



# **ENGLISH**

**(First Year)**

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**CGCC, DVHSE**

## **Unit 1 - GLIMPSES OF GREATNESS**

### **His First Flight (Liam O'Flaherty)**

The short story 'His First Flight' by Liam O'Flaherty narrates how a frightened seagull learns to fly. This story highlights the importance of independence, self-confidence, self-reliance, will power, crisis management and perseverance. Once, a young seagull was standing alone on a rock in the sea. He was very much afraid to fly. His parents tried their level best to teach it to fly but in vain. The young seagull was maddened by hunger. He saw his mother tearing a piece of fish. He begged his mother to give him food. The mother later took a piece of fish in her beak and came flying over him. When she reached over him she became motionless in the air. The young seagull bent forward and jumped at the fish. So he lost his balance and flew down from the rock into the space. After a moment he felt his wings spreading outwards. He flapped his wings and soared upwards. His parents and siblings flew around him to encourage him. They were extremely happy and they all expressed their joy on his successful flight.

### **I Will Fly (Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam)**

'I Will Fly' is the title given to a speech by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. He began his speech on the topic 'I am born with Wings'. He expressed the hope that the youth of today need not fear about their future. He also inaugurated a programme called 'Sasthrayaan' which means the 'propagation of science'. After the speech, a number of students raised their hands for asking questions. The questions asked by a teenager from a remote village were really inspiring. The boy was nervous and he expressed his wish to become a marine engineer. But he was afraid of asking questions to his teachers and friends. Abdul Kalam recited a poem in response to the question. The speaker in the poem says that he has abilities, ideas, dreams and confidence. He has wings too. So he won't crawl. He will fly higher and higher. After this, Kalam advised him to be unique. Imitating others will not make us unique. Kalam told them that being unique is a great challenge. They must work hard until they reach their goal.

### **Quest for a Theory of Everything (Kitty Gail Ferguson)**

'Quest for a Theory of Everything' by Kitty Gail Ferguson is the history of a legend - Stephen Hawking who has overcome his physical disabilities. He is a Cambridge genius who faced the challenges and the mortal disease with his willpower and determination. Stephen Hawking was born on January 8<sup>th</sup> 1942, in Oxford, England. At the age of 21, he was diagnosed with a fatal disease. It was really a shocking news for Hawking and his family. But he was not completely down with pessimistic thoughts. He married Jane Wilde in 1965. His reputation as 'a genius', 'another Einstein' began during his Cambridge days. He started writing a book about the Universe in 1980. Before completing the book, he had to undergo a major operation. After the operation, he lost his vocal sound. Then he continued his work with the help of a computer programme called Equalizer. This helped him to select words from the screen. In 1988, he published his book 'A Brief History of Time'. In spite of his crippling disease, he has become the supernova of world physics.

### **If (Rudyard Kipling)**

Rudyard Kipling's poem 'If' is in the form of an advice given by a father to his son. The father tells his son that he should hold his head high while others lose theirs. Even if others doubt him, he should trust himself. Again, he should always be patient even when he is hated by others. Also, he must not be self-righteous. Further, he must not be a slave of his dreams. He must also treat both triumph and disaster as impostors. When he finds what he has built is broken, he must not fail, rather, he must attempt to build again. He also advises his son to suffer the loss in silence and begin again at the beginning. He must always keep his virtue. He should see that he is not hurt by friends or foes. Such an ideal man shall inherit the earth.

## **Unit 2 - WORDS AND DEEDS**

### **And then Gandhi Came (Jawaharlal Nehru)**

'And then Gandhi Came' is an extract from Nehru's 'The Discovery of India'. In this lesson, he writes about the timely arrival of Gandhiji to Indian politics. It was really a critical period when Gandhi came to Indian politics. He was like a powerful current of fresh air. He encouraged people to fight against exploitation. He wanted to avoid poverty and misery from the lives of the Indians. His teaching instilled fearlessness and truth. He himself set an example for 'Abhaya' which means absence of fear. Gandhiji raised his strong voice against all social evils. Though he could not make a total change, a change of attitude was visible among people. They raised their voice against the exploitation and humiliation by the British. Gandhiji stood as a symbol of uncompromising truth. His call of action was two-fold. First it was directed against British rule, and then against all kinds of social evils like untouchability, class division etc. He dreamt of an ideal India free from the curse of untouchability and intoxicating drinks and drugs. His personality was like a magnet which attracted millions of people all over the world.

