

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086  
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2009–10)

SUBJECT CODE: EN/FC/EC23

B.A./ B.Sc./ B.S.W./B.V.A./B.Com. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2010  
SECOND SEMESTER

COURSE : FOUNDATION CORE  
PAPER : ENGLISH CORE  
TIME : 2 HOURS

MAX. MARKS: 50

1. Answer any 3 of the following questions in one paragraph each: (3x5=15 marks)

- “If thou must love me, let it be for naught.  
Except for love’s sake only.” Discuss these lines with reference to Elizabeth Barrett Browning’s poem.
- Narrate what happens when Bishan Singh is informed that Toba Tek Singh was in Pakistan.
- Describe the life of Adam in Dharavi.
- How does the world appear to the little boy at nighttime in the story “Father and I”?

II. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow. (10 marks)

It was a pity that tears choked me; otherwise I would have said more. Hamid didn’t know that I had been used to waking up with the sound of mother’s coughing. For years on end, she woke up at the crack of dawn, tidied up the house and kept coughing. When she stood in the kitchen to prepare breakfast, the coughing wouldn’t give her a respite. No matter how many times I said, “Mother, go sit and take a rest to calm down,” she wouldn’t listen. She was accustomed to work. The dust, the broom, the coldness of the kitchen – I don’t know what made her cough so hard. She used to refuse to take her pills. But now she took them regularly. That’s why she had become so weak and wouldn’t speak. Only a trace of memories remains on her face, by which you can recognise her.

- Describe the mother’s daily routine. (2 marks)
- What was the effect of the pills on the mother? (3 marks)
- Write out the line in the passage that indicates the daughter’s concern for her mother. (1 mark)
- Make sentences of your own with the following words and phrases:- (1x4=4 marks)  
calm down, choked, regularly, respite

**III. Fill in the blanks with appropriate tenses of the verb given in brackets:****(10 marks)**

When I \_\_\_\_\_ (enter) the hall with a water melon under my arm, I \_\_\_\_\_ (look) ridiculous. It \_\_\_\_\_ (be) heavy – 8 kilos and 250 grams. We \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to Tajrish Bridge for a walk when Hamid \_\_\_\_\_ (long for) a watermelon. He \_\_\_\_\_ (say), “The season will soon be over.” And he \_\_\_\_\_ (do) his best to pick two ripe watermelons –the kind with a white patch grown on them. I \_\_\_\_\_ (say), if mother \_\_\_\_\_ (be) here she would pick a watermelon that would make the shopkeeper’s jaw drop. He \_\_\_\_\_ (frown).

**IV. Fill in the blanks in the following passage with appropriate words from the list given below.****(1x5=5 marks)**

I remember one Sunday \_\_\_\_\_ when I was about ten years old, Daddy took my hand and we went for a walk in the woods to \_\_\_\_\_ the birds sing. We waved goodbye \_\_\_\_\_ mother, who was staying at \_\_\_\_\_ to prepare supper, and so couldn’t go with us. The sun was bright and \_\_\_\_\_ as we set out briskly on our way.

**listen, for, home, hear, house, to, warm, afternoon, glowing**

**V. Write 2 paragraphs on any one of the following topics.****(10 marks)**

- 1) A description of a very dear member of your family.
- 2) The role of the state in child welfare.
- 3) The life of career women today.

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