

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2019-20 and thereafter)

SUBJECT CODE: 19EL/FC/LL43

B.A./B.SC./ B.S.W. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2023
FOURTH SEMESTER

COURSE: FOUNDATION CORE
PAPER: LANGUAGE THROUGH LITERATURE – IV

TIME: 3 HOURS
MAX. MARKS: 100

SECTION A

I. Read the following extract and answer the questions given below. (15 marks)

It was still raining cats and dogs when they returned to the sad city. Many of the streets were flooded. "Who cares?" Rashid cried angrily. "Let's walk home. I haven't had a good soaking in years."

Haroun had been worried that Rashid would be depressed about returning to the apartment full of broken clocks and no Soraya, so he gave his father a suspicious look. But Rashid skipped out into the wet, and the wetter he got, as they walked through shin-deep muddy water, the more boyishly happy he became. Haroun began to catch his father's good mood, and soon the two of them were splashing and chasing each other like children.

After a while Haroun noticed that, as a matter of fact, the city streets were full of people fooling around in the same way, running and jumping and splashing and falling and, above all, laughing their heads off.

"Looks like this old city finally learnt how to have fun," Rashid grinned.

"But why?" Haroun asked. "Nothing's changed, has it? Look, the sadness factories are still in production, you can see the smoke; and almost everybody is still poor..."

"Hey, you, long-face," shouted an elderly gent who must have been at least seventy years old, but who was dancing through the flooded, rainy streets, waving a rolled umbrella like a sword. "Don't you sing those Tragedy Songs round here."

Rashid Khalifa approached this gentleman. "We've been out of town, sir," he said. "Has something happened while we we've been away? A miracle, for example?"

"It's just the rain," replied the old bird. "It's making everybody happy. Me, included. Whee! Whoopie!" And he skipped away down the road.

"It's the walrus," Haroun realised suddenly. "It's the walrus, making my wish come true. There must be artificial happy endings mixed up in the rain."

"If it's the walrus," said Rashid, doing a little jig in a puddle, "then the city owes you a big vote of thanks."

"Don't, Dad," said Haroun, his good mood deflating all at once. "Don't you get it? It isn't real. It's just something the Eggheads got out of a bottle. It's all fake. People should be happy when there's something to be happy about, not just when they get bottled happiness."

1. Why was Haroun worried about Rashid? (3)
2. How did Rashid react when he got drenched in the rain? (3)
3. What did Haroun notice in the city? Why was he surprised? (4)
4. Make sentences with any three of the following: (3)
miracle suspicious fooling around splash grin

5. Choose the option that is closest in meaning to the word in the given context: (2)

a) skip

- i. omit
- ii. move quickly and lightly
- iii. leave secretly or hurriedly

b) deflated

- i. felt less confident and positive than before
- ii. release air from
- iii. become less important

II. Read the following excerpt and answer the questions given below: (15 marks)

As I was to notice later, this handbag carried other aids to life for her hazardous six days in India—a tube of mosquito repellent, sun glasses, moisturizer, hand cream, lip salve, thick black notebook, travel brochures, Hindi phrase book, Kleenex tissues, a miniature aerosol breath freshener and many other amazingly thoughtful standbys for all eventualities. I was deeply impressed because I had never met such a high class traveller. But I was also a bit crestfallen that she was only interested in Carnatak music. She obviously wanted to use her precious time in India to savour the real thing, the unadulterated, pre-invasion traditional music of the ancient people of India. I could hardly plunge into my impure Hindustani classical practice in these circumstances. If it had been wrestling or boxing we were talking about, I suppose I could have been resolute enough to go ahead with my plans regardless of everything around me in the approved fashion of dedicated musicians. As it was, I was at my wit's end. And I was going to be alone with Mrs. Henderson on this desert island for the whole day.

The campus offered no distractions other than the coffee house which was just a stone's throw from our house. anything was better than mutually joyless small talk so I persuaded her to come and have a cup of coffee to start with.

1. Why does the narrator say she was impressed? (3)
2. How did Mrs. Henderson plan on spending her time in India? How did it affect the narrator? (3)
3. Why does Mrs. Dhar decide to go for coffee with her guest? (3)
4. Make sentences with any three of the following: (3)
hazardous miniature repellent thoughtful
precious standby
5. Pick out synonyms of the following words from the passage: (3)
a. possibilities
b. disappointed
c. determined

SECTION B

III. Answer any three of the following questions in about 75-100 words each.

(3x10=30 marks)

1. Who were the Chupwalas? What did they do on the ship?
2. What does Emily Dickinson ask her readers to do? Why?
3. How did Haroun meet Iff the water genie? Why does Iff agree to accompany Haroun?
4. How did Mrs. Chatterji try to impress her guests?

SECTION C**IV. Frame sentences using any five of the following idioms. (5x2=10 marks)**

1. birds of a feather
2. game plan
3. turn over a new leaf
4. raise the bar
5. clean bill of health
6. out of sorts
7. get wind of

V. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate idiom. (5x2=10 marks)

1. The man used to smoke but he was able to _____.
 - a) kink in his neck
 - b) kick the habit
 - c) get a charley horse
2. It's bad enough that he was right and I was wrong, but the way he keeps talking about it is just _____.
 - a) up and about
 - b) rubbing salt into the wound
 - c) taking a turn for the worse
3. All formalities were cleared and the construction project _____.
 - a) got off the ground
 - b) is up in the air
 - c) went down the drain
4. I know we _____ when I was late to the interview, but I promise that I will always be on time if I start working here.
 - a) got off on the wrong foot
 - b) have cut loose
 - c) go back a long way
5. Manju really _____ at that job. They passed her over for so many promotions.
 - a) went with the flow
 - b) saw eye to eye
 - c) got a raw deal

SECTION D**VI. Write discursive essays on the following topics in about 150-200 words each. (2x10 = 20 marks)**

1. Compare and contrast
 - a. Ebooks vs printed books

OR

 - b. Need of the hour: military development or economic growth
2. Persuade
 - a. Specialisation in arts or sciences should be offered at the high school level

OR

 - b. Violent video games affect social skills
