

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

SUBJECT CODE: 11EL/MC/PR14

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2012
BRANCH XII – ENGLISH
FIRST SEMESTER

COURSE : MAJOR – CORE
PAPER : PROSE
TIME : 3 HOURS **MAX. MARKS : 100**

I. Attempt a short analysis of any one of the following passages with special focus on themes, structure and Technique: (1×15 = 15)

But if it be stopped, and cannot have his way, it becometh adust and thereby malign and venomous. So ambitious men, if they find the way open for their rising, and still get forward, they are rather busy than dangerous; but if they be checked in their desires, they become secretly discontent, and look upon men and matters with an evil eye, and are best pleased when things go backward; which is the worst property in a servant of a prince or state. Therefore it is good for princes, if they use ambitious men, to handle it so as they be still progressive and not retrograde; which because it cannot be without inconvenience, it is good not to use such natures at all. For if they rise not with their service, they will take order to make their service fall with them.

OR

Here the children fell a crying, and asked if their little mourning which they had on was not for uncle John, and they looked up, and prayed me not to go on about their uncle, but to tell them, some stories about their pretty dead mother. Then I told how for seven long years, in hope sometimes, sometimes in despair, yet persisting ever, I courted the fair Alice W---n; and, as much as children could understand, I explained to them what coyness, and difficulty, and denial meant in maidens -- when suddenly, turning to Alice, the soul of the first Alice looked out at her eyes with such a reality of re-presentment, that I became in doubt which of them stood there before me, or whose that bright hair was; and while I stood gazing, both the children gradually grew fainter to my view, receding, and still receding till nothing at last but two mournful features were seen in the uttermost distance, which, without speech, strangely impressed upon me the effects of speech; "We are not of Alice, nor of thee, nor are we children at all. The children of Alice called Bartrum father.

II. Answer any Three of the following in about 350 words each : (3 ×15 = 45)

1. Discuss the stylistic devices employed by Bacon in his essay.
2. Comment on the element of humour in Addison's essay "Ladies Head Dress".
3. Bring out the historical significance of Lincoln's speech.

4. Nehru's letters to Indira subtly teach the nuances of politics, philosophy and the culture of India. Elucidate.
5. Shashi Tharoor's newspaper column is a thematic debate on the challenge for peace. Explain.

III. Answer any Two of the following in about 500 words each: (2 × 20 = 40)

1. List out the features of the personal essay with special reference to Lamb's "Dream Children".
2. Compare and contrast the presentation of ideas of any two newspaper columns prescribed for study.
3. "To be simple is difficult but to be difficult is simple." Does J. B. Priestley's essay "On Doing Nothing" complement the idea? Substantiate .
4. Critically examine the style of any one of the speeches prescribed for study.
