



MODEL ESSAYS

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by:
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MODEL ESSAYS

Based on new G.C.E (O/L)
past question papers.

by:

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by T. Thuraisingham

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Introduction

The average students in grade 9 and above faces grave difficulties in writing essay type answers in English.

This is an attempt to help the students read and express common ideas in English. It is hoped that this would finally prop up their ability to tackle essay type questions at public examinations.

The work is intended more fore the rural students who is handicapped for want of suitable background for the learning of English.

The topics chosen and the ideas expressed are common and well within the grasp of even the backward student.

It is our hope that this compilation would be a rescue to the student who strives hard.

-
- ❶ Give a brief description of a sportsmeet held in your school. Mention the Chief Guest, the houses that took part and any special features of the meet. Use about 150 words.
-

1. Our Sports Meet

We had our inter-house sports meet on 18th of April. Many past pupils, parents and guest attend the meet. The Chief Guest was the Special Commissioner of the Jaffna Municipal Council Mr. V.P. Balasingam.

All three houses named Bharathi, Elango and Valluvan, took part in the sports meet. I am in Valluvan house. We practised for two weeks. The house captains, games captains and teachers helped us. The teacher incharge of our house is Mrs. V. Susila.

Our house won the sports trophy. We got the first in most of the track-events. After all the track events there was a drill display by grade six and eight students. All the visitors admired it.

At last the Commissioner gave away the certificates to the winners. Our sportsmeet was a great success. It was a happy day for all of us.

-
- ✪ Imagine you are a rupee note and write all about yourself under the heading 'The Story of a rupee note'. Use about 200 words.
-

2. The Story of A Rupee Note

I was printed in England in 1981 and I had a journey to Sri Lanka. It was a pleasant trip across oceans and mountains with my companions. When we landed at the Katunayake Airport, we were handed over to the Treasury Officers.

We were then taken to the Treasury in Colombo. We were placed in a huge safe. We were watched by a guard of armed police. After about one month we were taken to the Jaffna Government Agent.

There we were separated to be used to build a hospital. We were handed over to a rich contractor. He put us in the bank. There we were in the safe again. Then a few months later. When I came out, I saw I was given to a poor man. My value came down considerably. At the start our value was equal to one pound of Australian butter. But now we are equal to one eighth pound of Sri Lankan local butter.

At last the Minister of Finance ordered us to be destroyed and ordered the use of two rupee coins only. We are still waiting to be burnt to ashes.

-
- ✪ Suppose that you woke up after a wonderful dream. Write in about 150 words an essay about 'A Wonderful Dream'
-

3. A Wonderful Dream

While I was attending to my home work, my parents came to my room. They told me that the following week, we will be going to India.

I was thrilled and I thanked them. I waited anxiously for the day to pack our things for our journey.

We packed our things and went to the Airport with our relations and friends. We said 'Good bye' to them and got into the plane.

The engines started. It made a horrible noise that made me sick. Then we were high up in the clouds.

Suddenly we heard a terrible explosion. I was very frightened and I screamed.

When I opened my eyes I was on the floor. Then I realised that it was only a dream.

✦ write an article to your class magazine under the title 'My Favourite Hobby'. Use about 200 words. Mention the following points:

1. The usefulness of your hobby.
 2. How you devote yourself with your hobby.
-

4. My Favourite Hobby

Many children have different hobbies such as reading collecting stamps and post cards, collecting stickers, keeping pets etc. My favourite hobby is collecting sea shell. I like reading and collecting stickers too.

But my favourite hobby is collecting sea shells. I have collected more than 100 sea shells. Some are plain and some are coloured. I make small chains and bracelets out of them for my dolls. I keep my tiny sea shells in a plastic box and other ones I keep in my fish tank. Even though I do not live by the sea I go to the beach every week. So I spend my time collecting them. One day I got a present from my friend, it was a big box full of sea shells. I was very happy. In it there was a big white one. One day I gave my sister a bracelet made out of sea shells. She was very happy. I spend my leisure counting them. I hope my hobby will be useful for me in the future. I like my hobby very much.

✦ Imagine that you are a parrot, you were caught and put in a cage and you are looked after by your master. Relate the story of your life under the title 'A parrot's story'. Use about 150 words.

5. A Parrot's Story

I am a parrot. Now I live in a cage. I am a pet to a little boy. He named me Geetha. He likes me very much. How I came to this cage, is an interesting story.

