

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI 600086
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2025 -2026)

B.A./B.Sc./B.V.A./B. Com./B.B.A./B.C.A./B.S.W. DEGREE EXAMINATION
APRIL 2026
SECOND SEMESTER

COURSE : FOUNDATION - ENGLISH
TITLE OF THE COURSE : LANGUAGE THROUGH LITERATURE-II
COURSE CODE : 25EL/FC/LR23
TIME : 3 HOURS **MAX. MARKS: 100**

Q.No.	SECTION A	CO	KL
1.	<p>Fill in the blanks with the appropriate verb given in brackets: (10x1=10)</p> <p>Last semester, a group of students from the literature department (i) ----- (began/have begun/ had begun) a research project on modern poetry. They (ii)----- (read/ had read/ have read) several poems before they selected the final topic. While they (iii) ----- (discussed / have discussed / were discussing) different literary theories, their professor guided them with helpful suggestions. One evening, while the group (iv) - ----- (was working / working / have worked) in the library, they discovered an interesting article. By that time, the students (v) ----- (had collected / collected / have collected) many sources for their research. The article (vi) ----- (offer / offered / have offered) new perspectives on symbolism in poetry. Since then, the students (vii) ----- (develop / has developed / have developed) greater interest in literary criticism. While they (viii) ----- (reviewed / were reviewing / have reviewed) their notes, the professor asked them to focus on the poet's imagery. They (ix) ----- (considered / had considered / have considered) several interpretations before reaching a conclusion. By the end of the semester, the group (x) ----- (have completed / completed / had completed) a detailed research paper.</p>	1	1
2.	<p>Fill in the blanks with the appropriate idioms from the list given. (10x1=10)</p> <p>(build bridges, cut loose, on nodding terms, get off on the wrong foot with someone, get a raw deal, fair-weather friends, birds of a feather, go with the flow, rub shoulders, stormy relationship)</p> <p>i. Although they come from different backgrounds, the two colleagues became close friends because they realized they were -----.</p> <p>ii. The manager tried to ----- between the two departments so that they could work together peacefully.</p> <p>iii. On the first day of the project, John argued with his team leader and -- ----- making the work environment uncomfortable.</p> <p>iv. After the exams were over, the students decided to ----- and enjoy a relaxed evening together.</p>	1	1

	<p>v. When Maria lost her job, many of her so-called friends disappeared; they were only -----.</p> <p>vi. The hardworking employee felt he ----- when the promotion was given to someone less deserving.</p> <p>vii. During the group activity, the teacher advised the students to ----- and not create problems.</p> <p>viii. I am not very close to my neighbour; we are only ----- and greet each other politely.</p> <p>ix. At the international conference, the young researcher had the opportunity to ----- with famous scholars.</p> <p>x. The couple's constant arguments showed that they were having a-----.</p>		
Q.No.	SECTION B	CO	KL
	Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow. (2x5=10)	2	2
	<p>somewhere i have never travelled, gladly beyond - E. E. Cummings (1894–1962)</p> <p>somewhere i have never travelled, gladly beyond any experience, your eyes have their silence: in your most frail gesture are things which enclose me, or which i cannot touch because they are too near</p> <p>your slightest look easily will unclose me though i have closed myself as fingers, you open always petal by petal myself as Spring opens (touching skilfully, mysteriously) her first rose</p> <p>or if your wish be to close me, i and my life will shut very beautifully, suddenly, as when the heart of this flower imagines the snow carefully everywhere descending;</p>		
3.	How does the poet use the image of a flower opening in spring to describe the speaker's feelings for the beloved?		
4.	Describe the way the speaker compares rejection by his beloved to aspects of nature.		
	Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. (2x5=10)	2	2
	The next morning Jimmy took breakfast at the Adamses. He was going to Little Rock that day to order his wedding-suit and buy something nice for Annabel. That would be the first time he had left town since he came to Elmore. It had been more than a year now since those last professional "jobs," and he thought he could safely venture out.		

