

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI 600086
(For students admitted from the Academic Year 2023-24)

B.A / B.Sc / B.V.A / B. Com/B.B.A/ B.C.A/ B.S.W. Degree Programme
SECOND SEMESTER, APRIL 2024

COURSE : FOUNDATION CORE
TITLE OF THE COURSE : LANGUAGE THROUGH LITERATURE - II
COURSE CODE : 23EL/FC/LL23
TIME : 3 HOURS **MAX. MARKS: 100**

Q. No. I	SECTION A	CO	KL
1.	Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. (10x1=10)	1	1
1.	a. Pongal and sambhar _____ (is/are) my favourite breakfast. b. Neither the girl nor her brothers _____ (is coming/are coming) up the path. c. The flock of birds flying in the V formation _____ (is/are) very attractive. d. 97% of the class _____ (wants/want) to go for the trip. e. The boys, along with their mother, _____ (is watching/are watching) the match. f. Either my shoes or your coat _____ (is /are) always lying on the floor. g. The film, including all the ads, _____ (take/takes) three hours to watch. h. Either of the answers _____ (is/are) acceptable. i. Nobody _____ (knows/know) how to operate this new robot. j. Everyone _____ (have/has) an opinion on the subject.		
2.	Rewrite the following sentences as given in the brackets. (10x1=10)	1	1
	a. My sister insisted that I have my breakfast. (Rewrite as direct speech.) b. Shamira said that she would not be free to attend the meeting the next day. (Rewrite as direct speech.) c. I told my sister that I had not seen her book. (Rewrite as direct speech.) d. "I will never let this happen," exclaimed Harini. (Rewrite as reported speech.) e. "Can I call an ambulance?" asked my neighbour. (Rewrite as reported speech.) f. "No, Lord Hunter", said the Princess, "I will not marry you." (Rewrite as reported speech.) g. "Our plans for next month need to be put on hold," said Salim. (Rewrite as reported speech.) h. She said, "I have bought a new car." (Rewrite as reported speech.) i. "I have been training hard for the tournament," she said. (Rewrite as reported speech.) j. "Will you take me home?" I asked her. (Rewrite as reported speech.)		

II.	SECTION B Make notes on the given passages. (2x10=20)	2	2
3.	<p style="text-align: center;">THE ACACIA TREE</p> <p>The Acacia is one of the most cultivated trees in the world. It has a unique shape and its flowers are very attractive. Its leaves are also very distinctive. There are nearly 800 species of Acacia in the world.</p> <p>It is also one of the largest species of trees in the world with more than 800 different types growing in warm, tropical and desert-like regions of both hemispheres. The Flat-topped Acacia is found on the savannahs of South Africa. The tops of these trees resemble a ledge. The Swollen-thorn Acacia thrives in Central America; its seed pods form a symbiotic association with ants. Native to Hawaii, the Koa Acacia tree is known for its dark hardwood and is prized for its variety of grains which come in a variety of shapes..</p> <p>There are two types of Flowering Acacias. The Baileyana species of Acacias are known for their yellow flower clusters. The Farnesiana species is known for its spiny shrub-like appearance which contains many fragrant blossoms that attract numerous insect pollinators.</p> <p>In the Indian subcontinent one of the species of Acacia called Acacia Catechu is known as `Khair`. It is a medium sized tree with a crooked and forked trunk. It is widely found in Uttar Pradesh, Jammu, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. The other species known as Acacia Catechuoides is found in Sikkim, West Bengal and Assam whereas the third variety also known as the `Red Catechu` or `Lalkhair` is prevalent in Gujarat, the Deccan, Rajasthan and southern parts of Maharashtra.</p> <p>The Acacia tree has an interesting past. It was first introduced in Europe by a herbalist and Henri IV in 1601; later it was added to various botanical gardens throughout North America in the late 1960s. The tree's eye-catching white and yellow blossoms were made popular by the early American Indians, who used them as gifts. The thorns of the Acacia tree house stinging ants who feed on the tree's nectar. Giraffes and cattle love to chew on its leaves and butterflies are attracted to it. The thorns of the Central American Bullhorn Acacias are commonly strung into necklaces and belts.</p>		
4.	<p style="text-align: center;">PESTICIDES</p> <p>Many farmers use pesticides to ensure that their crops are healthy and abundant. These chemicals kill or repel a variety of pests, including weeds, insects, and rodents, in order to prevent them from feeding on or destroying the farmers' crops. Although there are certainly advantages to using pesticides, there are also some serious disadvantages that farmers should consider before using them on crops.</p>		