One day I was sitting on a mango tree eating a mango. A boy saw me. He took a small stone and threw it at me. I was wounded a little and fell down. The boy came and took me to his home and put me in this cage.

My master gives me fruits and vegetables everyday. He teaches me how to tell my name. Some times I talk to him because if I don't talk, my master will be unhappy. But I am always sad. I like to be freed out of this cage and fly, with my friends happily in the sky.

✦ Write an article to your class magazine about your school prize giving. Use about 200 words.

6. Our Prize Giving

The annual prize giving of our college was held on the 27th of March. The chief guest was the Government Agent of Jaffna Mr. K. Manikkavasagar. He was accompanied by the Deputy Director of Education.

The chief guest arrived at 3.30 p.m. The principal and teachers welcomed the chief guest at the entrance. The college band preceded the chief guest to the Thambiah Hall. He declared open the new building.

All the guests, parents and well wishers took their seats in the main hall. The hall was decorated with flowers.

The welcome song was sung and the ceremony started. The principal read the annual report. The Mayor of Jaffna addressed the gathering. This was followed by the speech of the chief guest.

When the names of the prize winners were announced. I was thrilled. The first was my name. Our chief guest gave away the prizes and certificates. The prize winners were very happy.

✦ Write in about 200 words describing 'A happy day in your life'.

7. A Happy Day in my Life

My first day in school was a happy day in my life. I got up early morning and went to see what my mother was doing. I saw her preparing milk rice and cakes. My brother was very busy. He was laying the table for the morning meal.

I was very excited. I brushed my teeth and my mother wahsed me. She gave me a new uniform. Then my mother fed me with milk rice. My mother put my school bag, water bottles and two sheaves of betel into the car. I worshiped my mother and father and got into the car. My brother ran near the car and gave me a kiss.

Father took me to school in his new car. We reached 'Sri Thirunavukkarasu Vidyasalai' in two minutes. There were many children with their parents. I too joined them. Then the principal Miss A. Arumugam called us one by one. When my name was called I went with my father. I offered her a sheaf of betel. She wished me good luck and she sent me to the new class.

My class teacher was Mrs. Sugantha. She was very kind to me with a sweet smile. She took me to the class and gave me a seat in the front row. Some children were crying but I did not cry. Our teacher taught us a new song. Later she took us to the play ground. We played during the interval. At about 11 o'clock my mother came to take me. At 11.30 our school was over. So I went with my mother very happily. It was the happiest day in my life.

✪ Write an article about 'My first speech' using about 200 words.

1. Describe your experience in your first speech.
2. The preparations you made
3. Your feeling after the speech

8. My First Speech

It was Sunday. I got up earlier than usual it was five o'clock in the morning. I was thinking about our Tamil Day which was scheduled for that day in my school.

A few days earlier in my class I was selected as a good speaker. My favourite subject was Tamil. So I participated in the contest. As a result of that I had to speak at the school assembly too.

At about 5.30 I left for school and my classmates were waiting for me and they greeted me. I returned their greetings.

The time was ten o'clock. All the children were gathered in the assembly hall, when I saw the crowd I heard my heart beating. The meeting started. The principal read out the agenda. My name was the second.

I heard my name from the loud speaker. I went to the stage. The audience welcomed me with claps. I spoke as smartly as I could.

My class teacher thanked me when I came to my seat. My friends shook my hands.

I am awaiting patiently to speak at another meeting.

-
- ✪ Write an account of a 'Road Accident' you witnessed to your class magazine using about 200 words.
-

9. A Road Accident

I had just crossed the Point Pedro Road junction behind Nallur temple when I heard a very loud noise. When I looked behind I saw a man lying on the road. He was severely bleeding from the head. Beside him was a bicycle with its wheels up. There was also a motor cycle fallen on the road. A man near to it was also bleeding from the hands and legs. A large number of people rushed to the spot. Another motorcyclist passing the spot readily consented to rush to the Red Cross. The place was full of shouts and screams. There was confusion all round. The cyclist was unconscious and his condition seemed very bad. Someone tied his wounds with white cloth to prevent bleeding.

In a few minutes the Red Cross and the traffic police arrived. The cyclist was put on a stretcher and taken into the vehicle of the Red Cross and rushed to hospital. The traffic police dispersed the crowd and started investigating the accident. Still the people stood watching at a distances. The police questioned the man who was riding the motorcycle and wrote down some notes. They also made some markings on the road and took measurements. After the investigations the motorcyclist was taken to the police station for further interrogation.

