

CLASS XI - ENGLISH CORE CLASS TEST (Full Marks: 20)

(A) Read the extract and answer the questions: (5 marks)

"She hobbled about the house in spotless white with one hand resting on her waist to balance her stoop and the other telling the beads of her rosary. Her silver locks were scattered untidily over her pale, puckered face, and her lips constantly moved in inaudible prayer. Yes, she was beautiful. She was like the winter landscape in the mountains, an expanse of pure white serenity breathing peace and contentment."

(i) As part of her daily routine suggested in the extract, the grandmother's actions reflect that she:

- a) struggled to complete her household work independently
- b) remained absorbed in a spiritual and disciplined way of living
- c) avoided interacting with others in the house
- d) tried to hide her physical weakness from others

(ii) The narrator transforms what could be seen as physical frailty into dignity and grace mainly by:

- a) focusing only on her external appearance and clothing
- b) highlighting her inability to move freely around the house
- c) presenting her as isolated and detached from her surroundings
- d) combining her physical description with her continuous prayer and calm presence

(iii) Fill in the blank with a suitable phrase:

The description of the grandmother's lips moving in "inaudible prayer" highlights her _____.

- a) deeply internalised spiritual devotion
- b) mechanically habitual religious practice

(iv) With reference to the line "Yes, she was beautiful," the narrator's idea of beauty is best reflected in:

- a) her carefully maintained physical appearance
- b) her youthful energy and liveliness
- c) her calm, pure, and peaceful presence
- d) her ability to manage household responsibilities

(v) Select the option that correctly uses the phrase "spotless white" in the same way as used in the extract:

- a) The temple stood in spotless white, symbolising peace and purity.
- b) He wore a spotless white shirt to impress the interview panel.
- c) The walls were painted spotless white after the renovation work.
- d) She kept her shoes spotless white despite the muddy roads.

(B) Read the extract and answer the questions: (5 marks)

"The cardboard shows me how it was
When the two girl cousins went paddling,
Each one holding one of my mother's hands,
And she the big girl – some twelve years or so."

(i) The opening line gives life to an inanimate object. This effect is mainly created because the cardboard is presented as:

- a) a decorative object with no deeper meaning
- b) something capable of revealing a past moment
- c) a symbol of childhood innocence only
- d) an object used for writing personal memories

(ii) Fill in the blank with a suitable phrase:

The line "Each one holding one of my mother's hands" highlights a sense of _____.

- a) shared affection and dependence
- b) forced companionship and control

(iii) A reader observes that the phrase "she the big girl" is used to distinguish one figure in the image. This distinction is mainly based on:

- a) her physical strength compared to others
- b) her role as a guide for the cousins
- c) her relative age among the children
- d) her emotional closeness to the poet

(iv) On the basis of the extract, choose the correct option with reference to the two statements given below.

Statement 1: Each cousin held the hands of poet's mother.

Statement 2: The poet's mother was the big girl.

- a) 1 can be inferred from the extract but 2 cannot
- b) 2 can be inferred from the extract but 1 cannot
- c) only 2 is true
- d) 2 is the reason for 1

(v) The lines do not follow a strict rhyming pattern but rely more on meaning and imagery. This can be justified because:

- a) the lines end with identical sounding words
- b) the poem uses a fixed rhyme scheme throughout
- c) the emphasis is on description rather than sound pattern
- d) the lines are written in a musical rhythm with repetition

(C) Fill in the blanks with correct form of verb (6 marks)

1. Recently, several members _____ (express) their concerns repeatedly about the proposed policy.

2. Over the past few months, she _____ (work) on a research paper that explores the psychological impact of social media usage among teenagers.

3. The moment the principal entered the auditorium, the students, who _____ (create) a lot of noise until then, fell silent.

4. Before the authorities realised the seriousness of the issue, the situation _____ (already/escalate) beyond control.
5. By this time next year, the organisation _____ (expand) its operations to at least five more countries.
6. At 10 a.m. tomorrow, the new policy will be discussed by the board members while the media _____ (wait) outside for an official statement.

(D) NOTICE-WRITING

(4 marks)

You are Mrinal Roy/Mrinalini Roy, the Cultural Secretary of Sunrise Public School. Draft a notice informing students of Classes XI and XII about an inter-school Literary Fest, inviting participation in events like debate, creative writing and poetry slam. Include details about registration, selection process and deadlines.