### **The Price of Flowers (Prabhat Kumar Mukhopadhyay)**

'The Price of Flowers' is a story written by P. K. Mukhopadhyay. Gupta was an Indian living in London. Once he met Alice in a vegetarian restaurant. She was working as a typist in a nearby office. Her mother made cakes to sell on Saturdays. She was from a poor family. She wanted to know if Gupta was an Indian. Her brother Frank had gone to India as he was a soldier in a military service. Gupta once went to Maggie's house to meet her mother. Her mother was anxious to know about India because she had heard that India was a land of tigers, snakes and fevers. She believed that most of the Indians had the rare power to see a person living in a distant land by gazing at a crystal ring. Maggie and her mother wanted him to look into the crystal ring and say how Frank was. Gupta told them that he did not possess such a power. One day Gupta received news that Maggie's mother was not well. He went to their house immediately. Maggie wanted him to gaze into the crystal and say whether Frank was safe. Gupta took the ring and told a lie that Frank was safe. Maggie's mother was happy and soon became well. Later Gupta was shocked to learn that Frank had died in the war. Gupta felt very sad. Then in the morning of his last day in London, Maggie came to see him when he was packing up things. She gave him a shilling to buy flowers and place them on her brother's grave in Punjab. He accepted it because it would give her joy beyond all price.

### **Death the Leveller (James Shirley)**

In 'Death the Leveller' the poet speaks about the might of death. The high and the low, the mighty and the weak, the rich and the poor – are all equal before Death. There is no weapon against Fate. The icy hands of death do not spare even kings. The sceptre and crown are symbols of their power and glory. Scythe and spade represent the poor working class but when death comes all must yield to it. All the glory will be reduced to dust. Some achieve glory in battlefields. Their strength will weaken one day. All must stoop to fate someday. The garlands which adorn the head will dry and wither away. The victorious king will soon become the victim of Death. He will be like an animal sacrificed on the altar of death. After death, only our just actions will be remembered like sweet smelling flowers.

## **Unit 3 - BEYOND THE HORIZON**

### **Sunrise on the Hills (W. H. Longfellow)**

In the poem 'Sunrise on the Hills', the poet highlights the soothing qualities of nature. The poem conveys the message that in times of sorrow and pain, we can get peace and comfort in the bosom of nature. The poet stood on a hill. The sun was rising. The horizon was clothed in the light of the sun. The woods were brightened. The clouds below were bathed in glory. The peaks were visible above the mist. Leafless pines were rocking on the cliff. The rivers flowed down by the forest's shade. The poet heard the waters dashing. He saw the flash of the current. The branches of trees were bending on the blue lake's beach. The music of the village bell echoed from the distant hills. The owl's voice filled the whole woodland. Thus the poem gives a rare poetic experience and visual feast to the reader.

### **The Trip of Le Horla (Guy de Maupassant)**

'The Trip of Le Horla' is a thrilling story of an adventurous balloon journey from Belgium to Paris written by Guy de Maupassant. One evening Captain Jovis, Lieutenant Mallet, Mr. Etierine, Mr. Paul Bessand and the narrator took off in a balloon. They enjoyed the panoramic view of Paris city. For them, the earth looked like a coloured map. They thought that they were in a wonder world. When they started their journey, it was dark on the earth and they were in the light. They thought that nothing was more amusing and interesting than travelling in a hot air balloon. Soon they could feel a current of warm air, and the balloon started rising. They had an impression that they were alone in space with the moon. For them the moon looked like another balloon travelling opposite to them. The barometer showed two thousand meters and then two thousand three hundred and fifty. Then the balloon stopped. It started its journey back to earth. Captain Jovis was getting ready for a favourable landing. But they knew well that it was totally out of their control. Finally it touched the earth. The balloon struggled madly like a wounded beast. The peasants around wondered at the sight of the balloon. The cows looked astonishingly at the five men and the massive balloon. But the peasants helped them reach the station at Heyst. From there they took the train to Paris.

### **The Sacred Turtles of Kadavu (A Fijian Legend)**

'The Sacred Turtles of Kadavu' speaks about a strange ritual on a Fijian island. The ritual is connected to a story from a village in Kadavu. There, the women chant to call turtles. Long ago in the lovely village of Namuana, lived a beautiful princess Tinaicoboga. She was the wife of the chief. The chief and his wife had a daughter, Raudalice. Raudalice often went for fishing with her mother. One day, while they were so engrossed in fishing they didn't notice the stealthy approach of the fishermen of Nabukelevu. The fishermen came close and seized the two women. They bound the women, and tossed them into the canoe, and set off. The two women cried aloud to make them free. But the fishermen were so cruel that they laughed at them. But the gods were not pleased with the fishermen's cruelty. Suddenly they sent a huge storm and tossed the canoe. By now, they did not notice what was happening to the two women. Later they saw that those two women were turned into two giant sea turtles. Then the sea became calm. The fishermen ran for their life. The Fijians still believe that Tinaicoboga and Raudalice live in the waters of that bay. Even today, the women from Namuana village are dressed in mourning clothes to chant the song for their beloved turtles. They think that the giant turtles would rise to the surface of the bright blue waters.