Next morning the newspapers reported the tragic death of Mr. Kutty Kumar in an accident behind Nallur Temple.

-
- ✪ Write an essay on 'A Rainy Day'. Use about 200 words. Describe the weather and say what you did on this day.
-

10. A Rainy Day

From the early hours of dawn the sky was cast with dark and thundering clouds. Very soon it started to rain and as the minutes passed the rain came pouring. As the pouring became more intense my mother collected all the pails, tubs and pots and put them in places where it was likely for the rain waters to leak through cracks and holes on the roof. The minutes passed into hours and still it went on raining. Fortunately mother had stocked some dry firewood in the kitchen and we had our morning tea. The lines of water hitting the roof produced a roaring sound. I huddled into a corner for warmth.

My problem of schooling for the day was solved when my father said he had met my teacher on the road and spoken to him. His advice was to keep me indoors as I would get wet and fall sick. After some time I was all the more happy when I was told that the school had closed due to bad weather. The roaring of the rain went on for hours. I looked out through the window everywhere there were pools of water and little streams rushed to low ground. The road was under a cover of umbrellas. Lots of people in shops and buildings stood watching the rain. Motor cars moved slowly with all the glass shutters up and the wipers on the wind screen moving to and for it went on raining the whole day. By noon the news broadcast reported minor floods in some parts of the city and the weather forecast announced heavy rain for the next 36 hours.

✪ Write an article about Village Welfare. Use about 200 words. Include the following points.

1. Importance of village welfare.
 2. Amenities to be provided for village life.
 3. Prevention of migration of people to urban areas.
 4. Development of village industries.
-

11. Village Welfare

The welfare of a village is the welfare of the country. Therefore village welfare draws much concern of the leaders of the country today. Those who plan for economic development pay the greatest attention to village welfare and development.

The village is the heart of our agricultural and fishing industry. But most modern amenities like Banks, Schools, Hospitals and Offices operate in the towns and cities. Most employment avenues are in the urban areas. The result is the migration of people from the villages to urban areas for better living conditions abandoning their traditional work.

Therefore it is very necessary to provide more and better welfare facilities to our village. This will help to prevent crowding in the cities and save a great deal of inconvenience to the villagers.

It is also necessary to give the village worker substantial monetary returns for his turnout. This will shift the prospects of economic betterment to the villages.

Village industries also need to be helped with materials and machinery that will ease their work.

✪ Write an article to a newspaper describing a Shramadhana Campaign carried out in your school. Use about 150 words.

12. A Shramadhana Campaign

After the school holidays the principal found the school premises covered with shrubs, creepers and a lot of refuse. It was then decided to organise a Shramadhana to clean the premises. The School Development Society and the Old Students Association readily offered their fullest co-operation. The following Saturday was fixed for the shramadhana. The school staff turned out in their full members and led the campaign. Students, parents, old students and well wishers came with all necessary implements.

The principal inaugurated the day's programme by cutting down a few shrubs. The work then started with full enthusiasm. After about 2 hours work from 8 a.m. there was a 15 minutes break for tea. Our Home Science Teacher organised the reception. The work then continued briskly. By about 11.30 a.m. the whole work was completed. The Principal, Staff and Students were highly pleased to see their school clean and beautiful. The Principal thanked all those who offered their co-operation and support. The programme came to an end with the school song sung by the school choir.

-
- ❶ Write an account of an 'Annual Temple Festival'. Use about 200 words.
-

13. A Temple Festival

The Nallur Kandasamy Temple festival draws thousands of Saiva devotees from all parts of the Jaffna Peninsula annually. By early dawn the temple becomes filled with large crowds and entering into the temple by then is extremely difficult. This huge rush is to capture a glimpse of Lord Arumuga at the Mandapa Pooja. The six faced deity of Lord Murugan is glitteringly decorated with ornaments and its illumination and beauty makes the devotees spell-bound with feelings so indescribable that they do not mind being pushed in the crowd.

At 0700 hours the deity comes out of the entrance and is greeted by tens of thousands of devotees helplessly waiting outside the temple. Accompanied by the traditional Nathaswaram music and followed by groups of people chanting bakthi geetha, Lord Arumuga rides over to the big chariot kept ready. The chariot is drawn by the devotees. By 1000 hours the chariot is drawn back to its original place. The deity is then redecorated in green and is brought down. Accompanied by music and chanting Lord Arumuga rides over the shoulders of his devotees back into the temple. Many volunteer organisations render humanitarian service to the people during the festival.

