

**12<sup>th</sup>**  
**STD**

**PUBLIC EXAM - MARCH 2023**

**PART - II**

**ENGLISH**

(With Answers)

Time Allowed : 3.00 Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 90

- Instructions :** 1. Check the question paper for fairness of printing. If there is any lack of fairness, inform the Hall Supervisor immediately.  
2. Use a **Blue** or **Black** ink pen to write and underline and pencil to draw diagrams.

**PART - I**

- Note :** (i) Answer **all** the questions.  
(ii) Choose the **most appropriate** answer from the given **four** alternatives and write both the option code and the corresponding answer for each question.

**(20 × 1 = 20)**

Choose the **most appropriate** synonyms of the words underlined in the following sentences:

- One is liable to put in too much milk.  
(a) eager (b) likely  
(c) forced (d) certain
- .....Anna would say with an impudent smile.  
(a) disrespectful (b) indifferent  
(c) ungrateful (d) misleading
- .....the end of such liberty would be universal Chaos.  
(a) confusion (b) mystery  
(c) failure (d) destruction

Choose the **most appropriate** antonyms of the underlined words in the following sentences.

- We can't appreciate light if we haven't known darkness.  
(a) reduce (b) forget  
(c) neglect (d) condemn
- There he was sitting in splendour on chair.  
(a) dejection (b) simplicity  
(c) shame (d) laziness
- In those days, they didn't have sophisticated heart surgery.  
(a) critical (b) artificial  
(c) primitive (d) dangerous

- Replace the underlined idiom with its suitable meaning.  
Raja betrayed his friend to save his skin.  
(a) avoid allergic reaction  
(b) protect himself from difficulty  
(c) help his suffering family  
(d) receive a coveted award
- Choose the suitable meaning for the idiom found in the following sentence.  
The Finance Department should get the ducks in a row before the audit.  
(a) be well-connected (b) be well-trained  
(c) be well-advanced (d) be well-organised
- Choose the word that can be placed after the word "wind" to form a compound word.  
(a) craft (b) pane (c) brake (d) screen
- The epic poem 'Paradise Lost' is considered as John Milton's magnum opus.  
The foreign phrase 'magnum opus' means the author's \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) most forgotten composition  
(b) most important work  
(c) most translated epic  
(d) most criticized document
- Fill in the blank with the suitable prepositional phrase.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Gandhiji, Ahimsa means infinite love.  
(a) In connection with (b) Except for  
(c) On behalf of (d) According to
- Choose the appropriate linker and complete the sentence.  
I could not attend the party \_\_\_\_\_. I had to take care of my ailing mother.  
(a) although (b) until  
(c) otherwise (d) because

13. Replace the British English word with its equivalent in American English.

Ramesh lifted the car's bonnet to check the engine.

- (a) Trunk (b) Hoot  
(c) Hood (d) Boot

14. Replace the underlined word with a suitable phrasal verb.

The meeting was postponed as the chairman was on an official tour.

- (a) put away (b) put off  
(c) put out (d) put on

15. Choose the word that has been spelt correctly.

- (a) existence (b) espionage  
(c) repurcussions (d) technicality

16. Identify the correct combination of the word "sunlight".

- (a) Adjective + verb (b) Gerund + Verb  
(c) Adverb + Noun (d) Noun + Noun

17. Form a new word by adding a suitable 'prefix' to the underlined word.

Today, I am certainly the most partial judge in England.

- (a) im (b) un  
(c) in (d) de

18. The expansion of the abbreviation IMF.

- (a) Indian Mountaineering Foundation  
(b) Indian Medical Foundation  
(c) International Military Force  
(d) International Manpower Force

19. Choose the appropriate question tag and complete the sentence.

Let's close our eyes and meditate for sometime, \_\_\_\_\_?