## **Unit 4 - BRAVING THE HAZARDS**

### **Disasters and Disaster Management in India (Anjana Majumdar)**

Disasters cause great loss of lives and property. We can see that countries with lower human development are easily affected. India, China and Bangladesh are most affected by floods. However, drought is the deadliest of all disasters. India is vulnerable to disasters mainly due to its geographical location and geological formation. The long coastlines of India, the perennial rivers in the north, snow-clad peaks, etc. are prone to disasters. India is affected by different kinds of disasters like landslides, floods, droughts, earthquakes, heat waves, hailstorms, cyclones and even man-made disasters like riots and gas-leaks. Disasters cause wide spread damage, destruction and death. They damage lifeline support systems, namely communication, power supply, water supply, etc. Commercial and economic activities are badly affected. Building rules should be strictly implemented. State governments play a major role in disaster management. The Central Government plays only a facilitating role. Rehabilitation of victims is done through proper co-ordination among various departments. Rescue teams should learn special skills and attitudes. Besides, they should be well-equipped with the latest technologies.

### **The Serang of Ranaganji (Dr. A. J. Cronin)**

The story 'The Serang of Ranaganji' by Dr. A. J. Cronin speaks about the selfless and sacrificial service rendered by a serang. The story begins with a fashionable lady's remark about the serang. He was an ugly man with short legs and a large head. He was the boatswain of the ship 'Ranaganji'. They spoke of him as a comic creature. His name was Hasan. A. J. Cronin, the physician of the ship overheard this remark. The ship was crowded with tourists and most of them were accompanied by their wives and families. One morning, the serang appeared with two lascars at the doctor's cabin. They were suffering from smallpox. Cronin reported the matter to the captain. He requested the doctor to arrange an isolated area for the patients. The serang helped to make a

canvas shelter on the deck. Hasan helped the doctor without any fear. The next day, six or seven men came with signs of smallpox. Again, Hasan took much care to treat them. He sat watchful when one of the victims was in a coma state. The serang was really from Punjab. His parents had wandered to South India. It was at that time that he took a seafaring life. He had no place on shore and remained unmarried. He had no savings too. Cronin expressed his wish that Hasan should be paid extra for this extra service. But he was not interested. He was happy and contented with what he had. When two of the patients died, Hasan himself sewed their shrouds, read aloud a short passage from the Ramayana and threw their bodies overboard. When the voyage ended, some of the patients showed signs of improvement and the severely affected ones were moved to the hospital. As Hasan was unloading the baggage, that lady's voice was heard again. She was surprised to see the serang. She asked Cronin where he had kept that dirty creature during the whole voyage. To this question, Cronin agreed that it was in a cage that he had kept him, but all the animals were outside the cage.

### **The Wreck of the Titanic (Benjamin Peck Keith)**

'The Wreck of the Titanic' is a poem written by Benjamin Peck Keith about the world's greatest tragedy at sea. The Titanic was beautiful like a poem and strong as steel and iron. It started from Southampton. The passengers on board felt absolutely secure. No one thought that he was going to the echoless shore of death. The Titanic was the greatest achievement of mankind. As it was on its maiden voyage in the Atlantic, it struck against an iceberg which sealed its fate. The captain of the ship, Mr. Smith did not even think of his own safety. He encouraged the members of the crew to be British and be true. First the women and children were allowed to get into the life boats and were sailed away. The others patiently waited for their death, the land of eternity. The bandsmen played their instruments to comfort others even at the point of death. The tragedy of the Titanic will be remembered forever for the courage and sacrifice shown by the people on board. The story of the Titanic reminds us of the heroic moments in the Battle of Trafalagar, Battle of Alamo, Battle of Waterloo, The Light Brigade and the heroic deed of Jim Bludso.

## **UNIT 5 - HARMONY OF LIFE**

### **Gooseberries (Anton Chekov)**

Anton Chekov's story 'Gooseberries' presents two brothers of entirely different nature. They are Ivan Ivanich and Nicholai Ivanich. The elder Ivan was a veterinary surgeon. The younger Nicholai was a government servant. He always dreamt of a peaceful life in the country. He would always dream of eating out in the open air and of sleeping in the sun. In their childhood, they spent their days 'running wild in the country.' After their father's death, their life became more difficult. Their father's estate was sold to pay off the debts. Though Nicholai had a good job, he was not satisfied with it. His ambition was to own a country estate with gooseberry bushes in it. He married a rich widow not because of his love for her, but for her money. After the death of his wife, Nicholai bought an estate where he planted twenty gooseberry bushes. One day, Ivan paid a visit to his brother's estate. He was no longer poor. He saw Nicholai as a real land owner. He gave half a bucket of vodka to the peasants on his birthday every year. He also cured the peasants of their

various diseases with his special combination of soda and castor oil. That evening, Nicholai served gooseberries along with tea. For Ivan, they tasted 'sour and unripe', but Nicholai ate them commenting that they were delicious. Nicholai, now, was happy with the kind of life he was leading. The story speaks about the undying spirit of man to reach his goal. It also tells us how the levels of satisfaction vary from individual to individual.

### **To Sleep (William Wordsworth)**

In the sonnet 'To Sleep', William Wordsworth highlights the importance of sleep which is the mother of fresh thoughts and joyful health. The poet was lying down, unable to sleep, for three consecutive nights. He was thinking about the flock of sheep that had passed by leisurely and listened to the sound of rain, the murmur of the bees, the fall of rivers, winds and seas and pure sky. Then he heard the song of small birds and the sad cry of the first cuckoo. But still he could not sleep. Hence, he prays to sleep not to make him weak and tired for another day. He pleads sleep to bless him.

