



# SHRI KRISHNA ACADEMY

NEET, JEE AND BOARD EXAM COACHING CENTRE  
SBM SCHOOL CAMPUS, TRICHY MAIN ROAD, NAMAKKAL  
CELL: 9965531727-9443231727

Std : XII

Time : 1.30 Hr

Sub: ENGLISH

**FIRST MID TERM TEST NKL JULY 2019** Marks : 50

I. Write synonyms for the words underlined from the options given 1x3=3	
1. Artless – (a) Innocent	
2. Stimulated – (a) Motivated	
3. Civilization – (a) Progress	
II. Write Antonyms for the words underlined from the options given 1x3=3	
4. Deserted X (a) inhabited	
5. Optimistic X (c) Pessimistic	
6. Arrival X (a) Departure	
III. Write Short Answers for any Two of the following 2x2=4	
7. The Two Gentlemen of Verona are 'Nicola' and 'Jacopo'. The narrator met the two small boys Nicola and Jacopo at the Outskirts of Verona.	
8. The boys were working hard to provide all possible help to their sister Lucia, who was suffering from tuberculosis of the spine. The two boys worked day in and day out, took every possible job, starved themselves to provide for their sister's treatment.	
9. People, who only drink tea in order to be warmed and stimulated, need sugar to take the taste away. The author calls these people as 'misguided ones'. He advises them to drink tea without sugar for a fortnight and after that, they would never want to ruin their tea by sweetening it.	
IV. Write a Paragraph in about 100 words 1x4=4	
10. (a) <b>TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA</b>	
<b>A.J.Cronin</b>	
Archibald Joseph Cronin (1896-1981) was a Scottish novelist, dramatist and physician. A doctor by training, Cronin was one of the most renowned storytellers of the twentieth century. Cronin has very well carved the idea of ' <u>selfless help</u> ' and explained the importance of dedication towards relationships	



in the story Two Gentlemen of Verona The story revolves around the two boys named Nicola and Jacopo who do numerous things to earn money only to pay for their sister's treatment who suffers from tuberculosis of the spine. The story begins with the narrator driving down the foothills of the Alps. Here is when he first encounters the two brothers selling wild strawberries. The two boys had dressed in rags and shabby appearance with tangled hair, dark earnest eyes, and brown skin even after the driver forbade the narrator to buy the wild fruits, he bought the biggest basket and drove towards the town. This scene emphasizes on the first step of growing intimacy between the narrator and the two boys. Next day, the boys were found shining shoes in the public square. This amazed the narrator. Here is when they revealed the fact that they did numerous kinds of things to earn money. Here, the narrator is shown to develop a soft corner for them in his heart. He finds them to be innocent, serious, pleasant and earnest.

**“Their love and emotional strength is exemplary but most exemplary is their maturity and sense of responsibility”.**

The boys are very useful for the narrator. They are very willing to satisfy all that the narrator required. They were also found selling newspapers by the narrator one stormy night. One day, when the narrator asked if he could help them in any way they said they would be very grateful if they got a lift to the nearby village Poleta. Although it didn't come in the narrator's way he took them there. The boys got down in a building and asked the author to wait in a nearby café while they would be back within an hour. Eagerness led the narrator to follow the boys up to a place which was actually a hospital. On peeping through a room led by a nurse, he realized that the boys were talking to a girl who resembled them. He did not feel like intruding and thus asked the nurse the details about the boys. This is when the nurse told him their heart rendering story about their father being killed in a war and home being destroyed in a war and their sister suffering from tuberculosis. The brothers lived in a shelter and literally starved only so that they could pay for their sister's treatment. Them keeping a secret and helping their sister showed that war had not shaken their spirit. They were noble and gentle and great and great human beings in their own special yet subtle way. This story distinctly talks about how



true the amplification says. "All that glitters is not gold". In turn explaining the fact that appearances are deceptive.

## **(b) A NICE CUP OF TEA**

**- GEORGE ORWELL**

Eric Arthur Blair, better known by his pen name George Orwell, was an English novelist, essayist, journalist and critic, whose work is marked by lucid prose, awareness of social injustice, opposition to totalitarianism and outspoken support of democratic socialism.