- (a) shall we (b) can't we  
(c) shan't we (d) can we

20. Choose the unclipped form of 'champ'.

- (a) champagne (b) campaign  
(c) chamberlain (d) champion

## PART - II Section - 1

Choose **any four** of the following sets of poetic lines and answer the questions that follow. **(4×2=8)**

21. "All through that summer at ease we lay,

And daily from the turret wall  
we watched the mowers in the hay."

- (a) Who does "we" refer to?  
(b) What could they watch from the turret wall?

22. "Then the whining school-boy, with his satchel  
And shining morning face, creeping like snail"

- (a) Which stage of life is being referred to here by the poet?  
(b) Identify the figure of speech employed in the second line.

23. "..... free imaginations

Bringing changes into a world resenting change".

- (a) How does free imagination help the world?  
(b) Identify the figure of speech.

24. "The giant wears the scarf, and flowers are hung  
In crimson clusters all the bough among!"

- (a) Who is the giant here?  
(b) Pick out the words in alliteration in the given lines.

25. "For some three Suns to store and hoard myself,  
And this gray spirit yearning in desire  
To follow knowledge...."

- (a) Explain "three Suns".  
(b) What does Ulysses yearn for?

26. "Legs wide, arms locked behind,  
As if to balance the prone brow  
Oppressive with its mind."

- (a) Whose action is described here?  
(b) What is meant by 'prone brow'?

## Section - 2

Do as directed.

Answer **any three** questions. **(3×2=6)**

27. Raju said, "I was playing tennis the whole morning.  
(Change into Indirect speech.)

28. I was not invited to the party. (Change the Voice.)

29. Unless you do these exercises regularly, you will not recover. (Rewrite as a compound sentence).

30. The work was over. We went home. (Rewrite using "when")

### PART - III

#### Section - 1

Explain **any two** of the following with reference to the context. **(2×3=6)**

31. "Our gates were strong, our walls were thick"
32. "They have their exits and their entrances"
33. "Life is hard; be steel; be a rock"

#### Section - 2

Answer **any two** of the following questions in not more than **30** words each. **(2×3=6)**

34. How did the narrator help the boys on Sunday?
35. What was the profound lesson that Dr. Barnard learnt from the boys?
36. When did the children get over the fear of sitting on the chair?

#### Section - 3

Answer **any three** of the following. **(3×3=9)**

37. Complete the proverbs choosing the right word from the list:

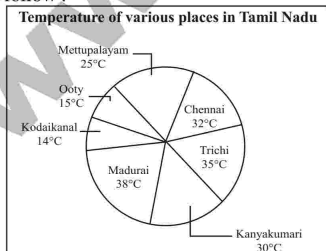
- (a) Brevity is the \_\_\_\_\_ of wit.  
(i) base (ii) soul (iii) root
- (b) One \_\_\_\_\_ does not make a summer.  
(i) eagle (ii) swallow (iii) owl
- (c) Necessity is the mother of \_\_\_\_\_.  
(i) adventure (ii) innovation  
(iii) invention

38. Rearrange the following jumbled sentences correctly.

- (a) get / in / at / 7 O'clock / I / up / morning / the
- (b) is / when / virtue / discipline / the most essential / should acquire / young / one
- (c) humanity / to the / pledge / to consecrate / service of / solemnly / myself / I / my life

39. Describe the process of making a glass of Mango juice.

40. Study the Pie-chart given and answer the questions that follow :



- (a) Which is the coolest place of all?
- (b) Which place has the second highest temperature?
- (c) Which places are hotter than Kanyakumari?

### PART - IV

Answer the following. **(7×5=35)**

41. Answer the following in a paragraph of about **150** words.

- (a) Summarise the distinctive ideas of George Orwell in the essay 'A Nice Cup of Tea'.

(OR)

- (b) What do you infer from Gardiner's essay 'On the Rule of the Road'?

42. Answer the following in a paragraph of about **150** words.

- (a) Describe the various stages of a man's life picturised in the poem 'All the World's a Stage'

(OR)

- (b) How was the young soldier's patriotism described in the poem, 'Incident of the French camp'?