### **Going out for a Walk (Max Beerbohm)**

In the essay, 'Going out for a Walk', Max Beerbohm says that walking is a productive mental exercise. He begins his essay with the statement that he has never gone out for a walk without any reason. He says that he is lucky enough to live in London as it is a busy place and no one would call him out for a walk. But his friends compel him for a walk whenever he is out of London. If someone forces him to walk, he says his brain would stop functioning. He tells the story of a man who took him out for a walk. While walking, he experienced that his friend was reading every sign board. The writer says that one can think logically only when he reaches back to his house. At the end of the essay, he admits the fact that he got the idea for this essay while walking. He says that he has never been against walking as an exercise. But he keeps his dislike for those who walk 'just to walk.'

## **UNIT 6 – LEAPS AND BOUNDS**

### **The Cyberspace (Esther Dyson)**

The lesson 'Cyberspace' by Esther Dyson deals with the wonderful world of cyberspace. The writer talks about the attitude of the present generation that likes to explore new areas of knowledge and interests. Human mind always tries to explore new fields of knowledge and cyberspace is one among them. The author compares cyberspace to a real estate world. In real estate too we have parking area, shopping malls, red light zones, school area and playgrounds for children. That means, people can choose where to go and what to see. Nobody controls us from outside but we control ourselves. There are e-mail services, entertainment services and other community groups. They are like shops or restaurants or play grounds in a real estate. The author clearly says that cyberspace liberates us from power structures and authority. It allows total freedom for communities of any size to love it or leave it. In short, the writer agrees that

cyberspace is all about individual choice and individual responsibility. It has to grow further. There are no perfect answers or solutions anywhere.

### **Is Society Dead? (Andrew Sullivan)**

In this humorous essay, the author Andrew Sullivan discusses the 'i-Pod generation' of today. He says that our generation is totally disconnected from the society around them. He details the conditions of such impersonal and isolated world of human beings. The author talks about his experience when he was in New York. He found the 'i-Pod people' with little white wires on their body. They were lost in the magical world of music. The author explains how their own life is trapped in the world. More and more youngsters get addicted to sophisticated electronic gadgets like i-Pods. The author places several examples to support his argument. He sees New York as a silent city. People walk through the streets with their MP3 cocoons. They are confined to their own little world. He says that such people miss the fun of making friends. The author concludes his article by citing an incident from his life. Once he forgot to take his i-Pod. He then began to observe the people around him. He was thrilled with the rhythm of life and people around. He could hear the sound of air planes and the voices of the taxi drivers. He learned the most important lesson that the world outside had a sound track of its own.

### **Conceptual Fruit (Thaisa Frank)**

In 'Conceptual Fruit', the author Thaisa Frank writes about a family in which a daughter was differently abled. Her name is Greta, who has difficulties to understand and do things. We can see the efforts of a caring father who tries to make life comfortable for his daughter. He helps her to make sense of the world around her with the help of technology. Her father shows her a site which allows her to create a house of her own. He creates a street called 'Greta's street' and a house called 'Greta's house'. She wants a bowl in every room and to fill it with peaches. He tells her to click the bowl. Then the word 'peach' appeared. But she prefers to have real fruits. Her father then tells her that the word is symbolic of fruits. But she fails to accept it without being angry. Greta doesn't want to live in a make-believe world. Thus, we understand the fact that even a mentally challenged girl prefers to have everything real. Finally she leaves the unreal world of computers. The story ends with an optimistic outlook. The loving father hopes for a better tomorrow for his differently abled daughter.

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## COMMON DISCOURSES – PATTERNS

### **1. DEBATE**

Probable topics

#### **a. Family plays a major role in building confidence.**

For

1. Family helps children to express their opinions freely.
2. Family provides space for improvement of children.
3. Family gives more encouragement to children.
4. Family provides a good atmosphere to children to grow naturally.

Against

1. Family sometimes make children selfish and arrogant.
2. Family gives too much freedom and pampers children.
3. Some families don't provide chances for improvement in children.
4. Certain families overburden children with work and responsibilities.

#### **b. Are women empowered in our society?**

For

1. Yes, women are educated now.
2. Women react and resist problems they face with the help of police and law.
3. Women's voices are heard loud and clear in all social issues.
4. Women are safe from harassment to a large extent.

Against

1. Women are not at all safe in society.
2. Problems of rape, harassment, murder and dowry exist in plenty.
3. Women remain helpless from childhood itself.
4. Men fail to respect women as mother, wife, sister, daughter, etc.

#### **c. Is technology of help to differently abled children?**

#### **d. Do you agree with Nicholai's concept of happiness?**

#### **e. Cyberspace - a curse or a boon.**

### **2. Personal/ Informal letter to a friend/family member**

Place,  
Date.

Dear friend/ family member,

How are you? Hope everyone over there is doing well. It's been a long time since I wrote to you. How are your studies? / How is your work?

