DEHRADUN PUBLIC SCHOOL
ASSIGNMENT 2019-20
SUBJECT-ENGLISH
CLASS- XII

FLAMINGO
CHAPTER NO-1  THE LAST LESSON
SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. What did the French teacher tell his students in his last French lesson? What impact did it have on them?
2. What was the implication of the blacksmith’s remark? How did Franz respond to his remark?
3. What does M. Hamel mean when he says, ‘we’ve all a great deal to reproach ourselves with”?

LONG ANSWER QUESTION
1. The story “The last lesson” is all about ‘linguistic chauvinism’. Comment.

CHAPTER NO-2  LOST SPRING
SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. What explanation does the author offer for the children not wearing footwears?
2. What instances in the chapter reveal that infrastructurally, Firozabad is a neglected city?
3. What has Mukesh’s father achieved in life despite years of hard back-breaking labour?

LONG ANSWER QUESTION
1. Slums are the ugly underbelly of all big cities the world over. Describe the contrasting world of ‘haves’ and ‘have-nots’ inhabiting these two worlds.

CHAPTER NO-3  DEEP WATER
SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. What sort of terror seized Douglas as he went down with the water with a yellow glow? How could he feel that he was still alive?
2. ‘I jumped with everything I had’. Why did Douglas jump? Did the jump make any difference?
3. What intensified Douglas’ s will to live?

LONG ANSWER QUESTION
1. How was Douglas able to brush aside his fear of water?
CHAPTER NO-4 THE RATTRAP

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. How did the tramp make his living? What idea do you get about him from the way he earned to keep his body and soul together?
2. How does the metaphor of the rattrap serve to highlight the human predicament?
3. What did the ironmaster plan to do for the so called Captain?

LONG ANSWER QUESTION
1. What made the peddler finally change his ways?

CHAPTER NO-5 INDIGO

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. Why did Gandhiji visit Muzaffarpur on his way to champaran? Who received him there?
2. How were the britishers shown that their dreaded and unquestioned authority could be challenged by the Indians?
3. What were the terms of the indigo contract between the British landlords and the Indian peasants?

LONG ANSWER QUESTION
1. Why did Gandhiji’s casual visit to Champaran get extended to over a year?

CHAPTER NO-6 POETS AND PANCAKES

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. How was Gemini studio connected to Robert Clive?
2. What was the fiery misery inside the makeup department of the studios?
3. How was the author’s job odd in the eyes of the other staff? How did they respond to this?

LONG ANSWER QUESTION
1. Taking a careful reading, one sees the tremendous struggle that Asokamitran underwent to surface as a writer par excellence. Discuss.

CHAPTER NO-7 THE INTERVIEW

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. What are some of the positive views on interview?
2. What do you understand by the expression “Thumb prints on his wind pipe”?
3. How does Eco find the time to write so much?

LONG ANSWER QUESTION
1. Every famous person has a right to his or her privacy. Interviewers sometimes embarrass celebrities with very personal questions. Comment.
CHAPTER NO-8 GOING PLACES

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. Sophie did not approve of her own world. What kind of a world did she dream of?
2. What is referred to as 'the weekly pilgrimage for the family'? Why?
3. What place did Sophie choose to have a date with Danney Casey and why?

LONG ANSWER QUESTION
1. The story ‘Going Places’ draws a beautiful contrast between ‘fact’ and ‘fiction’. Comment.

POETRY
POEM - 1 MY MOTHER AT SIXTY SIX
SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. How did the face of Kamala’s mother betray her thoughts?
2. What is the significance of the images, ‘sprinting trees’ and ‘merry children spilling out of their homes’ in the poem “My Mother at Sixty-six”?
3. What childhood fear do you think Kamala speaks of?
4. Bring out the significance of the title “My Mother at Sixty-six”?
5. Do you think the poem reflects on the escapist tendency of the poet?

POEM-2 AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM IN A SLUM
SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. How does the young and sweet boy unnoticed in the class differ from the most of other slum children?
2. In what ways are the slum children unsung fighters?
3. What modern imagery has been used in the poem?
4. How does the poet visualize the present status of the slum children?
5. What does the poet mean by saying, ‘let their tongues run naked into books’?

POEM-3 KEEPING QUIET
SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. How would man be together in a ‘sudden strangeness’?
2. What kind of wars does the poet refer to in the poem?
3. What does the poet mean when he says that a chemical war will result in a ‘victory with no survivors’?
4. On what note does the poet conclude the poem?
5. Whom is the poet addressing and what does he want them to be?

