

**PERIODIC ASSESSMENT – 2**

**ENGLISH**

**Class: XII Max Marks: 40**

**Date: 20.07.22 Time: 1hr 30min**

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| **General Instructions**  **This paper is divided into three sections:**  **Section A: Reading – (10marks)**  **Section B: Writing – (10marks)**  **Section C: Literature & Long reading text - (20marks)**  **All sections are compulsory.**  **Separate instructions have been given for each section and each question.**  **Follow these instructions carefully.**  **Do not exceed the word limit.** |

**SECTION –A (READING) - 20MARKS**

**Section - A Reading [10 Marks]**

**1. Read the following passage given below. (10m)**

(1) I felt stupid, being made to stand on the desk while the other kids were bent over their notebooks. I couldn’t understand my new school or my new classmates, or their alien language – English – and the fact that they could do sums in their head, while I struggled with a paper and pencil. For me, at age six, the good timeshad ended. Life seemed a far cry from those days in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh, all thanks to my grandfather’s reflected glory. He was a military doctor, a great man, and I lived with him. And so even policemen gave me affectionate salaams, which I learned to acknowledge with a nod, I’d simply lay my head down on the desk and sleep in class, if bored. I was a pampered little prince.

(2) In early 1971, my parents decided it was time I moved to Bombay where father worked. My first few days were a disaster. No one spoke Tamil or Telugu, the only languages I knew. I couldn’t keep pace with their writing or reading. Then one day, a slight plump lady with large spectacles, wearing trousers walked into the classroom. “Hello,” she said, “My name is Miss Jean. I am your new class teacher.” She’d done her homework. Spotting me in a back corner, she beckoned me to the front. My almost empty notebooks must have given Miss Jean a clue that I needed the extra attention. If the class had to write a page, I’d be made to write two. Even during PT, I had to stay back and write. When I was caught sneaking to the window to watch the others playing, Miss Jean put me in the middle row, far from the window.

(3) I made some progress and Miss Jean made it a point to praise every little achievement. If I did my work wrong, she’d call me to her desk, hug me and show me how to correct my errors. Mistakes were only human in her eyes, but neglecting home work was a crime-there’d be a terse comment in my diary for mother to see. And I’d be grounded that evening. Meanwhile I was getting possessive and minded if another child got more hugs. By Christmas, I stood fifth in class. “I am very proud of Srikant,” she told the class after reading

out the marks. I narrated that moment to mother again and again. When I returned after summer vacations, I heard that Miss Jean had got married and was going to Australia.

(4) Many years went by. I graduated in engineering, then in management, got a job, married and had kids. One day I found myself thinking of Miss Jean. Soon afterwards I found myself in Sydney, Australia, on an official trip. I tried looking up for my teacher in the phone book. But it was of no help as I did not know even her surname. Thank you, Miss Jean wherever you are for, the tact and patience with which you taught me.

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the given questions. (1 × 10 = 10)**

**(i)** Why was the narrator feeling ‘stupid’ in the first paragraph?

**(ii)** Why is it that the narrator feels “English” to be an alien language?

**(iii)** The narrator said his “good times had ended” when he was six years old. Why?

**(iv)** Why was life in Mumbai a “disaster” for the narrator?

**(v)** Why did Miss Jean treat the narrator ‘different’ from other students?

**(vi)** What made the narrator decide to look up Miss Jean when he went to Australia?

**(vii)** What, according to the author, did he learn from Miss Jean?

**(viii)** The narrator felt that he was targeted by Miss Jean when he was in school but then realized the true nature of her teaching after he grew up. What does this show?

**(ix)** What two attributes of Miss Jean can we take from the story that we can incorporate in our lives?(2m)

**Section - B Writing [10 marks]**

**2. You are a student leader of Apex Public School, Bengaluru. Draft a printed invitation on behalf of the Principal for a musical evening to be held in your school.(5m)**

**3. Sarvodaya Public School is organizing its Annual Sports Day . The Principal wishes to invite Football player Chuni Goswami as the Chief guest to preside over the function. Draft a formal letter of invitation to be sent to the above mentioned dignitary.(5m)**

**Section - C Literature [20 marks]**

**4.Read the extract carefully and answer the questions. (6m)**

(i) "And such too is the grandeur of the dooms

We have imagined for the mighty dead;

All lovely tales that we have heard or read;

An endless fountain of immortal drink,

Pouring unto us from the heaven’s brink.”

a)What is the thing of beauty mentioned in these lines?(1m)

b)What is the effect of that immortal drink?(1m)

(ii) The expression ‘o’er – darkened ways’ implies: (Choose the correct

one)(1m)

(a) dull and dark life

(b) evil and immoral ways of life

(c) never ending path

(d) fearless manner

(iii) The Thing of Beauty is an Excerpt taken from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (1m)

(iv) Beauty has a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ quality , ability to remove negativity.(1m)

(v) Rhyming couplets are also known as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (1m)

**5.Answer the following questions (30 to 40 words) (6m)**

(a) **How did Charley ascertain that he had reached the 1894 world?**

(b) What does third level refer to?

**6. Answer the following statement/context in about 100 to 120 words: (8m)**

(a) Douglas has a near-death experience in his childhood which has a negative as well as a positive outcome. Justify the statement with evidences from the text.