-----  
-----  
-----  
I am so happy to have written to you this much. Convey my regards to all at home. Tell them that I will be visiting them when I come home next time. So dear, take care and bye for now.

Yours sincerely (friend)/ Yours affectionately (family member),  
Name

**Address on the Envelope**

Name, House Name, Street Name, District, Pincode.
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**3. LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

Name (of the sender)  
Address.

The Editor, (of the receiver)  
The Hindu,  
Trivandrum.

Sir/Madam,

**Subject: Expressing my concern over a social problem.**

I am writing this letter to draw your attention to an important matter. I also wish to draw the attention of the authorities concerned towards this vital problem.

.....  
.....  
The authorities concerned are therefore requested to look into this matter and take necessary steps to solve this problem.

Thank you.

Place,  
Date.

Yours truly,  
sd/-  
[Name]

**4. Email**

Refer to the format given in the Plus One English text – Page 168

## **5. Job Application Letter and Resume/Curriculum Vitae**

Name (of the sender)

Address.

Name/ Designation (of the receiver)

Address.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Sub: Application for the post of \_\_\_\_\_.

Ref: Advertisement in The Times of India/The Hindu/The New Indian Express dated 03.06.2018

With reference to the advertisement in 'The Times of India' dated 03.06.2018, I would like to apply for the post of \_\_\_\_\_ in your institution/company.

I am a graduate in \_\_\_\_\_ and have an experience of two and a half years in a private company in the city.

I will be extremely pleased to be a part of your company. If selected, I will give my best for the progress of the company in all possible ways.

Please find the enclosed copy of my resume.

Eagerly awaiting a call from your office.

Thank you,

Place,

Date.

Yours truly/sincerely/faithfully,

sd/-

(Name)

### **Resume**

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Phone number:**

**Email:**

**Age and Date of Birth:**

**Father's name:**

**Nationality:**

**Photo**

**Objectives:** To be a part of the growing private sector/nation building/ to be humane and understanding/ to reach out to people in all possible ways

**Educational Qualifications:**

B.Com/ B.Sc/B.A/B.Tech with 60% marks

Diploma in Computer Applications

**Experience:**

Worked for two and a half years as \_\_\_\_\_ in Sunny Enterprises

**Skills:** Decision making, organising events

**Languages known:** English, Malayalam, Hindi

**Interests:** Reading, Playing cricket, Listening to music

sd/-  
Name

## **6. INTERVIEW**

**1. QN: Would you mind spending some time with me for an interview?**

No, I wouldn't. You can take as much time as you want.

**2. QN: What prompted you to select this field?**

My childhood experiences, wide reading and the realities around me prompted me to select this field.

**3. QN: Who is your role model?**

I don't consider anyone as my role model. Everyone who comes into my life teaches me something new.

**OR**

My role model is Stephen Hawking, the scientist of all scientists.

**4. QN. You might have come across failures in life. How did you overcome failures?**

All my friends and well wishers stood by me in moments of crisis. My hard work also helped me to lessen the impact of failures.

**OR**

With simple hard work and faith in God.

**5. QN: What are your future plans?**

I have many plans in my mind, but this is not the right moment to reveal them.

**OR**

I want to be unique in life by making an invention.

**6. QN: Would you like to give a piece of advice to the present generation?**

Yes, I think our youth have immense potential to change the ways of the world. They should use their talents, knowledge and skills to create a better world.

**OR**

Work hard, have faith in God, respect the feelings of others and have a positive vision.

## **7. REPORT ON SEMINAR HELD/GROUP DISCUSSION HELD**

- i) Title eg; Report on Disaster Management Methods
- ii) Event, Place, Date eg; A seminar on 'Techniques on Disaster Management' was conducted in our school on 02.07.2018 at 10 A.M
- iii) Details
- iv) Conclusion eg; The seminar proved to be a great success. All the students actively participated in the seminar. It was informative, enlightening, interesting and encouraging. We are waiting for more of such programmes in future.

Sample:

### **REPORT ON \_\_\_\_\_**

Malappuram: A group discussion/seminar on the topic \_\_\_\_\_ was held yesterday in the school auditorium/hall in connection with the Annual Day celebrations.

Sri./Smt. \_\_\_\_\_ inaugurated the programme. He/She reminded us that the greatest gift we can give to the society is our goodwill and sincere hard work.

The seminar started with a prayer. The PTA President of the school, Sri. \_\_\_\_\_ presided over the meeting. The Principal, Sri. \_\_\_\_\_ welcomed the gathering. Sri. \_\_\_\_\_, Art's club convenor, Smt. \_\_\_\_\_, NSS P.O, Sri. \_\_\_\_\_, School Chairperson and other speakers spoke on the occasion.

There was an interactive session after the presentation of the views/papers. The doubts of the participants were cleared.

The programme concluded with the vote of thanks by the student's representative, Master\_\_\_\_\_. The programme ended with the national anthem.

The programme proved to be a great success. All the students actively participated in the programme. It was informative and interesting. We are waiting for more of such programmes in future.

