

**STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI - 86**  
**(For candidates admitted from the academic year 2023 – 2024 and thereafter)**

**B.Voc. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2026**  
**FOURTH SEMESTER**

**COURSE : FOUNDATION CORE**  
**PAPER : ENGLISH FOR COMMUNICATION - IV**  
**SUBJECT CODE : 23EL/FC/EC44**  
**TIME : 3 HOURS** **MAX. MARKS: 100**

	<b>SECTION A</b>	<b>CO</b>	<b>KL</b>
1.	<p><b>Fill in the blanks with the suitable verb from those given in brackets.</b>  <span style="float: right;"><b>(10x1 = 10)</b></span></p> <p>i) The list of selected candidates _____ (is/are) displayed on the department notice board.</p> <p>ii) The number of students in this course _____ (has/have) increased this year.</p> <p>iii) Mathematics _____ (is/are) my favourite subject in college.</p> <p>iv) Ten kilometres _____ (is/are) too far to walk in this heat.</p> <p>v) The manager and his assistant _____ (is/are) attending the conference.</p> <p>vi) The police _____ (is/are) investigating the case.</p> <p>vii) Every student in the class _____ (has/have) submitted the assignment.</p> <p>viii) The captain, as well as the players, _____ (was/were) tired.</p> <p>ix) One of my friends _____ (lives/live) in Delhi.</p> <p>x) The committee members _____ (disagrees/disagree) on this issue.</p>	1	1
2.	<p><b>Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct third conditional from the list of verbs given below every sentence.</b>  <span style="float: right;"><b>(10x1 = 10)</b></span></p> <p>i) She would have reached on time if she _____ earlier.  a) had left                      b) left                      c) would leave</p> <p>ii) If they _____ the rules, they would not have made the mistake.  a) follow                      b) followed                      c) had followed</p> <p>iii) She would have paid the bill if she _____ her wallet.  a) would not forget      b) had not forgotten      c) did not forget</p> <p>iv) If the shop _____ on time, I would have bought the item.  a) opened                      b) had opened                      c) would have opened</p> <p>v) If we had left earlier, we _____ late.  a) would not have been      b) are not                      c) would not be</p> <p>vi) If she had taken a taxi, she _____ on time.  a) had arrived                      b) would arrive                      c) would have arrived</p> <p>vii) We would have gone out if it _____ cold.  a) is not                      b) had not been                      c) would not have be</p> <p>viii) I _____ the movie if I had had time.  a) watched                      b) had watched                      c) would have watched</p> <p>ix) If we had used a map, we _____ lost.  a) would not have been      b) are not                      c) would not be</p> <p>x) They _____ the project on time if they had started earlier.  a) would finish                      b) would have finished                      c) finished</p>	1	1

<b>SECTION B</b>		<b>CO</b>	<b>KL</b>
<b>II. Using an appropriate format, draft an email for any two of the following questions. (2x10 = 20)</b>			
3.	You are Akram. You are planning to book a party hall for the class farewell. Write an email to the manager requesting information about hall availability, tariff, parking and other facilities.		
4.	You are Joseph. You ordered a bag online and received it only after a few weeks. The bag's zip is damaged, and you are unable to open it. Write a complaint email, requesting a replacement or a refund.	2	2
5.	You are Rajesh. Write a complaint email to your internet service provider about the poor internet connection in your area and request a solution.		
<b>SECTION C</b>		<b>CO</b>	<b>KL</b>
<b>III. Write a discursive essay on any two of the following topics. (2x10 = 20)</b>			
6.	Compare and contrast home-cooked food and restaurant food.		
7.	Compare and contrast comedy movies and horror movies.	3	3
8.	Sleep is more important than studying late at night: present your argument.		
<b>SECTION D</b>		<b>CO</b>	<b>KL</b>
<b>IV. Read the short story and answer all the questions that follow. (4x5 = 20)</b>			
<p><b>The Story of Two Doctors</b> - Sudha Murthy</p> <p>My sister is a doctor in a government hospital. She works very long hours. Often she has to do night duty, which can be very exhausting. Once, after working for twenty-four hours and performing many operations, she came home late and very tired. Just then, the hospital called her for another emergency operation. She was about to leave immediately. Seeing her tired face, I said, 'I agree patients are very important to doctors. But for the last twenty-four hours, you were in the hospital. You are also a human being; you too, need rest. You can tell somebody else to do this operation. Why don't you rest now?'</p> <p>She smiled and replied, 'There are many doctors along with me who are working equally hard. They also require rest. I am the senior-most doctor, so I must lead the team. In the larger interest of the people, you must sacrifice your personal pain. Don't you remember the story of anaesthesia?' Saying this she went away.</p> <p>I then remembered the story she had told. My sister had narrated it to me some years ago. To what extent this story is true I don't know. But it is an interesting one.</p> <p>Many years ago, in England, there was a father-and-son pair who were doctors. The father was very famous and innovative, and the son was young and enthusiastic. In those days there was no concept of anaesthesia and whenever a patient was to be operated on, chloroform was given.</p> <p>The senior doctor did many experiments and developed a medicine, which when injected in the area where the operation was to be done, made only that part numb. There was no need to make the patient unconscious. Today we call this local anaesthesia.</p> <p>He was convinced by adding different chemicals that his medicine was effective. But there was one problem. No one would volunteer for the experiment. Without experimenting on a human being, this medicine could not be released in the market.</p>			

