



Second Term Test - Grade 12 - 2018

Index No. ....

English - I

Three hours only

Instructions

- \* Answer **all** the questions in **Part A** and **Part B**.
- \* The texts you choose to answer questions from **Part A**, CAN BE TAKEN TO ANSWER questions from **Part B**
- \* Write the number and letter of each question clearly.

Part A

( This part carries **32 marks**. each question carries **08** marks)

- 1.) **Comment briefly on any one of the following passages, explaining its significance to the play from which it is taken.**
  - a. She thank'd me',  
And bad me ,if I had a friend that lov'd her,  
I should but teach him how to tell my story,  
And that would woo her.Upon this hint I spake,  
She loved me for the dangers I had pass'd,  
And I lov'd her for she did pity them.  
This is the only witchcraft I have us'd.  
Here becomes the Lady:let her witness it.
  - b. Honey,don't push with your fingers .If you have to push with something, the thing to push with is a crust of bread. And Chew! Chew! Animals have sections in their stomachs with enable them to digest food without mastication, but human beings are supposed to chew their food before they swallow it down. Eat food leisurely son, and really enjoy.
  - c. Sit down?Huh...I haven't had a proper sit down... I haven't had a proper sit down...Well I couldn't tell you...

2.) **Comment briefly on any one of the passages, explaining its significance to the novel from which it is taken**

- a. She slowly began to inhabit the hut around her, empty except for the iron bed, the children asleep on the vehicle seats- the other objects of the place belonged to another category: nothing but a stiff rolled-up cowhide, a hoe on a nail, a small pile of rags and part of a broken Primus stove, left against the wall. The hen and chickens were moving there; but the slight sound she heard did not come from them. There would be mice and rats. Flies wondered the air and found the eyes and mouths of their children, probably still smelling of vomit, dirty, sleeping, safe.
- b. 'What use' my mother said,' that a girl should be learned! Much good will it do her when she has lusty sons and a husband to look after. Look at me, am I any worse that I cannot spell my name, so long as I know it? Is not my house clean and sweet? Are not my children well fed and cared for?'My father laughed and said indeed they are, 'and did not pursue the matter ;nor did he give up his teaching.
- c. The first time I went to an Indian restaurant in Canada I used my fingers. The waiter looked at me critically and said, "Fresh off the boat, are you?" I blanched. My fingers, which a second before had been taste buds savouring the food a little ahead of my mouth, became dirty under his gaze. They froze like criminals caught in the act. I didn't dare lick them. I wiped them guiltily on my napkin. He had no idea how deeply those words wounded me. They were like nails being driven into my flesh. I picked up the knife and fork. I had hardly ever used such instruments. My hands trembled. My sambar lost its taste.
- d. "It was only my whim," he said; and, after a moment's hesitation: "It was on account of a discovery I made some little time ago, whilst I was hunting up pedigrees for the new county history. I am Parson Tringham, the antiquary, of Stagfoot Lane. Don't you really know, Durbeyfield, that you are the lineal representative of the ancient and knightly family of the d'Urbervilles, who derive their descent from Sir Pagan d'Urberville, that renowned knight who came from Normandy with William the Conqueror, as appears by Battle Abbey Roll?"

- 03) **Comment briefly on the following passage, explaining its significance to the short story from which it has been taken.**

"I'm going down and get that kitty," the American wife said.

"I'll do it," her husband offered from the bed.

"No, I'll get it. The poor kitty out trying to keep dry under a table."

The husband went on reading, lying propped up with the two pillows at the foot of the bed.

"Don't get wet," he said.

The wife went downstairs and the hotel owner stood up and bowed to her as she passed the office.

His desk was at the far end of the office. He was an old man and very tall.

- 04) **Comment briefly on the following extract, explaining its significance to the poem from which it has been taken.**

Outside the wind despoils of leaf  
Trees that is used to nurse;  
Once more the flamboyante is torn,  
The sky cracks like a shell again,  
So someone practical has gone  
To make them bring the hearse  
Before the rain.

### **Part B**

**(This part carries 68 marks. Each question carries 17 marks)**

- 05) **Drama**

Answer any **one** of the following questions.

- a. "Evil and goodness are two contrasting concepts represented by the characterization in **Othello** by Shakespeare" How is this done effectively in the exposition of the drama?
- b. How are the main characters exposed in the drama **The Glass Menagerie** by Tennessee Williams?
- c. Explain how the setting is used effectively to introduce the main characters in **The Caretaker** by Harold Pinter?
- c. How is the conflict introduced in the drama **Sizwe Bansi is Dead** by Athol Fugard?

**05 ) Novel**

Answer any **one** of the following questions.

- a. How is July viewed as a humane person in the beginning of the novel **July's People** by Nadine Gordimer?
- b. "The struggle against poverty is a central issue introduced in the beginning of the novel **Nectar in a Sieve** by Kamala Markandaya". Comment.
- c. How does Yann Martel create a fantastic and imaginary setting in the beginning of the novel **Life of Pi**?
- d. How is Tess viewed as a sensitive character? Illustrate from the beginning part of the novel **Tess of d'Urbervilles** by Thomas Hardy

**06) Short story**

Answer any **one** of the following questions.