### **8. Appreciation of an Unknown Poem**

The poem '-----' by ----- is a simple poem on the theme ----- . It is written in free verse and has an appealing quality. The poet expresses his/her thoughts beautifully using simple and common words and images.

Some of the lines that have captured my attention are:

-----  
 -----

The rhyme scheme followed is -----

The poem consists of ----- stanzas and has a total of ----- lines in it. The stanzas follow a regular pattern with ----- lines / irregular pattern with different lines in each stanza.

The poem is filled with musical quality. The poet has employed many poetic devices like similie, metaphor, personification, etc.

The poem is a pleasure to the readers and language lovers.

The poem highlights the beauty of language in its simplest and appealing form.

### **9. Speech Introducing a Tourist Spot**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

A warm good morning to all of you!

I welcome you to the capital city of one of the most beautiful green states in India. After the tour around the city of Thiruvananthapuram, you will understand why people all over the world call ours 'God's own Country'.

In this trip, you get to see the breathtaking scenic spots in the city – the welcoming beaches of Kovalam, the peaceful Veli tourist village, the grand Archaeological Museum, the magnificent Kanakakunnu Palace, the misty Ponmudi Hills, the Vizhinjam Harbour, etc. And to please your taste buds, you will get mouth watering spicy dishes of the vegetarian and non-vegetarian menu along with boiled rice and pot full of steamed tapioca. Not to forget the steamy rice puttu and hot kadala curry too.

I promise you that when you leave Thiruvananthapuram, you will take along beautiful memories prompting you to plan your vacation trips to our land, again and again.

Let's begin with our enjoyment....

### **10. Speech**

- i) Salutation eg; Respected Principal, Teachers and my dear friends. A warm good morning to you all.
- ii) Introduction eg; It gives me great pleasure/joy/happiness to stand before you to speak a few words on the topic -----.
- iii) Presentation – Developing the hints
- iv) Conclusion eg; I think it's time to conclude the speech and I thank you all for the patient listening. Thank you one and all.

### **Sample**

Honourable dignitaries on the dais, respected Principal, teachers and my dear friends.

**OR**

Respected Principal, teachers and my dear friends.

A warm good morning to you all of you!

It is with immense pleasure that I stand before you to share my views on the topic

\_\_\_\_\_. As you all know, today is \_\_\_\_\_, a day to be always kept in thought.

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With these few words I end my talk. I have only been able to share some of my views with you. I thank all of you for the patient hearing. Thank you.

### **Being Unique**

- Will power
- Self confidence
- Self reliance

- Perseverance
- Creative thinking

### **Influence of Cyberspace on younger generation**

- The 'i-Pod generation'
- lose of socialisation
- killing of time
- lack of opportunities for creative thinking
- easy access to knowledge and information

### **Disaster Management**

- Natural disasters
- Man-made disasters
- Remedial measures
- Role of the government
- Need for trained and well equipped personnel

### **Relevance of Gandhian values in today's world**

- fight against poverty and corruption
- efforts to counter social evils
- building up responsibility among Indians
- creating unity among Indians
- the visionary aspect

## **11. Character Sketch**

### **a. Maggie**

- main character in the story 'The Price of Flowers'
- real name is Alice Margaret Clifford
- about thirteen or fourteen years of age
- works as a typist in the Civil Service stores
- dreams of working as a secretary later in life
- has wrong notions regarding Indians
- believes India to be a land of snakes, tigers and yogis
- affectionately called as Maggie
- a poverty stricken, sad and anxious figure
- lives in an impoverished English home
- has at home her widowed mother
- her elder brother, Frank is stationed in India
- makes friendship with Mr. Gupta
- a hard working, disciplined girl

- humble, grateful, loving and caring person

**b. Mr. Gupta**

- a character in the story 'The Price of Flowers'
- an Indian visiting London on official duty
- Makes friendship with Maggie, a young English girl
- Eager to know about the life and conditions of the poor people in England
- Surprised to know about Maggie's wrong notions about Indians
- Helps the young girl in times of need
- Happily agrees to buy flowers to be placed on Frank's grave for the shillings Maggie gives
- A helpful person
- Considerate and caring

**c. Hasan - The Serang**

- main character in the story 'The Serang of Ranaganji'
- works as the Indian Serang or the quarter master in the liner named 'Ranaganji'
- an ugly native seaman with short legs and a large disproportionate head
- has an absurdly comic appearance
- very courteous
- spoke in a hoarse and hollow voice
- willing to shoulder responsibility in times of crisis
- carries out his duties in a calm and unperturbed manner
- had no fondness for speech
- was actually from Punjab
- has been employed with the Ranaganji for fifteen years
- had no family and friends in India
- was unmarried
- was completely detached from the hope of any financial benefit or reward
- invoked admiration in the hearts of the writer
- a character worth imitating

