

**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 2014**  
**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 'The Trees and The Skies' wall art done by the Fine Arts students as part of Art Chennai 2014.  
OR  
b. Describe a building that you have visited bringing out the architectural significance and beauty.
2. a. At present technology has made life more comfortable than in the past but life in the past was more peaceful. Is it better to give up technology and go back to the past way of life? Discuss.  
OR  
b. Social networking sites are helping people to connect with each other. However, they are not helping people to build strong relationships. Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons.

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

**SemmozhiPoonga** is a botany garden in Chennai set up by the horticulture department of the Government of Tamil Nadu. The garden was opening on 24 November 2010 and is the first botanical garden in the city. The garden located in the Cathedral Road–Anna Salai junction, opposed to the American Consulate, on the erstwhile Drive-in Woodlands Hotel. Encompassing an area of 20 acres (320 grounds), it was built at a cost of ₹ 80 million, costing. More than 500 species of plants are being growing in the area, and in addition to the 80 trees that was already in existence during the development of the park, some of them have been being more than 100 years old. The garden houses some of the popularly extotic flora and rare plant species, medicinal and aromamatic herbs. Many of the exotic plants are exported from countries like China and Thailand, including a plethora of bonsaie varieties.

The area in which the botanical garden stands today and is standing today was formerly the localation of the Woodlands Driving-In restaurant, the city's first driving-in restaurant, and the Agri-Horticultural Society. In April 1962, the Agri-Horticultural Society sub-leased the 18-acre land to hotelierer K. Krishna Rau, who started the Woodlands Driving-in Hotel on 15 April 1962. It was an extension of the

"Woodlands" brand, then popular in the city as the only "Indianese hotel." In 1982, the annual Chennai Book Fair was being conducted by BAPASI was held in the hotel premises. Early in 1989, the Tamil Nadu Government had set intomotion the closing of the restaurant. After almost two dicades, the restaurant ended its operation on 12 April 2008, and through a High Court order after a prolonging legal battle, the land was being handed over to the government, where it planned to set up the botanical garden, a research centre and a green house for the developing rare species of medical and non-medical plants and flours. On 13 November 2009, the Supreme Court gave its consensus to the state government to set up the garden. The garden has been christened such to commemorating the Classical Tamil Conference, which was held earlier in 2010. The cost of the land was valued with more than ₹ 10,000 million at the time of opening. The government appointed a city-based firm of architects—Rajendra Associates—as consultant to design, supervising and managing the project.

The garden featurises eight subgardens displaying floura of different varieties, such as a tree court, mural walk and bonsai, herbal and extotic gardens, in addition to an artificial duck pond, that is artificial. Incorporating elements of an Indian-Buddhist garden, the garden has a wide variety of indigenou specees across 22 exclusive areas including palm court, tree court, golden garden (featurising plants that flower in different shades of gold), water and rock garden, butterfly garden, fern garden, sunken garden and theme garden. Twenty-fifth thematic gardens, including herbal, aromatic, maze and cascade adorning every corner of the park. The gardenboasts several extotic herbal species and 90-odd spirally-shaped and multi-branching miniature trees grown in containers. The Bonsani garden is dotted with trees with dots whose height ringing from 1 foot to 4 feet. At the fag ending of the park is there Cascade garden.

**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)**

George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion* both delighted and scandalized its first audiences in 1914. A brilliantly witty reworking of the Ovid tale of a sculptor who falls in love with his perfect female statue, it is also a barbed attack on the British class system and a statement of Shaw's feminist views . In Shaw's hands, the phoneticist Henry Higgins is the Pygmalion figure who believes he can transform Eliza Doolittle, a cockney flower girl, into a duchess at ease in polite society and transform her. The one thing he overlooks is that his 'creation' has a mind of her own and he ignores this truth. *Pygmalion* nevertheless probes important questions about social class, human behavior, and relations between the sexes, the male and the female. The 1913 play, "Pygmalion", is the basis for a number of adaptations that were made it to the silver screen. The two films that are most often discussed are the 1938 comedic retelling of "Pygmalion", and the 1964 musical, "My Fair Lady". Each of the adaptations and both of them compares to the original in plot, tone and theme but contrasts to the original work primarily in the areas of characterization and their conclusions.

The 1964 movie version of "My Fair Lady" has actress Audrey Hepburn playing Eliza's character in a great way. The movie does a good job of portraying Eliza just as she is in the play. Hepburn manages to capture audiences with her lower class accent and ruddy clothes, making her an exact replica of Shaw's version of Eliza and everybody likes it. However, in the movie Eliza comes across as more of a romantic, since the film is a musical she is always singing and dancing and this makes it romantic. Also, in the movie Eliza falls in love with Higgins and they end up together, marrying each other. This partnership shows that Eliza conforms to social norms by marrying a rich single bachelor, even though he treats her poorly badly and degrades her very much. In contrast, the play illustrates Eliza as being a strong independent woman that does not stand for Henry's abuse. At the end of the play Henry mocks Eliza and lists off several items that he wants her to buy for him, thoroughly convinced that she will come back to live with him and he is sure. Eliza responds to his command by saying, "Buy them yourself", and exits the scene (Shaw). Henry is so obsessed with having the power he does not know how to deal with Eliza's new headstrong personality and he ends up feeling helpless. In both works, Eliza is transformed into an elegant lady, a sophisticated lady, but how she uses her status and wealth to maintain happiness differs between the two adaptations. Often times, Higgins will refer to Eliza as "it" and this just furthers the notion that she is not viewed as a woman to him but rather as something lower. Eliza knows that she is of inferior status to Henry, yet he constantly reminds her of what she really always is : a poor flower girl. After the ball, Henry says to Eliza, "Y o u won my bet! You! Presumptuous insect! I won it" (Shaw). By calling her an insect he is verbally degrading her, and one could insinuate he picked a bug because it is small, dirty and helpless just like Eliza was when he found her. The issue of class is pushed even further when Eliza says, "I sold flowers. I didn't sell myself. Now you've made a lady of me I'm not fit to sell anything else. I wish you'd left me where you found me" (Shaw). Now that Higgins has made Eliza proper and good the only thing she can do is look for a husband, if she plans on maintaining her status as a lady. She feels trapped knowing very well that she can never ever go back to her old trade.

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