"Tea is one of the main stays of civilizations in this country"

One of the most influential statement of the British 'way of tea' is George Orwell's essay. 'A nice cup of tea' published in the evening standard on 12 January 1946. It was written at a time when tea was rationed and is short supply, against the backdrop of severe food shortage across Europe. The process of tea making is a subject matter of violent disputes. The author has come up with eleven golden rules for preparation of a nice tea. First he begins to insist on using an Indian or Ceylonese Tea, to feel wiser, braver and more optimistic. Tea should be made in small quantities' in a china or earthenware. The pot should be warmed beforehand. Tea should always be strong and it should be put straight into the teapot. We should take the teapot to the kettle and after making tea, one should stir it well. Tea should be drunk out of a cylindrical type of cup, as it holds more tea. Milk that is too creamy always gives the tea, a sickly taste. So we should pour the cream of the milk. Two of these rules are generally agreed by the public, but at least four other are actually controversial. 'What should be poured first in the cup' has become a subject of controversial points. George Orwell says that one should pour tea first in the cup. While most of the people prefer to add sugar in the tea, the author says to add pepper or salt to it. If we drink tea without sugar for a fortnight, we would never ruin tea by sweetening it again. He claims that there are some mysterious social etiquette surrounding tea pot. It is vulgar to drink tea out of one's saucer. There are some subsidiary uses of tea leaves such as telling fortunes, predicting the arrival of visitors, feeding rabbits, heading burns and sweeping the carpet.



V. Write a Paragraph in about 100 words

1x 4 = 4

11.

**(a) THE CASTLE**

**- EDWIN MUIR**

EDWIN MUIR lived from 15<sup>th</sup> May 1887 to 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1959. He was a novelist and translator as well as one of Scotland's most important poets of 1900s. "The Castle" by Edwin Muir details a post event of castle's over taking through account of a soldier, who witnessed the castle's fall first hand. It tells the story of an unspecified battle. The soldiers of the Castle were totally stress free and related. They were confident of their castle's physical strength. Through the turrets, They were able to watch movers and no enemy was found up to the distance of half-a-mile and so it seemed no threat to the castle. Secondly the fear of enemies diminished that is they had plenty of weapons to protect and a large Quantity of ration in stock to take care of the well-being of the soldiers, who were inside the castle. There was a foothold, from which an advance military operation is made. They believed that the castle was absolutely safe because their captain was brave and soldiers were loyal. Even by a trick no one could enter into the castle. Only a bird could fly over the wall and reach the castle. No soldiers would be attracted with a bribe for the entry inside the castle. But there was evil old guard, who was fascinated by the bribery of the enemies and let them in through a little



private gate. He became a victim of bribery given by the enemies. Hence the enemies conquered the castle. The citadel was known for its secret galleries and intricate path. The strong castle became weak and thin because of the greedy disloyal warder. The narrator lamented over the disloyalty of the guard and he was feeling ashamed to tell anyone about this shameful act of the guard. The citadel was captured by the enemies for gold. He regretted for not finding any weapon to fight with enemy called gold. Thus "Human greedy led to the mighty fall of the citadel".

**"Betrayal is secret and subtle and that an army is only strong, if its men can't be bribed"**

(OR)

### **(b) OUR CASUARINA TREE**

**-Toru Dutt**

"Our Casuarina Tree" is a most celebrated poem of Toru Dutt. Toru Dutt (1856-1877) was a Bengali poetess. She wrote poem and literary works in English and French. Her family was a family of distinguished intellectuals and poets. The theme of the poem is about "last Friendship" and "lost childhood". The poet Toru Dutt remembers how her days started with the ecstatic sight of the Casuarina tree from her casement. The tree is tall and mighty. A creeper winds around its huge and wide trunk like a python. She remembers how well the tree accommodated birds to sing songs during days and nights. The tree had allowed the creeper to embrace it like a lady love. Though it is sapped (weak) its vitality, like a gallant lover, allowed the creeper to stay around its neck like a scarf. She remembers how a baboon seated at the crest of the tree had watched



beautiful sunrise while her young ones were leaping and playing in the lower branches of the giant tree. The cows are grazing in the lush green meadows around the tree. Water lilies add to the charm of the pond. She recalls that the tree is dear not because of its majestic looks but because of the nostalgic memories attached to it.