**d. Nikolai Ivanich**

- a character in Chekov's story 'Gooseberries'
- younger brother of the veterinary surgeon Ivan Ivanich
- worked at the Exchequer Court
- dreamt of eating out in the open air, sleeping in the sun
- read books on agriculture and almanacs only
- read only advertisements of land to be sold in the newspapers
- loved to acquire a plot with a farmhouse, river, garden with gooseberry bush, mill and a mill pond
- used to live meagrely
- dressed like a beggar
- never ate enough



- always saved his money in the bank
- was terribly stingy
- after 40 married an elderly ugly widow
- kept her half starved and put the money in the bank in his own name
- after his wife's death, purchased 300 acres of land with a farmhouse
- His dream has been fulfilled and so he lives a contented life
- He now looks old, stout and flabby

## **12. Profile/Biographical Sketch**

- |   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective introduction and ending</li> <li>• Well organised important details</li> <li>• Use of suitable descriptive vocabulary</li> <li>• Hints developed using supporting details</li> <li>• Use of proper links to connect ideas</li> </ul> |
|---|

### **Martin Luther King – The 'king' of the common man**

Martin Luther King Junior was born on 15<sup>th</sup> January 1929 at Atlanta in United States of America. At the age of fifteen he joined Morehouse College and became a minister in 1947. He continued his service as a minister for about a decade. He married Coretta Scott in 1953. In 1955 he participated in the Montgomery Bus Boycott. His political interest grew at this time. An urge to voice protests for freedom arose in him and he began his freedom struggles in 1960. Four years of sincere and dedicated service got him the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. On 4<sup>th</sup> April 1968, he was shot and killed in Memphis. This legendary hero with thirty nine years of noble service is remembered even today.

## **13. Note making**

Please refer to the activity worked out in the Plus One English Textbook pages 45 and 107.

## **14. Précis**

- A précis is a summary.
- It is the gist of a passage expressed in few words.
- It should have all essential points so that anyone reading it will be able to understand the idea expressed in the original passage.
- As a general rule, the précis should not contain more than one third the total number of words in the original passage.
- The précis should have a title.

## **15. Travel Info**

With reference to the Activity II given on page 96 in the Plus One English textbook.

Travel info of Ooty

<b>Ooty, the popular hill resort in Tamil Nadu welcomes you!</b>
--

**How to Reach**

By Air: The Coimbatore airport is the nearest

By Rail: The Nilgiri Express from Chennai to Mettupalayam, The Nilgiri Mountain

Railways from Mettupalayam to Ooty

By Road: Buses, shared taxi vans and cars will take you to Ooty from most parts of India

**Attractions**

- Ooty Botanical Gardens
- Annamalai Temple
- Doddabetta Peak
- Rose Gardens
- Wax Museum
- Echo Park
- Shooting Point
- Pine forest
- Dolphin's Nose

**Where to Stay**

- Sunshine Inn
- Hotel Savoy
- Hermit Cottage
- Heritage Bungalow
- Sherlock Hotel

**What to do**

Enjoy the cool weather. Eat chocolates, sip brewing coffee, ride on horseback, roam around enjoying the sights around

**16. Travel Essay**

- Give a title to your travel essay
- Use simple and clear language
- Put in a personal touch to the writing
- Detail the small facts of the trip – people who went, time and date of departure, duration of the trip, etc.
- Place in accurate facts and figures
- Develop the hints of the itinerary
- Highlight the places visited
- Depict natural beauty, places of historical significance, etc.
- Write about any myth or folklore of the place
- Give a warning against social disorders

## **17. Live Report of an event**

With reference to the live reporting of the Le-Horla.

### **The Hot Air Balloon Takes off!**

Hello friends,

It's around six in the evening. We are at the gas works of La Villete. About three hundred people are standing around to see what is happening. There is excitement all over. Some of them are touching the basket. The balloon is lying on the ground like a cake made of yellow clothes. The balloon is being inflated. The yellow cloth lying on the ground is getting its lifebreath! The attendants are putting the net in place. Look, the balloon is swaying in the air. It looks like a prodigious golden fruit, a fantastic pear covered by the last rays of the setting sun. They have attached the basket and placed barometers, siren, trumpets, eatables, raincoats and other necessary articles for the trip. It's six past thirty and the Captain says it is time for the take off. Captain Jovis invites his fellow travellers. Five others get in. Captain commands 'Let it loose'. The rope is cut and lo, the balloon is set free. Wow, it is going up, up and up. It becomes smaller and smaller. It is now a small dot in the sky.

This is Henry Marshal reporting for BBC news with camera man John Egbert.