43. Answer the following in a paragraph of about **150** words, by developing the hints.

- (a) Pi - survived - shipwreck - life boat - gets stranded in the Pacific - Bengal tiger - Richard Parker - on board - Pi searched for water - found stacks of cans - drinking water - elixir of life - gave him energy - managed to overcome fear - realized that alive - because of Parker - scared him earlier - brought peace - purpose - helped him survive for 227 days - left Parker in a jungle - reunited - family.

(OR)

- (b) Ausable - clever - secret agent - entered - his room - found - Max - aimed - pistol - lose - courage - quick - witty man - complained - balcony - intruder - window - management did not block - knocking - door - police - extra protection - important paper - Max - hid - balcony - fell to death - no police - no balcony - Ausable's plan - to get rid of Max.

44. (a) Write a summary of the following passage.

The aim of education is the overall development of the personality of man. It means the development of not only the mind but also the body. Games keep the body fit. A healthy mind can dwell only in a healthy body. For keeping a body healthy, games are indispensable. People who have developed the habit of playing games regularly can maintain good health. Games help to build a muscular body. They include sound sleep which is a sign of good health.

Therefore, games are food for the body as knowledge is food for the mind. In fact, 'all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy'. Everybody likes games because these keep them physically fit and mentally alert.

Games help us to keep our body active and vigorous. They enable us to face dangers boldly. When a person plays games, his blood circulation increases and his digestive system improves. He does not fall prey to any disease. Games inculcate in us the spirit of sportsmanship. They also teach us courage and perseverance.

(OR)

- (b) Write a paragraph on "The Importance of Reading".
45. (a) Write a letter to the Headmaster of your school requesting him to help you obtain a duplicate mark sheet of class XII, which you lost while travelling.

(OR)

- (b) Your friend is in hospital, undergoing treatment for a fractured leg. Write a letter of consolation, assuring him / her that he / she will get well soon.
46. (a) Read the following sentences, spot the errors and correct them.
- Usha is not only a writer but an orator.
  - Though she is weak but she is active.
  - The bus conductor gave me an one rupee coin.
  - Children prefer sweets than snacks.
  - Pradeep is my cousin brother.

(OR)

- (b) Fill in the blanks appropriately.
- I had no \_\_\_\_\_. My friend gave me a \_\_\_\_\_ of advice. (peace/piece)
  - How \_\_\_\_\_ you open my bag! (Fill in the blank with a semi-modal verb)
  - We \_\_\_\_\_ (see) a wonderful film at the cinema last night. (Fill in the blank with the right tense form)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ (shop) is my favourite hobby. (Use the gerundial form of the verb in the bracket)
47. (a) Develop the hints into a story of 150 words.
- A milkman - became wealthy - dishonest way - had to cross a river - reached city - mixed - river water - sold - customers bought - good profit - went around - purchased articles - clothes - returned to river - while crossing - boat capsized - all purchases lost - right punishment - for greed.

(OR)

- (b) Read the following passage and answer the questions given below.

The earth is losing its forests. Trees cover about 30 percent of the earth's surface, but they are being destroyed at an alarming rate especially in the tropics. Timber harvesting is a major reason for the destruction of the forests. Trees are used for building houses, making furniture and providing pulp for paper products, such as newspapers and magazines. At least 40 hectares of rain forests are being felled every minute, mostly in order to extract the valuable timber.

Questions :

- What is the major reason for the destruction of forests?
- Mention any two uses of trees.
- Why are rain forests being destroyed?
- How much of the earth's surface is occupied by trees?
- Pick out the word from the passage that means the same as "wood".