Dear is the Casuarina to my soul

Beneath it we have played though years may roll

O sweet companions, loved with love intense.

Like Wordsworth, Toru Dutt is also a great lover of nature. The emotional bonding between herself and the giant Casuarina tree is beyond reason. She remembers the happy times she had spent with her siblings, who are now no more, under the tree. Their absence makes the tree much more endearing to the poet. Mysteriously she hears the grief filled lament of the tree when she is on the shores of France and Italy. The Surprising thing is that she was able to see the tree in its prime in her own "loved native clime". Though her verse may be weak, her love will confer immortality on the Casuarina tree. She immortalizes the tree through her poem like the poet wordsworth who blessed the 'YEW TREE' of borrowdale in verse. She express her wish that the tree should be remembered out of love and not just because it cannot be forgotten.



VI. Write a Paragraph in about 100 words

1x 4 = 4

12.

**(a) God Sees the Truth, But Waits**

**- Leo Tolstoy (1828 - 1910)**

Leo Tolstoy was a Russian writer who is regarded as one of the greatest author's of all time. In "God sees the truth, But waits" the author's deep seated faith in God and moral values is expressed. We have the theme of guilt, forgiveness, faith, conflict, freedom and acceptance. Ivan Dmitrich Aksionov is a merchant living in Vladimir, town in Russia. Askionov was a businessman. He was respected by all the inmates due to his gentle behavior. He lived with his wife and children. He was full of life. He sang and played the guitar occasionally drank too. Once he got ready to go to the fair. His wife try to stop him saying that she had a bad dream.

**" I dreamt you returned from the town,**

**and when you took off your cap I saw that your hair was quite grey"**

But Ivan ignored his wife warning and went to the fair. As he liked cool weather, he left the inn early. He was intercepted by the police who searched his belongings. Finding a blood stained knife in his bag, he was arrested on charges of murder. His wife's petition for clemency(mercy) to the Tsar was turned down. His wife's unwillingness to trust him was more devastating than Tsar's rejection of mercy petition. He was flogged. After the wounds healed he was sent to work in the mines of Siberia. Staying 26 years in Siberia he grew a long beard. He became grandfather to the prisoners. He read "The lives of saints" and was found praying and singing in the choir. He was respected both by the fellow prisoners and the jail authorities for his gentle behavior. They called him grandfather and 'The Saint'. Everyone in the jail believed in his innocence and unjust condemnation. One day a new convict namely Makar Semeyonich came there. When Makar blurted out how the knife went to his bag kept under his head,



Ivan recognized Makar as the real murderer of the merchant. Ivan had a chance to expose Makar to the jail authorities. But he kept quiet. Makar became remorsefully(regretful) and asked Ivan's forgiveness. He forgave him. Makar confessed to the authorities. The order of pardon came but then Ivan Was dead. It is very easy to take revenge, but it is very difficult to forgive others. In this story, though Makar had murdered a merchant and he was the cause for the twenty six years imprisonment of Aksionov yethe was forgiven by Aksionov. This act of Aksionov made Makar to suffer humiliation and he admitted his fault to the authorities. He wept bitterly and beat his head on the floor. Thus Aksionov's forgiveness is the best form of revenge on Makar.

**Moral :**

"Forgiveness is the sweetest form of revenge"

(OR)

### **(b)LIFE OF PI**

#### **-YANN MARTEL**

The famous novel "Life of Pi" is an abridged (shortened) version written by a Spanish born candaian authorYann Martel published in 2001 become internationally famous and awarded the Man Booker prize in 2002. Pi recounts the ordeal (sufferings) he faced in the middle of the pacific ocean after the ship wreck. That is The Protagonist is Piscine Molitor "Pi" patel an Indian boy form Pondicherry survives 227 days after a shipwreck while stranded on a lifeboat in the Pacific Ocean with a Bengal tiger named Richard Parker. The Crisis in the mid ocean brought the pathetic experience where pi become lone and orphaned and in the state of shock . He found himself in the company of Richard Parker, a tiger, a Zebra, Monkey (orange juice) and Hyena. After two and a half days of drifting in the lifeboat, Pi discovered that Richard Parker was on board just below him. They were literally and figuratively in the



same boat. Parker was unusually quiet because of sea-sickness and the impact of heavy sedation might be given to him by Pi's father.