=====

## PLUS TWO – ENGLISH

### UNIT TEST 1

**Score: 20**

1. Prepare a speech to be delivered in the school Assembly on the role of women in nation building. (8)
2. 'I am the wall against all danger'. Who, according to the poet, is the wall? Explain. (4)
3. Nomita is a representative of the submissive Indian woman. Write her character sketch. (4)
4. Write a paragraph on the qualities of a good listener. (4)

### UNIT TEST 2

**Score: 20**

1. 'Good fences make good neighbours.' Explain. (8)
2. You get an opportunity in your school to announce the staging of the one act play 'The Hour of Truth'. Prepare the script for your announcement. (6)
3. True friendship cannot be defeated by competition. Send an e-mail expressing your views in the light of 'Amigo Brothers'. (6)

### UNIT TEST 3

**Score: 20**

1. Imagine you get an opportunity to interact with Shaheen Mистри. Prepare the likely interview (four questions and four responses). (8)
2. Irfaan Alam is the chief guest of a function organised by the NSS club of your school. Prepare a report of the programme. (6)
3. Write a letter to the editor of a daily highlighting the stray dog menace in your locality. (6)

#### UNIT TEST 4

**Score: 20**

1. You want to advise your friend on the ill-effects of drug abuse. Write two pieces of advice you would give him/her. You may begin with;  
You ought to \_\_\_\_\_ (2)  
You had better \_\_\_\_\_ (2)
2. Kerala has by now become a consumer state. Prepare a speech on 'The need to revive agriculture' in the light of the poem 'Rice'. (8)
3. Write an essay on the efforts taken by Wangari Maathai and her Green Belt Movement in making Kenya go green. (8)

#### UNIT TEST 5

**Score: 20**

1. Imagine that you are a reporter and is covering the 'bomb news' in the Post office in the play 'Post Early for Christmas'. Prepare the report of the event. (6)
2. Write a paragraph on the irony employed in the poem 'This is going to hurt a little bit'. (6)
3. Your class is conducting a debate on the topic 'Corporal punishment is necessary to discipline children.' Write four arguments in favour and for against the statement. (8)

## PLUS ONE - ENGLISH

### UNIT TEST 1

**Score: 20**

1. What were the problems faced by the young seagull? Do you face any such problem?  
If so, what are your suggestions to overcome it? (5)
2. Prepare a speech for the School Assembly about the 'Ways to become Unique'. (8)
3. Write a profile of Stephen Hawking using the hints given below: (6)

Birth : 8<sup>th</sup> January 1942  
Place of birth: Oxford  
Education: Schooling at St. Alban's school  
Graduation from University College  
Further studies at Cambridge  
1963: contracted a fatal sickness  
1965: marriage with Jane Wilde  
1984: tracheotomy operation  
1988: Publication of 'A Brief History of Time'  
2005: abridged version of the book released  
2018: 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018

4. 'If you meet with Triumph and Disaster  
And treat those two impostors just the same...'  
What is the poetic device used in the above lines? (1)

### UNIT TEST 2

**Score: 20**

1. 'And then Gandhi came'
  - a) When did Gandhi come? Prepare a write up. (6)
  - b) 'His call of action was two-fold'. What are they? (2)
2. Write a letter to the Editor highlighting the relevance of Gandhian values today? (6)
3. 'India is full of tigers and snakes and fevers.'

- a. Whose words are these? (1)
- b. Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons. (4)
4. 'Sceptre and Crown  
Must tumble down'  
Identify the poetic device used here. (1)

### UNIT TEST 3

**Score: 20**

1. 'I heard the distant waters dash,  
I saw the current whirl and flash,  
And richly, by the blue lake's silver beach,  
The woods were bending with a silent reach.'  
Identify the auditory and visual images in the above lines. (2)
2. 'The Trip of Le-Horla' speaks about a thrilling balloon journey. Prepare a live report of the take off of the balloon. (4)
3. Visiting places is a wonderful experience. Prepare travel info of a place you have recently visited. (8)
4. You got an opportunity to visit the island of Kadavu. Write a letter to your friend describing the story connected to it. (6)

### UNIT TEST 4

**Score: 20**

1. A seminar was conducted in your school on Disaster Management. Prepare a report of the seminar. (8)
2. 'Look, my dear! ...an absurdly comic creature!'
- a. Who is the comic creature mentioned here? (1)
- b. Write a character sketch of the comic creature. (4)
3. You are impressed with the services rendered by Hasan. Send an e-mail to your friend appreciating him. (5)
4. 'She struck, with a shiver from stem to stern:'
- a. Who is the 'she' in the above line? (1)

- b. Identify the poetic device used. (1)

### UNIT TEST 5

**Score: 20**

1. Nicholai has become a satisfied man now. What did he do to reach the present state? Prepare a write up. (8)
2. Complete the following:
  - a) I would rather you \_\_\_\_\_ (2)
  - b) I would prefer you \_\_\_\_\_ (2)
3. 'Come, blessed barrier between day and day,'
  - a) Who is the 'blessed barrier'? (1)
  - b) Why does the poet welcome it? (5)
4. Give two pieces of advice to your friend on the benefits of walking (2)

You may begin...

I wish \_\_\_\_\_

You had better \_\_\_\_\_

### UNIT TEST 6

**Score: 20**

1. Prepare an article for a magazine on the merits and demerits of Cyberspace. (6)
2. What are the pleasures lost by the i-Pod generation? Write it in a paragraph. (6)
3. Can technology satisfy all the needs of the differently abled? State your answer in the light of 'Conceptual Fruit'. (4)
4. Write four points in favour of the topic 'Technology helps learning'. (4)



