

**STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600086**  
**(for candidates admitted during the academic year 2019-20 & thereafter)**  
**SUBJECT CODE:19EL/FC/LL23**

**B.A./B.Sc./BVA/B.Com./BSW DEGREE EXAMINATION APRIL/MAY 2021**  
**BRANCH XII - ENGLISH**  
**SECOND SEMESTER**

**COURSE: FOUNDATION ENGLISH**  
**PAPER: LANGUAGE THROUGH LITERATURE II**

**TIME: 1 ½ HOURS**  
**MARKS: 50**

**SECTION A**

**I. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. (10 Marks)**

Suddenly there was a scream or two from the women, and a commotion. Unperceived by the elders, May, the nine-year-old girl, in a spirit of play, had shut Agatha in the vault. She had then shot the bolts and turned the knob of the combination as she had seen Mr. Adams do.

The old banker sprang to the handle and tugged at it for a moment. "The door can't be opened," he groaned. "The clock hasn't been wound nor the combination set."

Agatha's mother screamed again, hysterically. "Hush!" said Mr. Adams, raising his trembling hand. "All be quite for a moment. Agatha!" he called as loudly as he could. "Listen to me." During the following silence they could just hear the faint sound of the child wildly shrieking in the dark vault in a panic of terror.

"My precious darling!" wailed the mother. "She will die of fright! Open the door! Oh, break it open! Can't you men do something?"

"There isn't a man nearer than Little Rock who can open that door," said Mr. Adams, in a shaky voice. "My God! Spencer, what shall we do? That child—she can't stand it long in there. There isn't enough air, and, besides, she'll go into convulsions from fright."

Agatha's mother, frantic now, beat the door of the vault with her hands. Somebody wildly suggested dynamite. Annabel turned to Jimmy, her large eyes full of anguish, but not yet despairing. To a woman nothing seems quite impossible to the powers of the man she worships.

"Can't you do something, Ralph—try, won't you?" He looked at her with a queer, soft smile on his lips and in his keen eyes. "Annabel," he said, "give me that rose you are wearing, will you?"

Hardly believing that she heard him aright, she unpinned the bud from the bosom of her dress, and placed it in his hand. Jimmy stuffed it into his vest-pocket, threw off his coat and pulled up his shirt-sleeves. With that act Ralph D. Spencer passed away and Jimmy Valentine took his place.

“Get away from the door, all of you,” he commanded, shortly.

He set his suit-case on the table, and opened it out flat. From that time on he seemed to be unconscious of the presence of anyone else. He laid out the shining, queer implements swiftly and orderly, whistling softly to himself as he always did when at work. In a deep silence and immovable, the others watched him as if under a spell.

In a minute Jimmy’s pet drill was biting smoothly into the steel door. In ten minutes—breaking his own burglarious record—he threw back the bolts and opened the door. Agatha, almost collapsed, but safe, was gathered into her mother’s arms.

Jimmy Valentine put on his coat, and walked outside the railings toward the front door. As he went he thought he heard a far-away voice that he once knew call “Ralph!” But he never hesitated. At the door a big man stood somewhat in his way. “Hello, Ben!” said Jimmy, still with his strange smile. “Got around at last, have you? Well, let’s go. I don’t know that it makes much difference, now.” And then Ben Price acted rather strangely.

“Guess you’re mistaken, Mr. Spencer,” he said. “Don’t believe I recognize you. Your buggy’s waiting for you, ain’t it?” And Ben Price turned and strolled down the street.

1. Why could the vault not be opened? (2 marks)
2. How did Agatha’s mother react when she realised her daughter was trapped in the vault? (1 mark)
3. How did Jimmy Valentine save Agatha? (3 marks)
4. Why didn’t Ben Price arrest Jimmy Valentine? (2 marks)
5. Frame sentences of your own with any two of the following words. The words must be used in the same sense as in the passage. (2 marks)  
a) frantic b) dynamite c) queer d) convulsion e) hesitate

## SECTION B

**II. Answer any two of the following in about 75-100 words each: (2x10=20 marks)**

6. Who is Abe Slaney? Why did he murder Hilton Cubitt?
7. What is Ulysses’ advice to his fellow mariners?

8. In Kate Chopin's "The Story of an Hour", what caused Mrs. Mallard's death?

### SECTION C

**III. Change the voice and rewrite the following sentences. (1x5=5 marks)**

- a. The 'Best Outgoing Student' award was given to Rose.
- b. Someone painted this building last year.
- c. Alexander Fleming discovered Penicillin in 1928.
- d. Last night's dinner was prepared by my aunt Tara.
- e. The company was shut down by the politician.

**IV. Convert the following sentences from direct speech to indirect speech.**

**(1x5=5 marks)**

- a. He said, "I'll be working in Indore for the next six months."
- b. Tina asked her mother, "Is Canberra the capital of Australia?"
- c. "Don't forget your laptop bag", she reminded her friend.
- d. "Where is my umbrella?" he asked.
- e. "Peter, do you prefer tea or coffee?" Monica enquired.

### SECTION D

**V. Read the following passage and make notes: (10 marks)**

The striking thing about a country as vast as India is the sheer, overwhelming variety that it encompasses—of landscapes, cultures, languages, cuisines, and even UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Yet of its 35 cultural and natural heritage sites, travelers frequent only about a dozen. They miss some of India's most outstanding wonders either because they are tucked in a little known, far-flung corner, or because they're hiding in plain sight, in the shadow of an oft-visited attraction.

Up for a surprise? Here are two of India's little known UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Khangchendzonga National Park is a forest in Sikkim, one of India's northeastern states, has been included on the UNESCO World Heritage list as a place of mixed natural and cultural importance. The two are intrinsically tied: The Rathong Chu River, which runs through Khangchendzonga National Park, and its surrounding valley are held sacred by the local Lepcha people and in Tibetan Buddhism, ensuring the forest survives intact.

The park has tremendous geographical diversity. The landscape varies from slopes covered with thick rhododendron forests to rocky mountains with 18 glaciers. There are 19 peaks towering more than 19,000 feet, crowned by the Khangchendzonga, the world's third highest at 28,169 feet.

The forest provides refuge to the rare red panda, while its higher mountainous reaches are the haunt of the elusive snow leopard. It's also popular with birders, with over 500 species found here.

Goa's convents and churches have been on UNESCO's list for over 30 years. Yet the thousands of visitors who come to its sunny beaches each year rarely travel inland to explore the southern state's cultural side.

Rent a scooter and ride into the balmy air for a tour of the highlights. The most famous is the Basilica of Bom Jesus, which houses the remains of St. Francis Xavier, known as the "Apostle of the Indies." Though partially in ruin, the church is a great example of Baroque architecture in India.

Goa's oldest surviving church is the Church of Our Lady of Rosary, built soon after Portuguese general Alfonso de Albuquerque conquered Goa in 1510. It's decorated with naval motifs like anchors and sea shells to reflect the Portuguese mastery of the seas.

Dedicated to St. Catherine of Alexander, Se Cathedral is one of the largest in Asia. The 16th-century structure had two towers of which only one still stands today. This contains the gigantic Golden Bell, named so for its dulcet tones.

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