**I pinned by weakness to the tarpaulin. Even thinking was exhausting .....**

He managed the fear of the animals but he could not manage the thirst. His throat was parched he felt very thirsty. His blood had thickened. His leg had become stiff. The author calls it "liquid life". When Pi was dying of thirst, he forgot his fear of Richard Parker. His thirst overpowered his fear of Richard Parker and he went about exploring for fresh water. A little later, he succeeded in his search and came back to life and senses after drinking the Elixir of life. His mouth became moist and soft. He was coming back to life from the dead. Pi accepted that the Parker calmed him down. He said that one who scared him brought him peace. He wanted to tame him. His attitude was that the tiger should die first. But suddenly he realized that part of him loved the tiger. He did not want to be left alone. So he wanted to live with the tiger. At last Pi's boat reached an island. Richard Parker jumped and walked away without even looking back at Pi. Pi was found by ship and reunited with his family.

**MORAL :**

**"The great lesson that one should focus on living even in the most adverse situation in life"**



VII . Complete the following choosing from the four options given 10x 1 = 10

13. I have some more juice please?

**Could** I have some more juice please ?

Note: (could- polite request /can- same age group)

14. (b) is

15. (a) into

16. (d) flew

17. ( c ) Improper

18. (b) Walking stick / (d) Running train

19. (b) Ad

20. (b) Goods and Service Tax

21. (a) Don't they?

22. (c) SVC

VIII . Read the poetic Lines and answer the Questions below. 6 x 1=6

23. (a) Their enemy was gold

(b) No

24. (a) The Creeper was like a python

(b) The Casuarina tree

25. (a) Simile

(b) The Lillies cover the water surface like a snow enmassed

IX . Read the following Dialogue and complete the Report. 1 x 2 = 2

26. Priya asked Vijay where she was going. Vijay replied that he was going to the Railway station. Priya further enquired Why he was going there. Vijay replied that he wanted to receive his uncle. (BOOK BACK unit -1)

27. A book was given to me yesterday by Rama.

(OR)

1 x 2 = 2

I was given a book yesterday by rama.

28. Whether / Weather

1 x 2 = 2

29. Every one was sleeping when the earth quake hit the Town 1 x 2 = 2

X. Explain any Two of the following with reference to the context. 2 x 2=4

30. Reference :This line is taken from 'The Castle' written by Edwin Muir.

Context : This line is used by the poet to show the unfailing Confidence that the soldiers of the castle had.



**Explanation :**

The captain and his army of soldiers of the castle were very faithful. The narrator says that their captain was very brave and all the soldiers were loyal to their country. Hence, he believed strongly that no one could entice them with anything.

**31. Reference:**

This line is taken from the poem "Our Casuarina tree" written by Toru Dutt.

**Context:**

The tree is so strong that it bears the tight hold of the creepers..

**Explanation:**

A creeper is personified as a human being, which climbs the tree and embraces it. The tree is a link to the poet's past. She treats the tree like a person that looks as if it is wearing a scarf. It could speak and tell her stories of the past.

**32. Reference:**

This line is taken from 'The Castle' written by Edwin Muir.

**Context :**

The strong castle became weak and thin because of the greedy disloyal warder.

**Explanation:**

The poet says these words while describing the circumstances that led to the conquest of the castle without any bloodshed. A greedy aged warden let the enemies in through a little wicket gate.

# SHRI KRISHNA ACADEMY

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## FIRST MID TERM TEST JULY - 2019

## STANDARD XII

## ENGLISH NAMAKKAL DT.

Time: 1.30 hrs

Marks:50

**I. Write synonyms for the words underlined from the options given 1 x 3 = 3**

1. They were childish and in many ways quite artless  
a) Innocent                      b) Intelligent                      c) guile                      d) Tactful
2. They only drink tea in order to be warmed and stimulated  
a) motivated                      b) discouraged                      c) Passive                      d) Admired
3. Tea is one of the main stays of Civilization.  
a) Progress                      b) Refinement                      c) Wealth                      d) growth

