

Melroy Anthony Souachne Hazra K. Banerjee  
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# ST. LAWRENCE HIGH SCHOOL



## MODEL ANSWER- 2018

Sub: English B

Class: XII

F. M. 80

Duration: 3 Hours 15 Mins

Date: 13.11.2018

### PART-A

1. Answer any two of the following questions each in about 100 words: 6x2=12

a) How was the Tsar's enemy turned into a loyal friend?

The bearded man was the enemy of the Tsar who sore to revenge himself on the Tsar because he had executed his brother and seized his property. The man came to know that the Tsar had gone alone to visit the hermit, and he resolved to kill the Tsar on his way back. But day passed and the Tsar did not return. So the man came out of his ambush and came upon the Tsar's bodyguard recognized him and wounded him. The man somehow escaped from them and reached to the Tsar. The Tsar wounded his wounds till he revived. He realized that the tsar had saved his life. He asked for pardon and promised to serve his savior faithfully throughout his life and instruct his sons to do the same. The Tsar was happy to have gained an unknown enemy as a loyal friend.

b) Why do you think the autobiographical piece has been entitled "Strong Roots" Justify your answer.

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's inclination to highlight the role of his family, relatives and mentors in the shaping of his career reflects his gratitude towards them. It is a narrative where Dr. Kalam recollects the secure days of his childhood. The ascetic life led by his parents, his mother's benevolent nature, the spiritual and moralistic lessons he received from his father, all these helped him to stay rooted to his homeland, to his country, even after achieving exemplary success. The strong foundation of his character made by his parents brought him success in every step of his later life. Thus the title is justified.

c) "But the thought of laughter only made me feel troubled and lonely" - Why did the narrator feel so?

The narrator knew that the girl would leave the train in a while and forget all about him whereas he would treasure her memory for a long time. The narrator's blindness had isolated him from the rest of the world. He knew that the moment the girl would leave he would be left again in his usual realm of darkness and solitude. The girl's departure would shut the door again which had opened temporarily for the outer world. In such a mental state the thought of laughter only made him feel lonely.

d) "When I get through you sir, you are going to remember Mrs. Luella Bates Washington Jones" - Why do you think the woman would prove to be unforgettable to Roger and what kind of a person would he remember her as?

Mrs. Jones would prove to be the one who would bring about a change in Roger, who would teach Roger that there are other ways apart from stealing to get the desired thing. The treatment of kindness and faith that Roger would receive from her would make him remember her throughout. Mrs. Jones provided him with food and also gave him ten dollars which made him feel that she was a noble individual. She helps Roger to set a new strategy for life.

Roger would remember Mrs. Jones as a strong woman who knows how to overcome troubles and at the same time soft and generous at heart.

2. Answer any two of the following questions in not more than 100 words: 6x2=12

a) Why does Shakespeare think that a comparison between his beloved friend and a summer's day would be inappropriate?

Sonnet 18 is a poem in which the speaker praises the beloved's beauty by comparing it to a summer's day. By the second line of the poem, though, we know that the beloved's qualities far exceed the positive traits of the summer's day mentioned in the first line. Unlike the

Summer's day, the beloved is "more lovely and more temperate.", the speaker goes on to explain that the summer can be too hot and can pass too quickly. On the other hand, the beloved's beauty lasts beyond that short season: "But thy eternal summer shall not fade Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st;" The beloved has an "eternal summer." The admirable qualities of summer that make us praise it and long for it are everlasting in the beloved, while the season of summer itself inevitably ends and leads into autumn. The "season" of the beloved's beauty does not end and it does not lose its lovely traits. The sonnet concludes with the speaker's most explicit explanation of how the beloved's beauty can last forever. The beloved will not die because he lives "in eternal lines," or in Shakespeare's poem. As long as men can see and can read this poem, the beloved and his beauty will continue.

b) Comment on the significance of the title of the poem "On Killing a Tree".