## Answers

### PART - I

- (b) likely
- (a) disrespectful
- (a) confusion
- (d) condemn
- (b) simplicity
- (c) primitive
- (b) protect himself from difficulty
- (d) be well-organised
- (d) screen
- (b) most important work
- (d) According to
- (d) because
- (c) Hood
- (b) put off
- (b) espionage
- (d) Noun + Noun
- (a) im
- (a) Indian Mountaineering Foundation
- (a) shall we
- (d) champion

### PART - II Section - 1

- (a) 'We' refers to the soldiers.
- (b) They could watch the mowers trimming the grass and levelling the lawns.
- (a) The second stage of life is being referred to here by the poet.
- 'Simile' is employed in the second line.
- (a) Free imaginations helps to bring changes in the world.
- 'Transferred Epithet' is used here.



24. (a) The casuarina tree is the giant here.  
(b) crimson - clusters
25. (a) The meaning of "Three suns" is three long years.  
(b) Ulysses yearns for gaining knowledge.
26. (a) Napoleon's action is described here.  
(b) The "Prone brow" means eye brow inclined downward. It conveys anxiety and concern.

### Section - 2

27. Raju said that he had been playing tennis the whole morning.
28. They didn't invite me to the party
29. Do these exercises regularly otherwise you will not recover.
30. When the work was over, we went home.

### PART - III Section - 1

31. **Reference** : This line is taken from the poem 'The Castle' written by Edwin Muir.

**Context** : The narrator wants to express the soldier's view on the strength of the castle.

**Explanation** : The castle gates were strong. The walls were thick, high and smooth. They believed that no man could enter the castle with this strong fortification.

32. **Reference** : These lines are taken from William Shakespeare's poem 'All the world's a stage'.

**Context** : The poet utters these words when he wants to express how man enters the world.

**Explanation** : Shakespeare considers the whole world a stage where men and women are only actors. They enter the stages when they are born and exit when they die. One man in his lifetime, plays many parts.

33. **Reference** : These lines are taken from the poem "A father to his son" written by Carl August Sandburg.

**Context** : The poet explains the aspects of being hard in character.

**Explanation** : The poet emphasises the need to have rock or steel - like determination to confront the challenges in life. He believes that such a stance would help his son to overcome boredom of the routine in life.

### Section - 2

34. The narrator helped the boys on Sunday by taking them to 'Poleta' in his car driving himself.
35. Dr. Barnard learnt from the boys that we should enjoy every moment of life and being alive should be the cause of celebrating life.
36. When the narrator's neighbour Suganthi placed her baby brother on the chair, the children got over the fear of sitting on the chair.

### Section - 3

37. (a) (ii) soul  
(b) (ii) swallow  
(c) (iii) invention
38. (a) I get up at 7 O'clock in the morning.  
(b) Discipline is the most essential virtue one should acquire when young.  
(c) I solemnly pledge myself to consecrate my life to the service of humanity.
39. (i) To make fresh mango juice, start by peeling 2 ripe mangoes and cutting them into small piece.  
(ii) Then, add the mango pieces into a blender along with 1 cup of water, 2 tablespoons of sugar and a few ice cubes.  
(iii) Next, blend everything together until the juice get smoothier.  
(iv) Now, mango juice is ready to serve.
40. (a) Kodaikanal - 14°C (b) Trichi - 35°C  
(c) Chennai (32°C), Trichi (35°C), Madurai (38°C)

### Part - IV

41. (a) George orwell suggests eleven points to prepare a nice cup of tea. First of all, one should use Indian or Ceylonese tea. Secondly, tea should be made in small quantities in a teapot. Thirdly, the pot should be warmed beforehand. Fourthly, the tea should be strong. Fifthly, the tea powder should be put straight into the pot. Sixthly, one should add water with tea powder, while it boils in the kettle. Seventhly, after making the tea, one should stir it, or give the pot a good shake. Eighthly, the author prefers the cylindrical cup to a flat one. Ninthly, milk with Cream always gives tea a sickly taste. Tenthly, tea should be poured into the cup first before adding milk. Finally the author wants to tell the people that drinking tea without sugar will give the real taste.

