

**STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086**  
**(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2011-2012 & thereafter)**

**SUBJECT CODE: 11EL/AC/AW34**

**B.V.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2013**  
**BRANCH X – VISUAL ARTS**  
**THIRD SEMESTER**

**COURSE : ALLIED – CORE**  
**PAPER : ACADEMIC WRITING**  
**TIME : 3 HOURS** **MAX. MARKS : 100**

**I. Write an essay on the following in about 750 words: (2x25=50)**

1. a. Write a critical appreciation of a work of art that you admire most.  
OR  
b. Describe a museum that you have recently visited.
2. a. Globalisation has resulted in the dissolution of cultural differences and it has become difficult to preserve the cultural traditions of a country. Discuss.  
OR  
b. Big cities are expanding beyond limits that in future there may not be any villages. What are the advantages and the disadvantages of this development?

**II. Edit and proof read the given passage. Underline wherever you make corrections: (1x25=25)**

The Taj Mahal in Agra is indisputably the most famous example of Mughal architecture. Described by Rabindranath Tagor as a tear on the face of eternity", it is in popular imagination a veritable "wonderful of the world".

The white-splendored tomb was built by Emperor Shah Jahan in the memories of his favourite wife, Arjumand Banu Begum, better known as *Mumtaz Mahal* ("Chosen of the Palace"). She married Shah Jahan in 1612 to become his wife II and inseparable companion, and died in childbirth at Burhanpur while on a campaign with her husband in 1629. Shah Jahan was, it is said, inconsolable to the point of contemplating abdication in favour of his sons. The court has went into mourning for over two years; and Shah Jahan decided to commemorate the memory of Mumtaz with a building the like of whom had never been seen before.

The Makrana white marble of the Taj Mahal assumes subtle variations of light, tint and stone at different times of the days. At dawn it assumes a soft dreamy aspect; at noon, it appears to be a dazzling white, and in the moonlit the dome looks like a huge iridescent pearl. Not surprisingly then the Taj is today regarded all over the world as a supreme labour of love.

Though the architectural history of the Taj has received much attentive, a cultural and political interpretation of the Taj is never been attempted. While it never failed to move and dazzle, one can scarcely forget that its history, like that of other monumental achievements of pre-modern (and even modern) states, is bound to oppression and slavery.

**III. Revise and rewrite the following passage by organising into paragraphs. You may reorganise the passage for coherence. Delete unnecessary words, if any, to make it concise. Give a title. (1x25=25)**

Words have incredible power, so to say, in our lives. For one, they provide us with a vehicle for expressing and sharing our experiences with others, so that we may share our experiences. Most of us don't realize, however, that the words you habitually choose and choose to use, also affect what you experience. What's interesting is how two people can experience the exact same sensations differently in their bodies by virtue of the labels they put on the experience, they experience. For example, one person may feel "frustrated" while the other just feels "a little confused." We think so. It amounts to a huge difference in the way we feel, and when we change the way we feel, we change the way we behave and we behave differently. Consider this example: In a business meeting with two partners, the same event triggered a dramatically different response in each person, two of them. The CEO went into an absolute rage, so angry, whereas the second partner, the another one, seemed to have no reaction at all. Transformational Vocabulary is about how you can take control of your habitual vocabulary to change the quality of your life. Simply by changing your habitual vocabulary—the words you consistently use to describe the emotions of your life—you can instantly change how you think, feel and how you live. The enraged CEO believed that "rage" made him stronger and enabled him to deal with the situation and he believed it. Rage was his way out of pain. Conversely, the partner who felt only "mildly annoyed" was acting on a belief that getting too upset would make him lose control of the situation, and that would mean too much pain, so painful for him. He wasn't disassociating; he honestly was not feeling the intense anger, I think. This is the essence of Transformational Vocabulary: the words that we attach to our experience become our experience, regardless of whether it's objectively accurate or not, that is, not accurate. If we want to change our lives and our destiny, we need to consciously choose the words we use to describe our emotional states. What would happen if, the next time you were in a situation that used to make you feel angry, instead you felt annoyed? Conversely, if someone asks you how you're doing, think of the difference between responses like "Oh, I'm okay, I guess" and "I'm feeling on top of the world!" The labels we put on our experience become our experience. Choose your words wisely so.

\*\*\*\*\*