To the world of human conscience, Gieve Patel's poem "On Killing a Tree" does convey to us a sense of irony that has been echoed through splendid pieces of poetic exuberance. It feels like that cutting down a tree almost becomes a ceremonial task. At the surface level the readers are exposed to the time-consuming task of killing a tree and on a deeper level the perversity and tragedy of the action is implied as the tree stands as the symbol of the flame of life invariably implicating the sense of murder by the human beings. As a simple jab of the knife or hacking and chopping can't not kill a tree, a cruel man uses a number of ruthless methods to kill a tree. So in order to kill a tree, its life-supporting root is to be removed from the earth. It has to be roped, tied and pulled out or snapped out entirely from the 'earth-cave'. Then as the process of uprooting is completed, the tree has to be browned, hardened, twisted and withered and choked in the air and the scorching sunlight. And finally the tree gets killed in the process, awakening our sense of spiritual values and reminding us as how brutally we treat the trees which, in reality, are our best friends. Thus, the title with an elegiac note points out the utter callousness and savagery of man towards trees and it brilliantly captures the mood of the poem. So the title is an excellent choice.

c) Express the anti-war attitude of the poet in the poem 'Asleep in the Valley'.

'Asleep in the Valley' is undoubtedly a war poem. But the after-effect of war is subverted by the poetic techniques of the poet. The poet uses subtle techniques to make the war-ravaged valley appear bearable. The poet, through this poem, speaks of many things like death, war and life. But mostly, he chooses to focus on the life retained after war is waged and destruction is wrought. The poet's dilemma here is to either choose death or life, and he chooses life. But with the choice comes the inevitable threat of death. His poem then entangles itself in a dialogue between life and death and uses 'sleep', which encompasses both, to provide the main symbol of the poem.

d) Comment on the use of symbolism in the poem 'The Poetry of Earth'.

The sonnet is inherently a Romantic poem. It has all the sensibilities of the much-talked-about age. The creative energies in the poem are spread like dense foliage. Each line reverberates with the sounds of nature that bursts forth in Keats's poem. This poem is above all, a repository of the calls of nature, the voice of the grasshopper, of the cricket, and of the songs of the birds. The poem also encompasses two extreme climates, the extreme hot and the extreme cold. Summer and winter are expressed as two unbearable entities, each an imposing, strong figure that has to be fought with. The poetry of earth perhaps is akin to the poetic impulse of Keats himself.

### 3. Answer any one of the following questions in not more than 100 words: 6x1=6

a) What aspect of the human condition and society does the play make fun of?

In Chekhov's *Russia*, marriage was a means of economic stability for most people. They married to gain wealth and possessions or to satisfy social pressure. The satire is conveyed successfully by emphasizing the couple's foolish arguments over small things. In *The Proposal* by Anton Chekhov, the theme is that marriage is not as romantic as some people believe. The theme is based on two people who love each other by fighting. Lomov and Natayla act like a married couple before they become engaged. They are argumentative from the start. The audience laughs and begins to wonder where the romance is in a marriage proposal. Through laughter and ridiculous situations, Chekhov makes a point about marriage very gently – the way it is negotiated in a society in which he lived.

b) What are the reasons of dispute regarding Oxen Meadows? What are the results of it?

Everything is going well when Natalya first enters the room. They chat pleasantly about the weather and agriculture. Ivan attempts to bring up the subject of marriage by first stating how he has known her family since childhood. As he touches upon his past he mentions his family's ownership of the Oxen Meadows. Natalya stops the conversation to clarify. She believes that her family has always owned the meadows, but Lomov clarifies that his aunt's grandmother gave the free use of those Meadows in perpetuity to the peasants of Chubokov's grandfather, in return for which they were to make bricks for her. The peasants belonging to Chubokov's grandfather had the free use of the Meadows for forty years and they got into the habit of regarding them as their own. Natalya denies it. This disagreement ignites a caustic debate, one that sends tempers flaring and Ivan's heart palpitating.

After they yell at each other, Ivan feels dizzy and tries to calm himself down and change the subject back to matrimony, only to get immersed in the argument yet again. Natalya's father joins the battle, siding with his daughter, and angrily demanding that Ivan leave at once.

c) How did Natalya react when she heard about Lomov's marriage proposal?

