



**SECOND YEAR HIGHER SECONDARY SECOND TERMINAL  
EVALUATION, DECEMBER 2018  
ENGLISH  
Maximum : 80 Scores**

Time : 2½ Hours  
Cool-off Time : 15 Minutes

**General Instructions to Candidates :**

- There is a 'Cool off time' of 15 minutes in addition to the writing time.
- Use the 'cool off time' to get familiar with questions and to plan your answers.
- Read questions carefully before answering.
- Write answer to the specific number of questions as instructed.

**Score**

**Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :**

The academic system at Xavier's was different from the system in the US. Here, a far more bookish form of learning replaced the academic rigour and intellectual stimulation I had received in Massachusetts. I quickly realized that I'd be able to learn more in the city, beyond the classroom.

1. Who is the speaker here ? (1)
2. How is the academic system at Xavier's different from the system in the US ? (1)
3. Did the speaker like the system at Xavier's ? What did she quickly realise ? (2)

**Read the following lines from the poem 'Any Woman' and answer the questions given below :**

I am their wall against all danger,  
Their door against the wind and snow,  
Thou whom a woman laid in a manger,  
Take me not till the children grow !

4. Identify the figure of speech employed in the lines. (1)
5. Elaborate the message conveyed through the lines. (2)



## Score

6. Edit the following passage :

Education is the foundation upon which any change is built. Learning help women to help themselves and break the shackle of exclusions. Nowhere is this more essential than in a developing world. (4)

7. Report the conversation given below :

MRS JONES : I'm very well, thank you. Have you finished your Christmas shopping yet ? I'm still in the middle of mine.

MRS. SMITH : I've posted my cards and presents. (4)

8. Your class is conducting a panel discussion on the topic, "Indian Women finding a space in Socio Cultural Milieu". You are the second panellist speaking about the need for cultivating mental strength and mental toughness in women. What would be your points ? (3)

9. It's true that we don't always need advice or answer. Sometimes all we need is a hand to hold, an ear to listen and a heart to understand. In the light of your understanding of the anecdote 'Horegallu', prepare a write up on the need for sharing, caring and social togetherness for the well-being of a stress-ridden society. (6)

10. "We are the slaves of our customs" – In the light of your understanding the poem "Mending Wall". Prepare two sentences agreeing or disagreeing to this statement. (2)

**Questions 11 – 18. Answer any six. Each question carries 5 Scores. (6×5=30)**

11. Money can play strange tricks on man. It is difficult to be morally upright in a socially corrupt set up. In the light of your understanding of the play 'The Hour of Truth'. Prepare a letter to the editor on the social evil called corruption.
12. The bus stops on the road across from the house when I left this place, palm thatched houses could be seen in the distance, on the right, but now there's nothing except for trees. How the place has changed !  
Here, the poet Chemmanam Chacko notices drastic changes in his native village. Have you noticed any devastating changes in your environment. Prepare a blog entry about your observation.
13. Social entrepreneurs are individuals with innovative solutions to the society's most pressing social problems. How far is the statement true ? In the light of your understanding of the inspiring interview with Irfan Alam, you prepare an e-mail to be sent to your friend who is pursuing a career in social entrepreneurship.



### Score

14. "Nomita laughs a laugh that can bring an attractive flush to a white face". Attempt a character sketch of Nomita.
15. "When a whole people stammer  
Stammer becomes their mother tongue  
Just as it is with us now".  
How is a person's stammer different from a whole people's stammer? Does it signify the society's indifference to burning issues? Give your opinion in a paragraph.
16. Prepare a blurb-based on the following information.  
Wings of Fire; An autobiography of Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam.  
Originally published in 1999.  
Co-authored by Arun Tiwari.  
Discusses Dr. Kalam's early life, hardships.  
His life in ISRO, DRDO and about his missile programme.
17. The ticking parcel in the post office created funny moments but proved harmful and painful in the end as the assistant leaves the post office for ever. Have you ever had any such experience of humour creating inconvenience to yourself or others. Narrate your experience.
18. You, as a T.V. Journalist, are assigned to report the climax of the story, 'Amigo Brothers'. Prepare a live report describing how Tompkins Square Park changed its mood from fear to cheer when the two Amigos embraced and left the ring arm in arm.

**Questions from (19 – 21) Answer any two. Each question carries 8 Scores. (8×2=16)**

**(Internal choice is allowed)**

19. A relief centre in your locality is planning to give English classes to the children below 10 years. They are looking for volunteers to help them in tutoring the children from economically and socially backward areas. You would like to apply for the job. Write an application and resume with necessary details.
20. The third 'L' is leadership that enables women to rise and fulfil their innate abilities and talents. They are more likely to make decisions based on consensus building, inclusion, compassion and with a focus on long-term sustainability. Do you think leadership roles can improve women's status in society? Prepare the script of a speech on the need for women rising from subservient roles to leadership roles to be delivered on the occasion of international Women's Day celebrations in your school.

21. a) Your school has decided to publish a magazine on the occasion of Annual Day Celebrations. As the secretary of the health club of your school, you are contributing an article on 'Dangers of Drug Abuse'. Prepare the article.

OR

- b) Activities that devastate the environment and societies continue unabated. Our planet is suffering the consequences of **man's** greed in the form of natural disasters. It's high time that we changed our mindset and stopped threatening the life support system. The Eco Club in your school is organising a seminar on 'Environmental Conservation and Restoration Indigenous Culture for Sustainable Development'. You are presenting a paper on this. Prepare the seminar paper.
22. Read the following poem and prepare a critical appreciation comparing it with 'Mending Wall' by Robert Frost. (8)

**Dear Neighbour**

— Jovonni Edwards

How are you doing today ?  
The grass is green,  
The sun is shining,  
We are alive to see a new day.  
We live by one another,  
On this huge planet that is our home,  
If we cannot learn to greet another,  
And treat one another with love,  
Then what good will be able to come ?  
I understand dear neighbour,  
We may not know one another's name,  
Nor see one another often,  
It is easy to feel as if we are strangers,  
But that is not true, I promise  
So please do not fear me, dear neighbour, I am  
Just a simple man,  
Living on this earth as happily, peacefully  
And joyfully as I can