- a. "In **Action and Reaction**, Chithra Fernando handles Loku Naendas misinterpretations of virtue with irony and subtle humour." Do you agree?
- b. "What the American wife needs is warmth, friendliness and attention. "Is it a fair comment when you read **The cat in the Rain** by Ernest Hemingway?
- c. What insights do the short stories you have studied in the AL syllabus offer about the interrelationships among people?

**07) Poetry**

Answer any **one** of the following questions.

- a. How do different poets discuss the Influence of Nature on man in diverse ways? Discuss by referring to at least TWO poems in your syllabus.
- b. By selecting at least TWO poems in your syllabus, discuss how social injustice has affected the life styles of people.
- c. Critically analyse ONE of the following:
  - i. Shared issues contained in two poems in your syllabus.
  - ii. State of maturation in the speakers in *Fisherman Mourned by his Wife* by Patrick Fernando and *Remember* by Christina Rossetti.
  - iii. Similarities and differences in the human attitudes of people living in different socio-cultural backgrounds in any two poems in your syllabus.



**Second Term Test - Grade 12 - 2018**

Index No. .... English - II Three hours only

**Instructions**  
• This question paper consists of four questions. All questions are compulsory.

**01) Write a composition on ONE of the following topics, paying attention to relevant facts and supporting evidence, structure, organization, coherent argument, accurate language and expression. (30 marks)**

1. Increase of Young suicide rates in Sri Lanka.
2. Elections: is it to safeguard or violate the rights of people?
3. "Literature Humanizes People"
4. A creative essay which includes the following sentence either at the beginning or at the end.  
" It was the one last wish of her..."
5. A review of a book which deals with the theme of Cultural Alienation.
6. A report of Port City Project in Sri Lanka.

**02) Reading comprehension and précis.**

(a) Read the following passage and answer the questions given below it. (10 marks)

Invention of computers is regarded as one of the greatest advances in modern technology. We are heading fast on the close of this present century towards a situation when a computer will be as much part of man’s daily life as a telephone or a calculator.

Now there is hardly any sphere of human life where computers have not been pressed in to service of man. They are widely used in Industries and in Universities . Some years ago an expert on automation , Sir Leon Bagrit , pointed out that it was a mistake to believe that these machines could ‘think’ . There's no possibility that human beings will be “ controlled by machines”. Though computers are capable of learning from their mistakes and improving on their performance, they need detailed instructions from human beings to operate. They can never ,as it were, lead independent lives or” rule the world” by making decision of their own.

Sir Leon said that in future, computers would be developed which would be small enough to carry in the pocket. Ordinary people would than be able to use them to obtain valuable information. Computers could be plugged into a national network and be used like radios. For instance, people going on holiday could be informed about weather conditions. Car drivers can be given alternative routes when there are traffic jams. It will also be possible to make tiny

translating machines. This will enable people who do not share a common language to talk to each other without any difficulty or to read foreign publication. It is impossible to assess that importance of a machine of this sort, for many international misunderstandings are caused simply through our failure to understand each other. Computers will also be used in ordinary public hospitals, by providing a machine with a patient's systems; a doctor will be able to diagnose the nature of illness. Similarly machines could be used to keep a check on a patient's health record and bring it up to date. Doctors will therefore have immediate access to a great many facts which will help in their work. Bookkeepers and accountants too could be relieved of dull clerical work, for the tedious task of compiling and checking lists of figures could be done entirely by machines. Computers will also be able to tell the exact age a man is going to live, with the help of his blood picture. Computers are the most efficient servants man has ever had and there is no limit to the way they can be used to improve our life style and life.

Computers can solve the most complex mathematical problems or put thousands of unrelated facts in order. They are capable of doing extremely complicated work in all branches of learning. These machines can be put to varied uses. For instance, they can provide information on the best way to prevent traffic, or they can count the number of times the word "and" has been used in the Bible. Because they work accurately and at high speed, they save the research workers hard work. This whole process by which machines can be used to work for us has been called 'automation'. In the future 'automation' may enable human beings for more leisure than they do today. The coming of automation is bound to have important social consequences. This can be cited as greatest advancement in modern technology.

**\* Write the letter of the correct answer in your answer script against the number of the relevant question**

1. The greatest advancement in modern technology is,
  - a) Computer Industries
  - b) Invention of computers.
  - c) Technology used in universities.
  - d) Telephone.
  
2. Which of these can NOT be considered as a use of computers?
  - a) Acting as a helping aid in learning.
  - b) Seeing the relationship of facts.
  - c) Finding the credibility of facts in the Bible.
  - d) Acting with high accuracy.
  
3. Computer Automation means,
  - a) Complicating work in branches of learning.
  - b) Solving complex mathematical problems.
  - c) Ordering thousands of unrelated facts.
  - d) Process and method of giving service to people.
  
4. Prediction of Sir Leon about computers states how,
  - a) Ordinary people use computers because of its development and size.
  - b) mistakes are done by using computers.
  - c) human beings will be controlled by machines.
  - d) the computers are capable of learning from mistakes.

