hrs
Marks: 80

Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow:

Extract 1

On the road, we passed dusty faced children bent double with huge bundles of grass on their backs and men leading flocks of shaggy goats that wandered hither and thither. As we drove on the landscapes changed to fresh-smelling deep lush green paddy fields and orchards of apricot and fig trees.

- What did the baggage contain and describe the bus Malala travelled? 3
- Were the passengers comfortably seated and what did they see. What do you mean by 'pile into'? 3
- Why did one feel on top of the world on reaching Shangla Top? What do you mean by 'ski'? 3
- What was on either end of the villages? How does the narrator describe them? 3
- How did the narrator and her family show their excitement about travelling to the village every year? 4

Extract 2

Down on the river at the karshat end was a shed with a wooden waterwheel providing power to turn huge millstones to grind wheat and maize into flour. Next to that was a smaller shed containing a panel with a confusion of wires sprouting from it.

- What is Swat Valley? Describe the village that lies about halfway along on the east? 3
- Why did the village not have electricity supply and how did they manage electricity? What do you mean by 'makeshift'? 3
- Did the people have access to medical healthcare? What did the people do when they fell ill? 3
- Explain the beauty of the Swat Valley with the message of peace? 3
- What description does the narrator give about the valley? 4

Extract 3

*No nightingale did ever chaunt
More welcome notes to weary bands
Of travelers in some shady haunt,
Among Arabian sands*

- What was the reaper doing when the speaker first saw her? 3
- Why does the speaker compare the reapers song to that of the nightingale and the cuckoo bird? What do you mean by 'vale'? 3
- Why does the speaker seem unsure about whether he wants to stay or move on? What do you mean by 'solitary'? 3
- Why does the poet want to know the theme of the song and what assumptions does he make? 3
- How is the poet affected by the song of the solitary reaper? 4

Extract 4

Suddenly she saw a young cow lying by the roadside, just where it had been struck by some fast moving vehicle. "Isn't that the same cow that ran in front of the bus on our trip to town?" she asked the conductor. The conductor nodded and she was overcome with sadness. What had been a lovable beautiful creature just a little while ago had now suddenly lost its charm and looks so frightening as it lay spread-eagled a fixed stare in its lifeless eyes..."

- a) What was Valli's pastime? 3
- b) How did she gather the information. What do you mean by 'overcome with sadness'? 3
- c) Describe the scenes that met her eyes? 3
- d) What was the sight that disturbed Valli? What had she seen just before? What do you mean by 'spread-eagled'? 3
- e) Describe the first bus journey as experienced by Valli? 4

Extract 5

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

- a) What does the speaker want the reader to do at due and what do you mean by self-denying? 3
- b) Why do you think the poet uses the word 'sunshine' here? 3
- c) Mention any two poetic devices and give one example each. 3
- d) Why will the day be worse than lost? What do you mean by 'livelong'? 3
- e) What does the poet try to convey through the poem 'Count That Day Lost'? 4