Natalya was very quarrelsome and abusive by nature. She began a bitter quarrel with Lomov over the Oxen Meadows that had little value. She said that those meadows were not much worth to her but she could not stand unfairness. This disagreement ignites a caustic debate, one that sends tempers flaring and Ivan's heart palpitating. After they yell at each other, Ivan feels dizzy and tries to calm himself down and change the subject back to matrimony, only to get immersed in the argument yet again. Natalya's father joins the battle, siding with his daughter, and angrily demanding that Ivan leave at once.

But when she learnt that Lomov had come to propose to her, she forgot all fairness and unfairness. She began to wail over the lost chance. She forced her father to call him back which proves that she was equally desperate to get married.

#### 4. A) Do as directed:

1x6=6

i. The Tsar said to him, "I have come to you wise hermit to ask you to answer three questions."  
(Change the Mode of Narration)

I. The tsar told the hermit that he had come to the wise hermit to ask him to answer three questions.

ii. Lying on the bed the man closed his eyes.

(Change the Voice)

ii. Lying on the bed the eyes of the man was closed by him.

iii. People with good eyesight fail to see what is right in front of them. (Change into a Negative Sentence)

iii. People with good eyesight do not see what is right in front of them.

iv. She was a large woman with a large purse that had everything in it. (Change into a Simple Sentence)

iv. She was a large woman with a large purse having everything in it.

v. From the stove there shrills the cricket's song, in warmth increasing ever. (Change into a Complex Sentence)

v. From the stove there shrills the cricket's song, in warmth which is ever increasing.

vi. It was a fairly large pucca house. (Change into an Interrogative Sentence)

vi. Wasn't it a fairly large pucca house?

#### B. Fill in the blanks using appropriate articles and prepositions:

1/2 x 6=3

There was some confusion in the doorway. A man, getting into the compartment, stammered an apology. Then the door banged, and the world was shut out again.

#### C. Correct the error in the following sentence by replacing the underlined word with the right one from the options given below:

1

You had already been answered..

(Options: were, have, was)

You have already been answered.

#### 5. A. State whether the following statements are True or False:

1x4=4

i. The narrator's first visit to the house was on the morning of his departure. False

ii. Up-stairs certain visitors were waiting for audiences. True

iii. The bell was rung once or twice. False

iv. Most of the gentlemen had their hats on. True

**B. Answer the following questions briefly:**

2x3=6

- i. Describe the President's mansion.
- i. The President's mansion is more like an English club-house, both within and without, than any other kind of establishment. The ornamental ground about it has been laid out in garden walks; they are pretty, and agreeable to the eye; though they have that uncomfortable air of having been made yesterday, which is far from favourable to the display of such beauties.
- ii. Why were few people eyeing the movables closely?
- ii. A few were closely eyeing the movables, as if to make quite sure that the President (who was far from popular) had not made away with any of the furniture, or sold them for his private benefit.
- iii. What were the gentlemen doing?
- iii. Some of the gentlemen had ladies with them, to whom they were showing the premises; others were lounging on the chairs and sofas; others, in a perfect state of exhaustion from listlessness, were yawning drearily.

**6. a) Write a report on a free health check-up camp sponsored by Rotary Club for the benefit of slum dwellers.**

2+8=10

Free Health Check-Up by Rotary Club for the slum-dwellers

A free health check up was held on .....

.....

.....

- Date:
- Reported by
  - Full Name
  - Designation
  - Club's Name

[The report should be written in grammatically correct sentences and correct spellings.]

**OR**

**b) Write a letter against wrong delivery of five books and asking to replace them at the earliest.**

[Format 1, as an individual]

Sender's Address

Pin Code

Receiver's Address

Pin Code

Date

Sub:

Salutation,

.....

Thank You.

Yours faithfully,  
Full Name.

[Format 2, as part of a book selling shop]

Champion Book House  
25/A CIT Road  
Kolkata - 700009

Ref No: E - 44/D/12

Date:13.11.2018

Indira Prakashani  
5C NKC Bose Road  
Kolkata - 700045

Sub: Wrong delivery of books

Sir,

.....  
.....  
.....  
Thank You.  
Yours Faithfully,  
Full Name.  
(Proprietor)

OR

c) Write a précis of the following passage. Add a suitable title.