**II. Write Antonyms for the words underlined from the options given 1 x 3 = 3**

4. We came upon them in a windy and deserted square  
a) inhabited                      b) uninhabited                      c) unknown                      d) crowded
5. One does not feel braver or more optimistic  
a) opportunistic                      b) cheerful                      c) pessimistic                      d) Realistic
6. Tea predicts the arrival of visitors  
a) Departure                      b) migration                      c) Removal                      d) gathering

**III. Write short Answers for any Two of the following. 2 x 2 = 4**

7. Who are the two gentlemen of Verona? and Where did the narrator meet them?
8. What made the Two boys work hard?
9. What were the views of the author George Orwell about The Russian Tea?

**IV. Write a Paragraph in about 100 words. 1 x 4 = 4**

10. Sketch the characters of Jacopo and Nicola  
Write briefly about "A Nice cup of Tea" by George Orwell. (Or)

**V. Write in about 100 words. 1 x 4 = 4**

11. Write the strength and weakness of the castle as expressed by the poet. Edwin Muir  
(Or)  
How does the poetess Toru Dutt remind the readers about her childhood experience?

**VI. Write a Paragraph in about 100 words expanding the hints given. 1 x 4 = 4**

12. In the town of Vladimir lived - Aksinov. Wished to go for Nizhny fair - His wife forbade him - slighted - slayed in an inn. started early - accused of murder - put - in fetters - Makar confessed - Aksinov ordered - release - justice delayed -  
(Or)

Pie was alone - orphaned - Drowned feared - The life boat - saw a shark. did not attack - Looked around Richard Parker on board - pi came back to life - He did not want Parker die - - -

**VII. Complete the following choosing from the four options given. 10 x 1 = 10**

13. I have some more juice please?  
a) can                      b) could                      c) will                      d) would



- N** **2** **XII - English**
14. Prem's family \_\_\_\_\_ (be) in Chennai now  
a) are b) is c) were d) was
  15. The boy jumped \_\_\_\_\_ a narrow stream.  
a) into b) in c) below d) along
  16. The plane **took off** from the airport  
a) started b) perched c) Landed d) flew
  17. Prefix the root word - **Proper**  
a) un \_\_\_\_\_ b) dis \_\_\_\_\_ c) im \_\_\_\_\_ d) non \_\_\_\_\_
  18. Identify compound word having **gerund + Noun**  
a) stone building b) walking Stick  
c) Running Train d) Hand washing
  19. The Clipped form of "Advertisement" is \_\_\_\_\_  
a) Add b) Ad c) Addition d) Advertise
  20. The Abbreviation **GST** stands for -  
a) Goods and sales Tax b) Goods and service Tax  
c) Goods service Tax d) Global sales Tax
  21. The girls sing a song has the Tag \_\_\_\_\_  
a) Don't they? b) did n't they?  
c) haven't they d) Aren't they?
  22. "He is our team leader", has the pattern  
a) SVO b) SVCA c) SVC d) SVOC
- VIII. Read the poetic Lines and answer the Questions below.** **6 x 1 = 6**
23. Our only enemy was gold  
And we had no arms to fight it with.  
a) Who was their enemy?  
b) Are there Arms to fight against Material gain?
  24. Like a huge python winding round and round  
The rugged trunk -----  
a) Who was like a python?  
b) Which has the rugged Trunk?
  25. The water - Lillies Spring like snow enmassed.  
a) What is the figure of speech used in this?  
b) How do the Lillies cover the water surface?
- IX. Read the following Dialogue and complete the Report.** **1 x 2 = 2**
26. Priya : Where are you going?  
Vijay : I am going to the Railway station.  
Priya : Why?  
Vijay : I want to receive my uncle.
  27. Rama gave me a book yesterday [Change the voice] **1 x 2 = 2**
  28. Ask him \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ is fine [use homophones weather / whether] **1 x 2 = 2**
  29. Every one \_\_\_\_\_ (Sleep) when the earth quake hit the Town  
[use correct Tense] **1 x 2 = 2**
- X. Explain any Two of the following with reference to the context.** **2 x 2 = 4**
30. What could they offer us for bait?
  31. A creeper climbs in whose embraces No other free could live.
  32. A Little wizened warder let them through.  
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