(OR)

- (b) A. G. Gardiner in his essay 'The Rule of the Road' points out what constitutes true liberty. The rule of the road means that in order "to preserve the

liberties of all, the liberties of everybody must be curtailed". When the policeman puts out his hand at Piccadilly Circus street, we must not think our liberty has been violated. If we are reasonable persons, we will reflect that if he didn't interfere, the result would be a commotion. We have to curtail our private liberties so that we can enjoy social order. Liberty is not a personal affair, but it is a social contract. It is an adjustment of interests. We have to preserve both the individual liberty and social liberty. By observing the rules of the road, we can judge ourselves as civilized or uncivilized. These habits of common place intercourse make our life journey sweet or bitter.

42. (a) Shakespeare pictures the various stages of a man in this poem. He says that the world is a stage. All of us are actors in it. We enter the stage, when we are born and exit when we die. Every man during his lifetime plays seven roles based on age. In the first stage, as an infant, he is wholly dependent on the mother. The second stage is a schoolboy crying to go to school. The third stage is a lover who composes sorrowful ballads to his lover. The soldier, who is aggressive and ambitious is the fourth stage. He seeks a reputation in whatever he does. Then comes the fifth stage, with maturity and wisdom, the stage of a judge. He is firm and serious. In the sixth stage, we see a thin old man with loose pantaloons and spectacles. The last stage is an old and weak man in his second childhood. Slowly, he loses his sight, hearing, teeth and sense of smell. With this, the man's part in the play ends and he exits from the stages of his life forever.

(OR)

- (b) During the attack of the French army on Ratisbon in 1809, Napoleon was anxious about the result. Napoleon was watching the war standing on a mound near the battlefield. All of a sudden, a rider appeared from the closed smoke and dust. He approached Napoleon. The rider was a young boy. He was severely wounded. He did not show any sign of pain. He jumped off his horse and told Napoleon that Ratisbon had been captured and then he himself had hoisted the French flag in the market place of Ratisbon. When Napoleon heard the news, his eyes flashed. His eyes softened when he saw that the soldier was severely wounded. The wounded soldier replied proudly that he was killed and died heroically.

43. (a) Pi was stranded in the Pacific on a lifeboat. As he looked around, he was shocked to find Bengal Tiger, Richard Parker on board. He was pinned by weakness having had no food, water or even sleep for nearly three days. His search for water took him dangerously close to Richard Parker, but nothing could stop him- neither Richard Parker nor the hyena. Strangely his thirst overpowered fear of Richard Parker and he went about exploring for freshwater. A little later, he succeeded in his search, when he found stacks of cans of drinking water. Pi came back to life and senses after drinking the elixir of life, the water gave him energy and he managed to overcome fear. Then, he realized that Parker, who scared him earlier, brought him peace, purpose and wholeness. He understood that it was Richard Parker, who helped him survive for 227 days. Pi left Richard Parker in a jungle and reunited with his family.

(OR)

- (b) Ausable was a clever secret agent. He was very fat. He had a room on the sixth and top floor of a French Hotel. Fowler was a writer. Ausable was waiting for an important report concerning some new missiles. It could change the course of history. Ausable saw Max, another secret agent, in his room. Max threatened him with a pistol demanding the report. Ausable told that he would complain to the hotel authorities to close the balcony, through which somebody used to enter easily into his room. There was a sudden knocking at the door. Ausable smiled and told that would be the police. Max got nervous. He asked Ausable to send the police back and he would wait on the balcony. Then Max jumped through the window. The door opened and a waiter came with drinks. Ausable told Fowler that there were no police and Max would not return as there was no balcony over there. Thus, it was Ausable's plan to get rid of Max.

44. (a)

Summary : Rough copy

#### Advantages of Games

The aim of education is the development of the personality of man. It is the development of the mind and the body. Swami Vivekananda's view was that only a healthy mind realizes God. A healthy mind dwells only in a healthy body and for a healthy

body, games are necessary. Games help to build a muscular body. Games keep the body fit. A sound sleep is a sign of good health. Games are food for the body as the knowledge is food for the mind. Games keep everybody physically fit and mentally alert. They keep our body active and vigorous. They instil in us the spirit of adventure. They enable us to face dangers. By playing games, the blood circulation and digestive system improve. They teach courage and perseverance.

