

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2015–16 and thereafter)

SUBJECT CODE: 15EL/FC/EC23

B.A./B.Sc./B.S.W./B.V.A./B.C.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2017
SECOND SEMESTER

COURSE : FOUNDATION CORE
PAPER : ENGLISH CORE - II
TIME : 3 HOURS

MAX. MARKS: 100

SECTION A

I. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow: (2 x 15 = 30 marks)

1. Everyone at court watched with interest as Snow Night grew up to be a charming woman. Particularly interested was her father's Master of the Hunt, who was called Lord Hunter. He aspired to improve his rank by marrying a royal princess. Moreover, he found Snow Night exceedingly desirable. Therefore he made every effort to woo her. He sent her the best flowers plucked from the royal gardens and very bad poems plucked from his own mind. He subjected her to long monologues about his hunting successes. He hovered at her elbow in every procession and tried to fill her dance card with his own name at every grand ball.

Snow Night, however, did her best to avoid him. Though he was arrogant and fancied himself a very gallant gentleman, she found his attentions unwelcome. His touch made her shudder. Lord Hunter was heavy, coarse, and greasy-haired. His breath stank, and his fingernails were dirty, and his speech unrefined. Snow Night thought him repulsive. "If my father tries to make me marry a hideous old toad like Hunter," she confided to her maid, "I'll run away."

- a. Why was Lord Hunter interested in Snow Night? (4)
b. Describe, in your own words, Lord Hunter's efforts to woo Snow Night. (4)
c. Why did Snow Night find Lord Hunter repulsive? (4)
d. Use any three of the following words in sentences of your own bringing out the meaning, as used in the passage, clearly. (3)

watched avoid plucked procession unwelcome

2. Hamid said, "We don't have enough room ourselves. And you keep saying, "My mother, my mother!" Can't you see that this is a flat? The kids will grow soon and they'll need rooms of their own. You think I like it? I wish to God I had a garden with a huge palace in the middle, with long corridors lined with rooms. I'd give one to Mamma. But like this, it's better both for us and for that poor thing. God bless her."

"Did you say *God*? So manly of you. You can only tell fairy tales. A large corridor ..."

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. She was accustomed to hard 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.

- a. Why does Hamid decide to send Dahlia to an old age home? (4)
 - b. Describe the daughter's feelings in your own words. (4)
 - c. How does the daughter describe her mother? (4)
 - d. Use any three of the following words in sentences of your own bringing out the meaning, as used in the passage, clearly. (3)
- corridors dawn accustomed to choked refuse*

II. Answer any two of the following in about 150 words each: (2 x 10 = 20 marks)

1. What did the Greeks do in the competition with the Chinese artists?
2. Why does Roald Dahl want to ban the television set from homes?
3. According to Chief Seattle, how is the white man different from the red man in his attitude to nature?
4. In "The Story of an Hour" what are Mrs. Mallard's feelings when she hears of her husband's death?

III. Fill in the blanks choosing words from the list given below: (1 x 10 = 10 marks)

water table cameras people vans anxious
sky players centre cards direction rain

The 1 then zoomed in on the bridge 2. Hillary dealt and they took up their 3. They were very nervous and the bidding began tentatively. But they soon got into their stride and when Pru called a small slam, nimbus clouds threw a pall over the 4. As Hillary led the first card and Felicity put another on the 5, large drops began a loud tattoo on the ground. Then sheets of 6 slanted over the earth. 7 raced off in all 8 and the TV crews disappeared into 9. Only Queen Pulamvula collapsed in despair at the 10 of the arena.

SECTION B

IV. Choose the correct form of the verb that agrees with the subject: (1 x 15 = 15 marks)

1. The large companies in our area _____ (need/needs) good transport facilities.
2. According to the police, the suspect in both the robberies _____ (is/are) probably around the age of 40.
3. Of all the grammar topics I have studied, the most recent unit _____ (confuse/confuses) me the most.
4. Swimming in heated pools _____ (is/are) very common in the winter.
5. Without the new taxes, houses built before 1980 _____ (cost/costs) less than more modern homes do.
6. Neither the teacher nor the students _____ (want/wants) to use this book again.

7. That Shakespeare was a genius _____ (is/are) known to all students of literature.
8. Some of the books on the table _____ (belong/belongs) to me.
9. Never ____ (have/has) the weather been so bad in the month of June.
10. Playing sports such as tennis and basketball _____ (improve/improves) not only physical strength but also mental ability.
11. Much of the machinery on these farms _____ (seem/seems) unusable.
12. Either the astronauts or the flight director _____ (is/are) at fault.
13. A group of astronauts _____ (is travelling/are travelling) to Mars today.
14. The sun is one of the stars that _____ (give/gives) light to the planets.
15. The President, as well as his brother, _____ (have been invited/has been invited).

V. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs given in brackets:

(1 x 10 = 10 marks)

Once upon a time, there was a woman who knew a story and a song. But for several years, she _____ **1** _____ (never, tell) the story or _____ **2** _____ (sing) the song to anyone. So they _____ **3** _____ (begin) to feel choked. One night, when she _____ **4** _____ (sleep) soundly, the song _____ **5** _____ (take) the shape of a pair of shoes and the story, that of a man's coat. The woman's husband came home, late at night. He saw the shoes and the coat and _____ **6** _____ (ask) her, "Who _____ **7** _____ (come) to visit us at this time?" The woman _____ **8** _____ (sleep) soundly all the while. She _____ **9** _____ (not see) the shoes and the coat and so could not understand what her husband _____ **10** _____ (say).

SECTION C

VI. Write an essay in about 150 words on any one of the following:

(15 marks)

- a. A Rainy Day in Chennai
- b. If I Had a Magic Wand
- c. My Favourite Fairy Tale