5. A more suitable title to the passage would be,
  - a) Advances in Modern Technology.
  - b) Invention and Uses of Computers.
  - c) Control of Machines.
  - d) Computer Automation.
  
- (b). Write a **précis** summarizing the passage given in question number 2 above, following the instructions given below. Use your **own words** as far as possible. (20 marks)
  1. Begin the précis on a **new sheet**. Divide your page into **5 columns**, number the lines.
  2. Write the précis in approximately **150** words.
  3. State the **number of words** you have used.

**03) Read the following passage and answer the questions given below it, using your own words as far as possible. (20 marks)**

Stepan Arkadyevitch was a truthful man in his relations with himself. He was incapable of deceiving himself and persuading himself that he repented of his conduct. He could not at this date repent of the fact that he, a handsome, susceptible man of thirty-four, was not in love with his wife, the mother of five living and two dead children, and only a year younger than himself. All he repented of was that he had not succeeded better in hiding it from his wife. But he felt all the difficulty of his position and was sorry for his wife, his children, and himself. Possibly he might have managed to conceal his sins better from his wife if he had anticipated that the knowledge of them would have had such an effect on her. He had never clearly thought out the subject, but he had vaguely conceived that his wife must long ago have suspected him of being unfaithful to her, and shut her eyes to the fact. He had even supposed that she, a worn-out woman no longer young or good-looking, and in no way remarkable or interesting, merely a good mother, ought from a sense of fairness to take an indulgent view. It had turned out quite the other way.

"Oh, it's awful! oh dear, oh dear! awful!" Stepan Arkadyevitch kept repeating to himself, and he could think of nothing to be done. "And how well things were going up till now! how well we got on! She was contented and happy in her children; I never interfered with her in anything; I let her manage the children and the house just as she liked. It's true it's bad HER having been a governess in our house. That's bad! There's something common, vulgar, in flirting with one's governess. But what a governess!" (He vividly recalled the roguish black eyes of Mlle. Roland and her smile.) "But after all, while she was in the house, I kept myself in hand. And the worst of it all is that she's already...it seems as if ill-luck would have it so! Oh, oh! But what, what is to be done?"

There was no solution, but that universal solution which life gives to all questions, even the most complex and insoluble. That answer is: one must live in the needs of the day--that is, forget oneself. To forget himself in sleep was impossible now, at least till nighttime; he could not go back now to the music sung by the decanter-women; so he must forget himself in the dream of daily life.

"Then we shall see," Stepan Arkadyevitch said to himself, and getting up he put on a gray dressing-gown lined with blue silk, tied the tassels in a knot, and, drawing a deep breath of air into his broad, bare chest, he walked to the window with his usual confident step, turning out his feet that carried his full frame so easily. He pulled up the blind and rang the bell loudly. It was at once

answered by the appearance of an old friend, his valet, Matvey, carrying his clothes, his boots, and a telegram. Matvey was followed by the barber with all the necessaries for shaving.

1. How is Stepan Arkadyevitch viewed as a person?
2. Explain the nature of conflict faced by Stepan.
3. What factors are provided in the text to get the social background of the characters?
4. Is there any resolution for the conflict? Explain how it can be achieved?
5. Do you think Stepan has good judgement? Why?

**04) Read the following poem and answer the questions given below it, using your own words as far as possible. (20 marks)**

*Meeting at Night*

The gray sea and the long black land;  
And the yellow half-moon large and low:  
And the startled little waves that leap  
In fiery ringlets from their sleep,  
As I gain the cove with pushing prow,  
And quench its speed i' the slushy sand.

Then a mile of warm sea-scented beach;  
Three fields to cross till a farm appears;  
A tap at the pane, the quick sharp scratch  
And blue spurt of a lighted match,  
And a voice less loud, through joys and fears,

1. Explain the setting to the poem.
2. Comment on the images used in the poem.
3. Do you think the title is suggestive? How does the poet do it ?
4. What is remarkable of this meeting?
5. How is the background used effectively to convey the main idea in the poem?



**Second Term Test – 2018**  
**Marking scheme (English-73)**  
**Grade. 12 - Paper II**

**1.Composition**

For topics (1),(2),(3)- Factual essay

Content-10 marks

Organisaton-5 marks

Grammar and spelling -10 marks

Style and diction -5 marks

For topic (4) – creative essay

Content-10 marks

Organisaton-5 marks

Grammar and spelling -10 marks

Style and diction -5 marks

For topic no. (5) – Review

Location statement/Identification - 2 marks

Content – 10 marks

Evaluation – 8 marks

Language/ mechanics – 10 marks

For topic no. (6) – Report

Content /Purpose– 8 marks

measures taken – 5 marks

Results/Recommendations – 7 marks

Lanuage and format – 10 marks

**Question 2.- ( Precis and Reading Comprehension)**

a.Reading MCQs (2x5=10 marks)

1-b

2-c

3-d

4-a

5-b

b.Precis

content – 7 marks

organization -4 marks

Paraphrasing – 4 marks

Accuracy of language – 4 marks

Length – 1 mark

**Questions 3 and 4 (4x5=20 marks )**