**Fair Copy :**

### Advantages of Games

The aim of education is the development of the mind and the body. Swami Vivekananda's view was that only a healthy mind realizes God. A healthy mind dwells only in a healthy body and for a healthy body, games are necessary. Games help to build a muscular body. They keep the body fit. Games are food for the body as the knowledge is food for the mind. Games keep everybody physically fit and mentally alert. They keep our body active and vigorous. They instil in us the spirit of adventure. They enable us to face dangers. By playing games, the blood circulation and digestive system improve. They does not fall prey to any disease and have the spirit of sportsmanship.

(OR)

### (b) The importance of Reading

Reading is essential for a child's success. Learning to read is a sequential process. Each new skill builds on the mastery of previously learned skills. The ability to read is a vital skill in being able to function in today's society. Reading is important because it helps to expand the mind and develops the imagination. It also develops the creative side of a person. It helps to improve our vocabulary and spelling both in writing and speaking. It plays an important part in building a good self-image. A lack of strong reading comprehension skills affects a child's success at school as academic progress depends on understanding, analysing and applying information gathered through reading. Therefore we have to develop the habit of reading at an early age. The greatest gift is a passion for reading.

45. (a)

From

XXX

YYY

15<sup>th</sup> March, 2023

To

The Principal,  
RMM Hr. Sec. School,  
Poonamallee, Chennai.

Dear Sir,

Sub : Requisition - Duplicate mark sheet regarding.

I would like to bring to your kind notice that I had missed my marksheet of class XII while travelling. Therefore, I kindly request you to help me to obtain a duplicate mark sheet.

Thank you,

Yours sincerely,

XXX

**Address on the envelope :**

To

The Principal,  
RMM Hr. Sec. School,  
Poonamallee, Chennai.

(OR)

(b)

Chennai

15<sup>th</sup> March, 2023

My dear friend,

Hope this letter of mine finds you recovering fast! I was very much shocked and concerned to have known about your sudden accident. I have already told you, your bike skidded on the wet road! Thank God, it is just a minor fracture on the elbow bone! You were timely admitted and treated by professional doctors. Such unexpected things do happen in life.

Dont' worry about the studies you are missing. I will keep providing you the notes and updates. My prayer always there for your recovery. Soon, I am coming to see you. Be hopeful.

Convey my regards to all.

Yours lovingly,

XXX.

**Address on the Envelope :**

To

XXX

3, K.K. Street, St. Thomas Mount,  
Chennai - 600016.

46. (a) (i) Usha is not only a writer but also an orator.  
(ii) Though she is weak, she is active.  
(iii) The bus conductor gave me a one rupee coin.  
(iv) Children prefer sweets to snacks.  
(v) Pradeep is my cousin.

(OR)

(b) Fill in the blanks appropriately:

- (i) peace, piece  
(ii) dare  
(iii) saw  
(iv) shopping

47. (a) A milkman became very wealthy through dishonest way. He had to cross a river daily to reach the city where his customers lived. He mixed the water of the river generously with the milk that he sold for his customers with a good profit. One day he went around collecting the dues in order to celebrate the wedding of his

son. With the large amount thus collected he purchased plenty of rich clothes and glittering gold ornaments. But while crossing the river the boat capsized and all his costly purchases were swallowed by the river. The milk vendor was speechless with grief. At that time he heard a voice that came from the river, "Do not weep". What you have lost is only the illicit gains you earned through cheating your customers. Thus, he got right punishment for his greed.

(OR)

- (b) (i) Timber harvesting is a major reason for the destruction of the forests.  
(ii) Trees are used for building houses, making furniture and providing pulp for paper products.  
(iii) By extracting the valuable timber.  
(iv) 30 %  
(v) Timber.