	<p>After breakfast quite a family party went downtown together—Mr. Adams, Annabel, Jimmy, and Annabel's married sister with her two little girls, aged five and nine. They came by the hotel where Jimmy still boarded, and he ran up to his room and brought along his suit-case. Then they went on to the bank. There stood Jimmy's horse and buggy and Dolph Gibson, who was going to drive him over to the railroad station.</p> <p>All went inside the high, carved oak railings into the banking-room—Jimmy included, for Mr. Adams's future son-in-law was welcome anywhere. The clerks were pleased to be greeted by the good-looking, agreeable young man who was going to marry Miss Annabel. Jimmy set his suit-case down. Annabel, whose heart was bubbling with happiness and lively youth, put on Jimmy's hat, and picked up the suit-case. “Wouldn't I make a nice drummer?” said Annabel. “My! Ralph, how heavy it is. Feels like it was full of gold bricks.”</p> <p>“Lot of nickel-plated shoe-horns in there,” said Jimmy, coolly, “that I'm going to return. Thought I'd save express charges by taking them up. I'm getting awfully economical.”</p> <p>The Elmore Bank had just put in a new safe and vault. Mr. Adams was very proud of it, and insisted on an inspection by everyone. The vault was a small one, but it had a new, patented door. It fastened with three solid steel bolts thrown simultaneously with a single handle, and had a time-lock. Mr. Adams beamingly explained its workings to Mr. Spencer, who showed a courteous but not too intelligent interest. The two children, May and Agatha, were delighted by the shining metal and funny clock and knobs.</p> <p>While they were thus engaged Ben Price sauntered in and leaned on his elbow, looking casually inside between the railings. He told the teller that he didn't want anything; he was just waiting for a man he knew.</p>		
5.	Why does Jimmy decide to go to Little Rock after breakfast at the Adams' house?		
6.	How does Annabel react when she lifts Jimmy's suitcase? How does Jimmy respond?		
Q.No.	SECTION C	CO	KL
	Answer any two of the following in about 150 words each. (2x10=20)	3	3
7.	You are Rohan, a student of ELM College of Engineering. Write a letter to the Head of your Department requesting permission to conduct a one-day educational field visit for your class. Include details about the place of visit, the area of study and the arrangements made for the trip.		
8.	You are Vinod, a student of PK College of Arts and Science. Your college has announced a skill development workshop. Write an email to the programme coordinator seeking information about the date, registration process, topics to be covered and whether participants will receive a certificate.		
9.	You are Mohit, an undergraduate student at Pearl University. Write a letter to the Manager of LNT Pvt. Ltd. seeking information about internship opportunities, eligibility criteria, duration of the internship and the application procedure.		

Q.No.	SECTION D	CO	KL
	Answer any two of the following in about 150 words each. (2x10=20)	4	4
10.	Why do you think Mary Maloney giggles at the end of “Lamb to the Slaughter”?		
11.	How does the beloved’s silent power influence the speaker in “somewhere i have never travelled”? What does this tell you about the speaker’s love?		
12.	“You’re not Jimmy Valentine,” said Ben Price slowly. “Your name is Ralph D. Spencer.” Why do you think Ben Price says this at the end of “A Retrieved Reformation”?		
Q.No.	SECTION E	CO	KL
	Answer any one of the following in about 150 words each. (1x10=10)	5	5
13.	How does Mary Maloney demonstrate creative thinking in her response to the situation following her husband's death?		
14.	Evaluate how the speaker in the poem, "somewhere i have never travelled, gladly beyond" speaks of the ability to adapt to emotional change through love. To what extent does the beloved influence the speaker's willingness to open himself to new experiences?		
	Answer any one of the following in about 150 words each. (1x10=10)	5	6
15.	Create an alternative ending where Mary Maloney uses stress management techniques after her husband's announcement. How does this help her become a strong, independent woman?		
16.	Create an extended continuation of the story “Lamb to the Slaughter” that shows how Jimmy Valentine adapts to his new identity as Ralph Spencer after Ben Price let's him go.		
