

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, SEPTEMBER 2020
BRANCH XII – ENGLISH
SIXTH SEMESTER

COURSE : MAJOR ELECTIVE

SUBJECT CODE: 15EL/ME/LT55

PAPER : ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

TIME : 1 ½ HOURS
MAX. MARKS : 50

SECTION A

I Answer any three of the following questions in about 200 words each. (3 x 5 = 15)

1. What is reinforcement? What kind of reinforcement is suitable for a learning situation?
2. What are the differences between language learning and language acquisition?
3. Discuss the Communicative Language Teaching Method.
4. Explain the theory of forgetting with relevant examples.
5. Define syllabus. What are the characteristics of a good syllabus?

SECTION B

II Answer any one of the following in about 500 words. (1 x 15 = 15)

6. Name any three approaches to teaching a Second Language. Write a note on any one of them.
7. How is the Behaviourist Psychology of Learning different from the Cognitive Psychology of Learning?
8. What are the different types of tests? How do you evaluate their reliability?

SECTION C

III Read the passage given below and frame tasks as specified below. (20 marks)

The Cock-headed Snake

There is a belief in parts of Kerala that a large cock-headed snake lives in the deep forests. The story goes that this highly venomous snake, some 15 feet long – i.e. the size of a king cobra – black and brown in colour, has a prominent crest like that of a cock. The further embellishment is that it has been heard to crow like a cock, sometimes to cluck like a hen and, even occasionally, to whistle. It is also reported to spit venom.

In Malabar, the snake is called kozhipoovan, karinchathi and karinkoli, the last two being also used for the king cobra.

There is no such snake known to science. Interestingly, this story is very similar to that of the cockatrice in legends in the West. The cockatrice, or the basilisk, is a mythical creature born of the egg of a cock hatched by a serpent. It has a cock's head complete with the comb and a serpent's body and it is reputed to kill by a look.

One ingenuous explanation for the cockatrice has to do with the habit of snakes to shed their skins. Speaking of the black mamba, Vivian Fitzimous says: In old specimens, the skin is often incompletely shed, particularly over the top and back of the head, and a loosely attached plume or crest of old skin remain for some time before being completely detached; this has given rise to the belief in the existence of the so called "crested mamba", as distinct from the normal form. So widely established has this belief become in Zululand that the Zulus have a special name for it, "Indlondlo" meaning an "old snake with a crest or protuberance at the back of the head." Referring to this account, Sherman A. Minton Jr. and Madge Rutherford Minton say, "If it is possible that stories of such snakes, carried by word of mouth from deep in Africa, to the Mediterranean seaports, formed a part of the basis for the cockatrice and basilisk legend."

Similarly, it is not unlikely that a king cobra, incompletely moulted, with part of the dead skin projecting from its head – no doubt a rare sight – has been mistaken for the "cock-headed snake." Incomplete shedding, or desdecdysis, can occasionally occur in snakes because of poor health, dermatitis, mite infestation, malnutrition, inappropriate humidity, trauma etc.

The king cobra, of course, does not spit venom. Nor does it crow like a cock or cluck like a hen or whistle. But it has occasionally been heard to growl!

(adapted from B. Vijayaragavan's article that appeared in *Madras Musings*, Aug 16)

9. Reading Comprehension	- 1 task, 5 items each	5 marks
10. Grammar	- 2 tasks, 3 items each	6 marks
11. Vocabulary	- 1 task, 4 items each	4 marks
12. Writing Skills	- 2 tasks	5 marks