	<p>Pesticides help crops grow larger and faster; they also allow a wider variety of plants to grow. Because farmers who use pesticides harvest more crops than they would otherwise, they are able to sell them at lower prices. So, by keeping the price of domestic produce low, pesticides reduce our reliance on imported products. Pesticides also allow farmers to use smaller tracts of land to raise their crops, which frees up more land for other uses. For these reasons, many people argue that using pesticides is beneficial for both the farmer and the consumer.</p> <p>Despite these advantages, there are many dangers associated with the use of chemical pesticides. Many scientific studies have shown that the farm workers who come into contact with pesticides can develop serious medical conditions, such as cancer, lung damage, or severe burns. When pregnant women have long-term contact with these chemicals, their unborn babies may be harmed. Studies have also shown that when people ingest residual pesticides left on fruits and vegetables, they might suffer from many health problems. Furthermore, pesticides harm the environment; some experts estimate that over 95% of the pesticides sprayed on crops end up in the soil, water, or air, all places where they can do severe damage to the ecosystem.</p> <p>How can we achieve the benefits of pesticides while minimising these negative consequences?</p> <p>Some farmers have attempted to solve this problem by using biological pest control instead of synthetic pesticides. For example, a farmer who wants to control an infestation of aphids on crops might introduce a population of ladybugs, insects that prey on aphids. Wasps can also be helpful, as they eat caterpillars and beetles, which destroy many crops. Because wasps also eat nectar, they supply the additional benefit of pollinating plants as they fly from flower to flower. Farmers can also use trap crops – plants that work as traps to lure insects away from the crop farmers are trying to protect. A field of cotton plants, for instance, can be protected by nearby alfalfa plants. The lygus bugs that can infest cotton are more attracted to the alfalfa plants, and so they will eat the trap crop instead of destroying the cotton.</p> <p>Even though biological pest control seems safer than using synthetic pesticides, there are still risks involved. Introducing a non-native species into a new environment might create a great deal of problems in the ecosystem. Furthermore, biological pest control does not work nearly as quickly as chemical pesticides; it may take weeks or months for a trap crop to successfully lure insects away from the protected crop. This solution is obviously not effective for pest problems that require immediate action. Finally, pests can become increasingly resistant to any form of pest control, whether it is biological or synthetic. Although biological pest control might not be a perfect solution to the pest problem, it is the one that seems to carry the least risk for both human beings and the environment.</p>		
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5.	Write summaries of each of the above passages. (2x10=20)	3	3
III.	SECTION C Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow. (4x5=20)	4	4
	<p>A week after Valentine, 9762, left the prison, there was a neat job of safe burglary in Richmond, Indiana, with no clue to the author. A scant eight hundred dollars was all that was secured. Two weeks after that, a patented, improved, burglar-proof safe in Logansport was opened like a cheese to the tune of fifteen hundred dollars, currency; securities and silver untouched. Then an old-fashioned bank-safe in Jefferson City became active and threw out of its crater an eruption of bank-notes amounting to five thousand dollars. The losses were now high enough to bring the matter up into Ben Price's class of work. By comparing notes, a remarkable similarity in the methods of the burglaries was noticed. Ben Price investigated the scenes of the robberies and was heard to remark: "That's Dandy Jim Valentin' autograph. He's resumed business. Look at that combination knob—jerked out as easy as pulling up a radish in wet weather. He's got the only clamps that can do it. And look how clean those tumblers were punched out! Jimmy never has to drill but one hole. Yes, I guess I want Mr. Valentine. He'll do his bit next time without any short-time or clemency foolishness."</p> <p>Ben Price knew Jimmy's habits. He had learned them while working on the Springfield case. Long jumps, quick get-aways, no confederates, and a taste for good society—these ways had helped Mr. Valentine to become noted as a successful dodger of retribution.</p>		
6.	Who was Ben Price? Why was he called in to investigate the burglary in Jefferson City?		
7.	What did Ben Price conclude about the burglaries? How did he reach this conclusion?		
8.	According to Ben Price, what had helped Jimmy Valentine escape long-term imprisonment for so long?		
9.	Use any five the following words in sentences of your own. Your sentences should bring out the meaning of the words clearly. Do not copy sentences from the passage. (a) scant (b) active (c) retribution (d) successful (e) habits (f) resume (g) remarkable		
IV.	Answer any two of the following in about 75 to 100 words each. (2x10=20)	5	5
10.	Why does Judy Brady end her essay with "My God, who <i>wouldn't</i> want a wife?"		
11.	Do you think Ulysses was a good leader? Give reasons for your answer.		
12.	Do you think Mary Maloney was justified in her actions? Give reasons.		