

MAR THOMA RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL
Second Terminal Examination 2019-20

Std. VIII

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Marks: 80
Time: 2 Hrs.

Question 1

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

Write a composition (200 -250 words) on any one of the following:

[15]

- a) Write an account of events that happened on a day when everything you wished for came true.
- b) Write an original short story which includes a little brave boy, rainy day, flooded river and the people of the nearby town.

Question 2

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

Select one of the following:

[10]

- a) You made a visit to an old age home during the last holidays.
Write a letter to your friend describing your experience.
- b) Write a letter to the Editor of your local newspaper complaining against the frequent failure of electric supply in your locality.

Question 3

- (a) Your school is hosting an Inter School Badminton Tournament.
Write a notice for the school notice board inviting students to submit their names. [5]
- (b) Write an e-mail to the Principal of a neighbouring school requesting him/her to send a team of three members to participate in the badminton tournament.. [5]

Question 4

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

Long ago there lived in a village a man and his wife with their little son. They were extremely poor. They had a small farm, which could produce barely enough sweet potatoes to keep body and soul together. Sometimes the man used to work as a porter to carry the produce of the larger farmers to the market at a distance of ten miles.

Time went on, the severe strain of his labour and the poor quality of food told upon the health of overworked father. Gradually he became a confirmed invalid and died after some time. After the funeral, the widow was left almost destitute. She was a woman, however, with a strong character, and she realized the absolute necessity of making up her mind at once as to her course of action. Soon a scheme came to her mind. It must be the secret of her life, which not even her own son should ever know.

After selling her cottage, she moved away to a quiet suburb outside the city. Then she discarded her woman's attire and dressed herself as a man. In no other way could she support herself and her child: for in China, a woman was under great disadvantage in the

way of earning her own living. She took up the job of a porter and used to carry as heavy a load as any of the men.

The years went by, and her little son grew up to be a fine young man. The mother had determined that he should be a scholar. One day her son came back home in an excited mood. "Father," he cried, "the great desire of your heart and of mine has been granted to us today. I have passed, and that too with honours, for my name stands at the very top of the list of those who have been adjudged successful. And now, my beloved father, there will be no more hard work for you. My name will soon be flashed throughout the Province. My fortune has indeed been made, and it is due entirely to the hardship you have endured."

All the time her son was talking, the mother's face shone with delight, for the hopes and wishes of her lifetime had come to her with a rush that almost overpowered her. The young fellow did not notice the deadly pallor that spread over his mother's face as he was speaking. She was a true and noble woman, with a high ideal of what a woman's life ought to be, and she dared not face the opinion of the world when it was discovered that she had lived as a man.

Next morning, at sunrise, when the son entered his father's room, he found him lying upon his bed, dead, but dressed in a woman's clothes. The story spread rapidly in every home, gentle and simple. The universal feeling was one of the intense admiration for the devotion and heroism which had caused the mother to sacrifice her life for her son. The Emperor issued an edict with an inscription carved upon the arch with the words: "The Wonderful Man."

- (a) Give the meanings of the following words as used in the passage. One-word answer or short phrases will be accepted.
- destitute
 - endured
 - pallor
- (b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:
- How did the man earn a living for his family?
 - What was the secret scheme planned by the lady? Why did she make such a plan?
 - What news did the son bring about his success? To whom did he attribute his success?
 - What was the reason for the deadly pallor on the lady's face?
 - What did the son see when he entered his father's room?
 - How was the mother honoured by the Emperor?

Question 5

- I Fill in with the present perfect or the present perfect continuous form of the words given in the brackets:
- He _____ just _____ (go) out.
 - Peter _____ (be) here since last summer.
 - She _____ (wait) for you all day.

II Fill in with the simple past or the past perfect form of the words given in the brackets:

(3)

- i) The festival _____ place here last week. (take)
- ii) I waited until every body _____. (leave)
- iii) We had already eaten when John _____ home. (come)

III Fill in with the future perfect or future perfect continuous form of the words given in the brackets:

(3)

- i) Jack _____ his homework by the time his mother gets home. (finish)
- ii) He _____ this book for three months by the end of this week. (write)
- iii) We will be making a rest stop in half an hour because you _____ the car for 6 hours by then. (drive)

IV) Fill in the blanks using the correct form of the verbs given in the brackets:

(3)

- i) A lot of people _____ tea to coffee. (prefer/ prefers)
- ii) A pair of shoes _____ in the box. (was/ were)
- iii) All advice _____ lost upon her. (was/ were)
- iv) Rama as well as his friends, _____ reading novels. (like/ likes)
- v) A thousand rupees _____ a big sum. (is/ are)
- vi) The jury _____ divided in their opinions. (was/ were)

V Rewrite the following sentences in passive voice:

(3)

- i) Someone has picked my pocket.
- ii) Who broke this jug?
- iii) Work hard.

VI Rewrite the following sentences in active voice:

(3)

- i) The clothes are being washed by him.
- ii) The essay was written by them.
- iii) Why were you punished by him?

VII Combine each of the following sentences as directed:

(4)

- i) He was tired. He went to sleep.
(Using a participle)
- ii) She plays the piano. She sings also.
(Using a cumulative conjunction.)
- iii) The coffee plant is an ever green shrub. It grows in hot countries.
(Using an adjective clause)
- iv) Work diligently. You will succeed.
(Using the adverb clause of condition)

VIII Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each.

- i) This shirt is so dirty that I cannot wear it.
(Use: 'too' instead of so—that)
- ii) Only a millionaire can afford such luxuries.
(Change into a negative sentence)
- iii) What a delicious flavour these mangoes have!
(Change into an assertive sentence)
- iv) Everybody wants to live in peace.
(Change into an interrogative sentence)
- v) Ashoka was the wisest king who ever reigned in India.
(Rewrite using 'wise')
- vi) He is not at all proud in spite of his wealth.
(Change into a complex sentence)
- vii) If you do not hurry, you will miss the train.
(Change into a compound sentence)
- viii) Time which is once lost is lost forever.
(Change into a simple sentence)