2+8=10

Title

[A summary should be written in about one-third of the original passage mentioning the salient features of the original passage. Direct lines from the original passage must not be copied. Sentences should be grammatically correct and without spelling errors. Number of words should be mentioned at the end.]

### PART-B

1. Complete the following sentences, choosing the correct answers from the alternatives given below:

1x4=4

- a) The narrator was going to Mussoorie via-  
i. Dehra  
b) Kalam's house was located at the -  
i. Mosque Street  
c) Who would help the Tsar to fix the proper time for everything?  
iii. council of wise men  
d) The woman was sitting on a -  
ii. day-bed

2. Answer any four of the following questions in a complete sentence:

1x4=4

- a) What sounds were heard by the narrator as the train drew slowly into the station?  
a) As the train drew slowly into the station, the narrator heard shouting of the porters and vendors and a high-pitched female voice near the carriage door.  
b) According to Kalam, how can one achieve "happiness and peace of mind"?  
b) Once an individual severs his emotional and physical bond, he can achieve freedom as well as "happiness and peace of mind".  
c) How does Kalam describe himself as a boy?  
c) Kalam describes himself as a short boy with undistinguished looks.  
d) What game did the narrator play with his fellow-travellers?  
d) The narrator tried to hide his blindness from the fellow travelers. He pretended that he could see and it was a fascinating game for him to guess the things happening outside the window.  
e) What did Mrs. Jones do after finishing supper?  
e) After supper Mrs. Jones got up and gave Roger ten dollars for buying blue suede shoes and advised him to behave properly in the future.  
f) What kind of women visited the hotel beauty shop?  
f) All kinds of women came there starting from blondes to red-heads and Spanish.  
g) What was the hermit doing when the Tsar finally approached him?  
g) The hermit was sowing seeds in the beds that had been dug the day before.  
h) Why according to the hermit was man sent into this life?  
h) According to the hermit, man was sent into this life only for doing good to people around him.

3. Complete the following sentences, choosing the correct answers from the alternatives given below:

1x4=4

- a) The phrase 'earth-cave' indicates:

- iv. the gaping hole in the earth when the roots are pulled out
- b) The soldier's innocence is described through which simile:
  - i. his smile is innocent
- c) Death has no control over –
  - iv. poetry
- d) Who has wrought silence in "The Poetry of Earth"?
  - ii. frost

**4. Answer any four of the following questions in a complete sentence: 1x4=4**

- a. What does "anchoring earth" signify in the poem?
  - a. The word "anchoring" has been attributed to earth as it tightly grips the roots of the tree for holding it right in its position.
- b. What is meant by 'sun-soaked bed'?
  - b. "Sun-soaked bed" is the green earth on which the sunrays fall making it warm and that serves as a bed for the dead soldier.
- c. How does the reader come to know that the soldier is dead?
  - c. The readers come to know that the soldier is dead with the final depiction of the soldier's body where two red holes mark the wounds of bullet.
- d. What does the tree absorb from nature?
  - d. The tree absorbs sunlight, air and water from the nature.
- e. What does the tired grasshopper do?
  - e. The tired grasshopper takes rest beneath some pleasant weed.
- f. Who mistakenly identifies the cricket's song as the grasshopper's song?
  - f. A person, half lost in drowsiness on a winter evening mistakenly identifies the cricket's song as the grasshopper's song.
- g. How long will the poet's friend live?
  - g. As long as people of the earth read this sonnet, the poet's friend will live through the lines of this poetry.
- h. What does the young friend of the poet possess?
  - h. The young friend of the poet possesses eternal beauty.

**5. Complete the following sentences, choosing the correct answers from the alternatives given below: 1x4=4**

- a) When Lomov came to meet Natalya, she was –
  - ii. shelling peas for drying
- b) The request which Lomov made to Chubokov was –
  - iv. to ask the hand of his daughter
- c) Lomov paid for Guess –
  - iv. 125 roubles
- d) Chubokovs had put off their own threshing till –
  - i. November