

MAR THOMA RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

Annual 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 (250 -300 words) on any one of the following: [15]

- a) Many people play very important roles in our lives. Describe in vivid detail any one person and show how he/she has played a very special influence in your life.
- b) Boarding schools are better than day schools for the all-round education of a child. Express your views either for or against this statement.

Question 2

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

Select **one** of the following: [10]

- a) You borrowed a book from a friend and lost it in a bus. Write a letter to your friend telling him/her about the loss and how you will make amends for it.
- b) Write a letter to the Inspector General of Police complaining about the anti-social activities in your locality.

Question 3

- (a) The social service club in your school is conducting a charity drive to collect books, stationery items and dresses for the under privileged children of the nearby locality. Write a notice informing the school mates about the event and inviting them to participate in the charity drive. [5]
- (b) Write an e-mail to the Principal of a neighbouring school requesting him/her to allow the students of his/her school to participate in the event. [5]

Question 4

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

The only thing the earth needed was a downpour or at least a shower. Throughout the morning, Lencho- who knew his fields intimately- had done nothing else but see the sky. It was during the meal that, just as Lencho had anticipated, big drops of rain began to fall. Huge mountains of clouds could be seen approaching.

Lencho went out for no other reason than to have the pleasure of feeling the rain on his body and when he returned he exclaimed, "These aren't raindrops falling from the sky, they are new coins. The big drops are ten cent pieces and the little ones are fives."

With a satisfied expression, he looked at the field, draped in a curtain of rain. But suddenly a strong wind began to blow and along with the rain, large hailstones began to fall. These truly did resemble new silver coins. The boys ran out to collect the frozen pearls.

Contrary to Lencho's prayers, it did not pass quickly. For an hour, the hail rained on the whole valley. The field was white, as if covered with salt. The corn was totally destroyed. Lencho's soul was filled with sadness. The hail had left nothing, he feared that they would have to go hungry that year.

But in his heart, there was a solitary hope: help from God. The following Sunday, he began to write a letter. "God," he wrote, "if you don't help me, my family and I will go hungry this year. I need a hundred pesos in order to sow my field again and to live until the crop comes.... ." He wrote 'To God' on the envelope and dropped it into the mailbox at a nearby post office.

The postmaster was amazed about the faith of the man who wrote the letter. So, in order not to shake the writer's faith in God, he decided to answer the letter. But to answer it, he needed something more than goodwill, ink and paper. He collected money 'for an act of charity' from his employees and friends, and was able to collect only a little more than half of what Lencho desired. He put the money in an envelope addressed to Lencho and with it a letter containing only a single word as a signature: God.

The next Sunday, Lencho came to enquire whether there was any letter for him and the postmaster handed over the envelope. Lencho showed not the slightest surprise on seeing the money ; such was his confidence-but he became angry when he counted the money. God could not have made a mistake, nor could he have denied Lencho what he had requested. Immediately Lencho sat down to write the reply. As soon as he dropped it into the mailbox, the postmaster opened it. It said, "God: of the money that I asked for, only seventy pesos reached me. Send me the rest soon, as I need it very much. But don't send it to me through the mail, because the post office people are a bunch of crooks. Lencho."

- (a) Give the meaning of each of the following words as used in the passage. (3)
One word answers or short phrases will be accepted.
- (i) draped (line 8)
 - (ii) resemble (line 10)
 - (iii) solitary (line 15)
- (b) Answer the following questions briefly in your own words:
- (i) How important was rain in Lencho's life? (2)
 - (ii) What brought about bad luck in Lencho's life in the beginning of the extract?
How? (2)
 - (iii) What request did Lencho make to God? (2)
 - (iv) What role did the postmaster play in supporting the writer's faith in God? (2)
 - (iv) State the reaction of Lencho after getting some money in response to his prayer. (2)
 - (v) Quote the sentence which concludes that Lencho had deep faith in God. (2)

Question 5

I Fill in with the blanks with suitable prepositions:-

(2)

- i) The police are looking _____ the matter.
- ii) The boy has started to work hard _____ 2018.
- iii) Vishal has repented _____ his wrong doings.
- iv) Early rising is beneficial _____ health.

II Fill in the blanks with the correct form of adverbs given in brackets:

(2)

- i) We did _____ out of all the contestants. (better/ the best)
- ii) We got here _____ than the other people (later/the latest)
- iii) Frank did _____ for the exam. (well/better)
- iv) The teacher looked at us _____ out of all the students. (more suspiciously/ the most suspiciously)

III Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs given in brackets:

(2)

- i) If I knew where she lived, I _____ and see her. (go)
- ii) If I had time, I _____ him. (help)
- iii) If he works hard, he _____ the test. (pass)
- iv) If we _____, we would have won the match. (practice)

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

(2)

- i) A person of high principles never _____ his word. (break)
- ii) They did not know when their son _____. (leave)
- iii) A lot of people _____ present. (be)
- iv) By 2022, we _____ here for 30 years. (live)

V Change the following sentences into passive voice:

(3)

- i) He opened the door.
- ii) We admire the brave.
- iii) Who purchased the green book?

VI Change the following positive sentences into comparative and comparative into superlative :

(3)

- i) No other monument in India is as magnificent as Taj Mahal.
- ii) Vivekananda is more respected than many other saints in India.
- iii) Copper is not as useful as Iron.

VII Change the following sentences into indirect speech :

(4)

- i) She said to me, "I have never seen such a lazy boy as you are."
- ii) Sona said to me, " Why did you scold my sister?"
- iii) He said to me, "Let us go for a picnic."
- iv) "Be respectful to your parents," said the teacher to the students.

VIII Combine each of the following pairs of sentences as is directed in the brackets : (4)

- i) She was scolded. Her uncle scolded her badly.
(Using an adverbial phrase)
- ii) It is raining. We will hold the exhibition.
(Using an adversative conjunction)
- iii) He was unwilling to go any further. He returned home.
(Using a participle)
- iv) I went there. The door was locked .
(Using a subordinating conjunction)

IX Do as directed in the brackets :

(8)

- i) He was so shy that he could not speak .
(Use: too)
- ii) Only the employee of the company need apply for the post.
(Begin: None...)
- iii) As soon as they entered the stadium, the match started.
(Begin : No sooner...)
- iv) Shall I ever forget favours done to me by you?
(Change into an assertive sentence)
- v) Though they are rich, they are not happy.
(Begin : In spite of...)
- vi) Do as I tell you or you will regret it.
(Begin : Unless...)
- vii) Climbing up the tree, he plucked some mangoes.
(Change into a compound sentence)
- viii) You remembered to buy sweets, didn't you?
(Begin : You didn't...)