Now, the doctor's son had six fingers on his left hand. One day, he suggested to his father, 'Father, I know your medicine is very good. You can inject it into my sixth finger and remove it through an operation. Anyway, I wanted to remove that finger. Let us do this operation in front of other doctors. No man can stand the pain of surgery without anaesthesia. When they see my face, they will understand that your medicine has worked and I am not experiencing any pain.'

The suggestion was very good. The father conveyed a message to the members of the Academy of Medical Science, who were the final authority for allowing this medicine to be used in public.

On the day of the operation many scientists, doctors and other public figures assembled to watch the effect of this miracle injection. The father injected the medicine to the finger and said, 'Now I will start the operation. You can observe the patient's face.' There was a smile on the young man's face. The operation was performed and was a success. Throughout, the smile remained on the son's face. Everybody was amazed and congratulated the senior doctor for his work.

After they left, the father had tears in his eyes. He hugged his son and started crying uncontrollably. 'Sorry, my son, I knew what pain you were undergoing during the operation, you never showed it to the public.'

In his hurry and tension before the operation, the father forgot to add the fourth chemical. Because of that the injection was not at all effective. There was uncontrollable pain during the operation. However, the son realised that his father had forgotten something and if he showed his pain his father's experiment would fail. He knew how hard his father had worked to develop this medicine and that it was effective. It was unfortunate that it was not working at that moment. In the middle of the operation, the father also realised the fourth chemical was missing and the medicine was not working. But he was unable to tell this in public. He knew his son was suffering despite the smile on his face. That is why, when everyone left, he broke down crying.

The son consoled his father. 'Father, don't worry. For the welfare of others, I controlled my own pain.' I'm not sure if the story is true, but in my sister's and her colleagues' dedication, I saw a glimpse of the sacrifices people in the medical profession make.

Glossary:

Numb - unable to feel

Anaesthesia - A medicine that prevents pain during surgery

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9.	<p>Match the words in Column A with the correct meanings in Column B.</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>Column A</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>Column B</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>i) Exhausting</td> <td>a) willing to give up something</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ii) Sacrifice</td> <td>b) hard work and commitment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>iii) Innovative</td> <td>c) the power to make decisions</td> </tr> <tr> <td>iv) Authority</td> <td>d) very tiring</td> </tr> <tr> <td>v) Dedication</td> <td>e) new ideas</td> </tr> </table>	<b>Column A</b>	<b>Column B</b>	i) Exhausting	a) willing to give up something	ii) Sacrifice	b) hard work and commitment	iii) Innovative	c) the power to make decisions	iv) Authority	d) very tiring	v) Dedication	e) new ideas	4	4
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10.	Why did the narrator ask her sister to rest instead of going to the hospital?														
11.	Why did the son keep smiling during the operation?														
12.	What is the main idea of this story?														

<b>SECTION E</b>		<b>CO</b>	<b>KL</b>
<b>V. Read the poem and answer all the questions that follow.</b>		<b>(4x5 = 20)</b>	
<p><b>A Tiger in the Zoo</b> - Leslie Norris</p> <p>He walks in his vivid stripes The few steps of his cage, On soft silent paws, In his quiet rage.</p> <p>He should be lurking in shadow, Sliding through long grass Near the water hole Where plump deer pass.</p> <p>He should be snarling around houses At the jungle's edge, Showing his white teeth, his claws, Frightening the village!</p> <p>But he's locked in a concrete cell, His strength behind bars, Walking the length of his cage, Ignoring visitors.</p> <p>He hears the last voice at night, The patrolling cars, And stares with his brilliant eyes At the brilliant stars.</p> <p><u>Glossary:</u> Vivid – very bright Rage – uncontrollable anger Lurking – hiding or waiting to attack Snarling – an aggressive sound made by animals Patrolling – moving around to check for safety (police patrol)</p>			
13.	State whether the following statements are true or false. i) The tiger walks only a few steps inside the cage. ii) The deer near the water hole are thin and weak. iii) The tiger ignores the visitors. iv) The tiger is free to run into the jungle anytime. v) The jungle represents freedom and happiness.	5	5
14.	Do you think the tiger is happy inside the cage? Explain.		
15.	Which life is better for the tiger – life in the zoo or in the jungle? Explain.		
16.	If you were the poet, how would you end the poem? Why?		