POEM-4 A THING OF BEAUTY
SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. What images does the poet use to describe the beautiful bounty of the earth?
2. How does beauty leave an indelible imprint on our mind?
3. How, according to the poet, does the darkness and despair of life wither away?
4. What philosophy of life is highlighted in the poem?
5. How does the poem highlight the poet’s immense faith in the Divine?
POEM-5 A ROADSIDE STAND
SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. What is the childish longing that the poet refers to? Why is it vain?
2. Which lines tell us about the insufferable pain that the poet feels at the thought of the plight of the rural poor?
3. What was the plea of the folk who had put up the roadside stand?
4. What is the most queer demand of the rich man at the roadside stand?
5. Why are the poor people angry with the city men when they ask for gas?

POEM-6 AUNT JENNIFER’S TIGERS
SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. What do ‘tigers’ symbolize in the poem?
2. Where does Aunt Jennifer seek refuge on being victimized by the male world? Does she find her freedom?
3. Do you think Aunt Jennifer is both a victim and an oppressor? Comment.
4. Do you find any element of surprise in the poem?
5. What ideology does the poem propound?

VISTAS
CHAPTER NO-1 THE THIRD LEVEL
SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. Do you think that the third level was a medium of escape for Charley? Why?
2. Do you find an intersection of time and space in the story?
3. What does the third level refer to?

LONG ANSWER QUESTION
1. How does the psychiatrist friend interpret Charley’s visit to the third level?

CHAPTER NO-2 THE TIGER KING
SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. How did the ‘Duraisani’ behave on receiving the gifts? What idea do you form about her from her behavior?
2. Why did the Maharaja double the land tax?
3. What is the significance of child’s utterance “Let tigers beware”? Do you find some oddity here?

LONG ANSWER QUESTION
1. The title of the Maharaja reflected grandeur but his death was an anticlimax. Justify.
CHAPTER NO-3 JOURNEY TO THE END OF THE EARTH

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. How do geological phenomena help us to know about the history of mankind?
2. What are the indications for the future of humankind?
3. The world’s geological history is trapped in Antarctica. How is the study of this region useful to us?

LONG ANSWER QUESTION
1. What are Geoff Green’s reasons for including high school students on ice expedition?

CHAPTER NO-4 THE ENEMY

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. What reasons would you ascribe to the General beating his wife?
2. Why do you think Hana believes that the man is a “menace, living or dead”?
3. Why did Sadao and Hana not marry heedlessly in America?

LONG ANSWER QUESTION
1. How would you explain the reluctance of the soldier to leave the shelter of the doctor’s home even when he knew he couldn’t stay there without risk to the doctor and himself?

CHAPTER NO-5 SHOULD WIZARD HIT THE MOMMY?

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. How do the woodland creatures ultimately accept Skunk?
2. How did Jack imagine the reaction of Roger skunk on being universally detested?
3. Why was story telling “especially fatiguing” for Jack on Saturdays?

LONG ANSWER QUESTION
1. What makes Jack feel caught in an ugly middle position?

CHAPTER NO-6 ON THE FACE OF IT

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. Why is one green, growing plant is called ‘weed’ and another ‘flower’? What does Mr. Lamb mean by this statement?
2. “So you will. But the world won’t. The world’s got a whole face, and the world’s there to be looked at.” Explain.
3. How have people been sermonizing to Derek about his burnt face? How does Derek feel about this sermonizing?

LONG ANSWER QUESTION
1. What are your personal views on the statement, “Blind people only ought to be with other blind people”?
CHAPTER NO-7 EVANS TRIES AN O-LEVEL

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. Why do you think Evans does not become conversant with German in spite of having been taught for more than six months?
2. Knowing fully well how sharp Evans is, shouldn’t Jackson have told him to remove his ‘bobble hat’ in his presence?
3. Jackson is really a ‘Moron’ and careless enough to mistake a stranger's voice on phone to be the Governor’s. Discuss.

LONG ANSWER QUESTION
1. What could the Governor have done to securely bring back Evans to prison when he caught him at the Golden Lion? Does that final act of foolishness really prove that 'he was just another good-for-a-giggle, gullible Governor, that was all'?

CHAPTER NO-8 MEMORIES OF CHILDHOOD

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:
1. In the words of the author “… eating by formula was not the hardest trial in that first day.” What other ordeal was in store for her?
2. How would you interpret the author’s statement “…. Now I was only one of many little animals driven by a herder”.
3. While describing the activities going on under the supervision of the landlord, the girl adds “Our people were hard at work...” How would you interpret the expression “Our people”?

LONG ANSWER QUESTION
1. What oppression and discrimination did Zitkala-Sa and Bama experience their childhood? How did they respond to their respective situations?