

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2011– 12 & thereafter)

SUBJECT CODE: 11EL/FC/EC13

B.A. / B.Sc. / B.V.A. / B.Com./B.S.W. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2012

FIRST SEMESTER

COURSE : FOUNDATION ENGLISH
PAPER : ENGLISH CORE - I
TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS : 100

I. Read the following passages and answer the questions that follow. (2x15=30)

a. Playtime came and Isabel was surrounded. The girls of her class nearly fought to put their arms round her, to walk away with her, to beam flatteringly, to be her special friend. She held quite a court under the pine trees at the side of the playground. Nudging, giggling together, the little girls pressed up close. And the only two who stayed outside the ring were the two who were always outside, the little Kelveys. They knew better than to come anywhere near the Burnells. For the fact was, the school the Burnell children went to was not at all the kind of place their parents would have chosen if there had been any choice. But there was none. It was the only school for miles. And the consequence was that all the children in the neighbourhood, the judge's little girls, the doctor's daughters, the store-keeper's children, the milkman's were forced to mix together. Not to speak of there being an equal number of rude, rough little boys as well. But the line had to be drawn somewhere. It was drawn at the Kelveys. Many of the children, including the Burnells, were not allowed to speak to them. They walked past the Kelveys with their heads in the air, and as they set the fashion in all matters of behaviour, the Kelveys were shunned by everybody. Even the teacher had a special voice for them and a special smile for the other children when Lil Kelvey came up to her desk with a bunch of dreadfully common-looking flowers.

1. Why did Isabel's friends surround her at playtime? (2)
2. Who are the 'little Kelveys'? (2)
3. Why did the parents of the Burnell children feel that they did not have a choice with regard to the school the children attended? (2)
4. What does the author mean by "but the line had to be drawn somewhere"? (2)
5. How did the other children treat the Kelveys? (2)
6. "Even the teacher had a special voice for them and a special smile for the other children...". What do you understand about the teacher from this? (2)
7. Make your own sentences using any three of the words given below. The sentences should bring out the meaning of the words in the context of the passage. (3)

surround nudge choice behaviour shun

b. We wear our fingers rough with handling them
 Oh, just another kind of outdoor game,
 One on a side. It comes to little more:
 There where it is we do not need the wall:
 He is all pine and I am apple orchard.
 My apple trees will never get across
 And eat the cones under his pines, I tell him.
 He only says, 'Good fences make good neighbors'.
 Spring is the mischief in me, and I wonder
 If I could put a notion in his head:
 'Why do they make good neighbors? Isn't it
 Where there are cows?
 But here there are no cows.
 Before I built a wall I'd ask to know
 What I was walling in or walling out,
 And to whom I was like to give offence.
 Something there is that doesn't love a wall,
 That wants it down.'

1. What is the activity in which the two characters are engaged ? (2)
2. Why do you think the persona calls their activity "another kind of outdoor game"? (2)
3. What is the reason given by the persona to his neighbor for not having a wall between them? (2)
4. Give reasons for the neighbour's response: "Good fences make good neighbors". (2)
5. Why is the persona not convinced by that response? (2)
6. What do you think is the message conveyed in this poem? (2)
7. Make your own sentences using any three of the words/phrases given below. The sentences should bring out the meaning of the words in the context of the poem. (3)

get across orchard notion offence wonder

II. Write a paragraph of 75 words each on any TWO of the following: (2x5=10)

- a. How do the Kabuliwala and Mini become friends? What do they talk about?
- b. Describe the mother's relationship with her daughter in 'Why a Robin'?
- c. What is the constant reply of the little girl in 'We are Seven'? Why does she not agree with the persona's view?
- d. 'Wilson's Bridge' narrates the stories of women who threw themselves off the bridge. Who were they? Why did they take such a step?

III. Fill in the blanks choosing words from the list given below: (10 marks)

wrist comfort notion steady know conversation
cushion northern offended arms inquiry passenger

In the buses of Delhi all of us make use of one another for bodily _____. In _____ India people have great difficulty in keeping _____ in moving vehicles, and therefore they lean against one another or put their _____ round a fellow passenger. Nobody is so ill-natured as to mind being used as a _____, and if anyone with a wholly alien _____ of private ownership in respect of his body objects, he is asked in _____ tones, 'What harm is there in it, you are not a woman?' Again if someone wants to _____ the time and has not got a watch he simply takes up the left hand of another _____ and looks at his wristwatch. I wear mine on the underside, and therefore I have my _____ twisted.

IV. Write a paragraph of about 75 words on any one of the following: (10 marks)

- a. The Olympics
- b. The Need for Road Safety
- c. My Favourite Leader

V. Develop the following hints into a paragraph of about 75 words. (10 marks)

Cold winter morning -- commotion outside window – Rahamat in handcuffs – two policemen -- blood soaked clothes and knife – crowd. People explain-- money owed by neighbour for Rampuri chadar – tried to lie – brawl ensued – Rahamat stabbed him.

VI. Fill in the blanks using appropriate articles: (1x15=15)

- a. In many developed countries, it is considered inappropriate or exploitative if ____ child below ____ certain age works. ____ employer is usually not permitted to hire ____ child below ____ certain minimum age. This minimum age depends on ____ country and ____ type of work involved. Child labour laws in ____ United States set the minimum age to work in ____ establishment without restrictions and without parents' consent at sixteen years of age. According to UNICEF, there is ____ estimated 250 million children aged 5 to 14 in child labour worldwide, excluding child domestic labour. The United Nations and the International Labor Organization consider child labour exploitative.
- b. Gelatin is ____ protein substance that comes from ____ skins and bones of animals. Most people know it as ____ substance used to make jelly. It is beneficial to ____ consumer because of its high protein content. The process of producing gelatin is ____ long and complex one.

VII. Fill in the blanks using appropriate prepositions:**(1x15=15)**

- a. Two wandering poets _____ a faraway kingdom arrived _____ the Mughal court. Akbar was pleased _____ their recital. He rewarded them _____ gold coins. To express their gratitude, the poets sang in praise _____ Akbar. One _____ the poets sang that Akbar was even “greater than God”. The poets left. The court thought _____ the poet’s words. How could the poet compare a human being _____ God? These thoughts passed _____ everyone’s mind but none dared say it. Emperor Akbar looked _____ the court trying to read the reactions of the courtiers.
- b. Peter sat writing _____ his table _____ his room. He had described, _____ the benefit _____ those who could not imagine it, what the Mughal gardens look like _____ March.
