

SASTRI COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

March Controlled Test 2020

Grade 8

Examiner: S.Murugan

Marks: 30

Moderator: S. Sewram

Time: 1 hour.

Section A: Comprehension

Question 1: Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

The Best Teacher Ever

1. There's a story from many years ago of a primary school teacher. Her name was Mrs Thompson and as she stood in front of her fifth grade class on the very first day of school, she told the children a lie. Like most teachers, she looked at her students and said she loved them all the same. But that was impossible, because there in the front row, slumped in his seat, was a little boy named Teddy Stoddard.
2. Mrs Thomson had watched Teddy the year before and noticed he didn't play with the other children, his clothes were messy and he constantly needed a bath. Teddy could be quite unpleasant.
3. It got to the point where Mrs Thompson would actually take delight in marking his papers with a broad red pen, making bold Xs and then putting a big "F" at the top of his papers. At the school where Mrs Thompson taught, she was required to review each child's past records and she put Teddy's off until last.
4. However, when she reviewed his file, she was in for a surprise. Teddy's first grade teacher wrote, "Teddy is a bright child with a ready laugh. He does his work neatly and has good manners. He is a joy to be around." His second grade teacher wrote, "Teddy is an excellent student, well-liked by his classmates, but he is troubled because his mother has a terminal illness and life at home must be a struggle." Teddy's fourth grade teacher wrote, "Teddy is withdrawn and doesn't show much interest in school. He doesn't have many friends and sometimes sleep in class."
5. By now, Mrs Thompson realised the problem and she was ashamed of herself. She felt even worse when her students brought her Christmas presents, wrapped in beautiful paper and tied with pretty ribbons, except for Teddy's. His present was clumsily wrapped in the heavy brown paper he got from a grocery bag.

6. Mrs Thompson took pains to open it in the middle of the other presents. Some of the children started to laugh when she found a rhinestone bracelet with some of the stones missing, and a bottle that was one quarter full of perfume. But she stifled the children's laughter when she exclaimed how pretty the bracelet was, putting it on, and dabbing some of the perfume on her wrist. Teddy Stoddard stayed after school that day just long enough to say, "Mrs Thompson, today you smell just like my mum used to."
7. After the children left, she cried for at least an hour. On that very day, she quit teaching reading, writing and arithmetic. Instead, she began to teach children. Mrs Thompson paid particular attention to Teddy. As she worked with him, his mind seemed to come alive. The more she encouraged him, the faster he responded. By the end of the year, Teddy had become one of the smartest children in the class, and despite her lie that she would love all the children the same, Teddy became one of the teacher's pets.
8. Eight years passed and Mrs Thompson received a letter from Teddy. This time, he explained that after he got his bachelor's degree he decided to go a little further. This letter explained that she was still the best and favourite teacher he ever had. But now his name was a little longer. The letter was signed Theodore F. Stoddard, MD.

QUESTIONS

1.1 Refer to paragraph 1:

- 1.1.1 Where was Mrs Thompson a school teacher? (1)
- 1.1.2 What grade was she teaching? (1)

1.2 Why did Mrs Thompson lie to her class? (2)

1.3 Refer to paragraph 2:

- 1.3.1 Provide two reasons why Mrs Thomson was concerned about Teddy after observing him the year before. (2)
- 1.3.2 Explain what the symbol Mrs Thompson gave Teddy for his assessments represents. (2)

1.4 Refer to paragraph 3:

- 1.4.1 Why was Mrs Thompson surprised after reading Teddy's progress reports? (2)

1.5 Refer to paragraph 3 and 4:

- 1.5.1 Suggest a reason why there is no progress report for Teddy's 3rd grade. (1)
- 1.5.2 Why did the children laugh when Teddy presented his teacher with a Christmas gift? (2)
- 1.5.3 Explain why these gifts were important to Teddy. Comment on each gift. (2)

1.6 Do you think that it was wrong that Teddy became the "teacher's pet"? Explain. (3)

1.8 Discuss the significance of the title "**The Best Teacher Ever**". (2)

[20]

Section B: Language

Question 2: Advertisement: Read the advertisement below and answer the questions set.

The BEACH SHACK

Dolphin Coast Ballito

A funky collection of gifts & curios for tourists as well as anyone wanting to take home a little piece of the coast.

Open 7 days a week!



We specialize in shells & beach decor but also stock a wide range of gifts from kitchenware to soaps, candles & jewellery.

Shop 12, Boulevard Centre,
Ballito, Jack Powell Drive



Find us on
Facebook



@beachshack_giftstore

- 2.1 Identify the business that is being advertised. (1)
- 2.2 Mention TWO ways in which the reader can obtain more information about this place. (2)
- 2.3 Identify a target group this advertisement will appeal to. (1)
- 2.4 Discuss the significance of the map (2)
- 2.5 Does the picture support the message of the advertisement? Discuss your answer (2)
- 2.7 State whether the following is a fact or opinion:
- 2.7.1 Open 7 days a week (1)
- 2.7.2 A funky collection of gifts and curios for tourists (1)
- [10]**