-
- ❷ You went on a pilgrimage with your parents to an important place of worship. Write an account about 'A pilgrimage to a renowned place of worship'. Write in about 250 words using the following ideas.

1. Describing to go on the pilgrimage.
 2. Travelling to the place of worship.
 3. Enjoying the beauty of the landscape.
 4. Participating in the pooja.
-

14. A Pilgrimage to A Renowned Place of Worship

The very mention of the name of Kathirkamam makes my father go into deep silence and meditation. It was soon decided that the family should undertake a pilgrimage to Kathirkamam. During the April school vacation the entire household started on the pilgrimage. It was a long and strenuous journey. At Vavuniya we took rest at the residence of a family friend. After about 2 days rest we continued the journey by train up to Galle. From Galle we travelled by bus to Kathirkamam. We took rest in a building constructed for pilgrims.

In a short while we all got ready to bathe in the waters of Manikkakangai. It was an unforgettable experience for me. As I took a broad look at the landscape I saw the long sacred stream winding its way through hills and plains. We remained in the

water for a long time and enjoyed the bath. After the bath my father proceeded with his normal rituals with holy ash. We all then proceeded to the temple.

The temple is a very small building but open and spacious; around us stood thousands of devotees of all caste, creed and race. They all stood in deep silence waiting for the hour of the poojah. After some time the high priest entered the chambers of the deity. After some time with the blowing of conch shells and the clanging of bells the poojah was in progress. The devotees stood in deep silence and meditation worshipping the Lord. It was an unusual and wonderful experience to us all. Our return journey was very pleasant even upto Jaffna, from Vavuniya. Such is the grace of the almighty Kathirkama Kanthan.

• Write an article about 'The Rights of Women'. Use about 200 words.

15. The Rights of Women

Much rethinking is now under way on the subject of women's rights. Tradition has it that to be born a woman is a sin. All the greatest of achievements and virtues are ascribed to the masculine world. Women were mostly confined to their homes. Women's duties were to do household work and bear children. They were deprived of a sound education with few exceptions. But now with the advent of democracy and with the great advances in science and technology women have won the place of being equal to men in all fields of human activity. In fact in many fields of employment women outnumber the men. The husband has ceased to be the sole bread winner in the family.

But still in the more backward families the rights of the woman is not observed and the traditional thought persists. The woman in the home is threatened and oppressed with even muscle power when necessary. Often she becomes the beast of burden. Silently she suffers safeguarding the respect of her children and the family.

It is the bounden duty of us all to seek suitable devices to eliminate such criminal accesses on the rights of women.

✦ Write an article to your school magazine about the Dowry System. Using about 150 words. Use the following points:

1. That it is an evil.
2. To what extent does the dowry system affect human relationship.
3. Measures to fight the evil.

16. The Dowry System

The Dowry System has become one of the greatest evils of our society. Very often marriage arrangements are broken when another party bids a higher sum which is again set aside when still another party offers a yet higher sum and so on and on the prospective groom sails over waves of wealth biddings. There are innumerable cases of broken promises due to lack of dowry. Thus marriage that is outwardly described as a sacred link in human partnership is degraded to a low and immoral association. The major cause of this evil is the ever widening gap between the haves and the have nots. The uneven distribution of wealth leads to such abuses in human relationship.

The evil is even worse as it is difficult to eliminate through laws alone. Suitable laws in combination with measures like giving priority to females in employment opportunities may help to fight the evil.

Suitable education for adults and appropriate instructions at University and High School levels can help to erase the dowry system.

✦ Write in about 150 words your suggestion to improve the transport system.

17. Suggestions to Improve the Transport System

In modern society the economic and social life of the people heavily depends on an efficient transport system. Our transport system needs to be improved now and again to keep up with a fast changing world.

Our roads and highways have to be maintained in good condition. Very often the roads become pot holed and immotorable in rainy seasons. Those responsible for the restoration and maintenance of roads lose so many months to set things in order that by the time anything at all is done the next monsoon starts.

The passengers are too many for the total load capacity of the vehicles available so much that most of our buses, mini vans and trains run overloaded. It is therefore necessary that mor buses and trains operate during the peak hours to cope up with the rush.

⊕ Your class visited a factory. Write in about 200 words a description of your visit.

18. Visit to a Factory

It was the desire of all the students in our class to visit the soap factory in Jaffna. Our science teacher readily undertook to make all arrangements. We were all asked to come ready on a Wednesday. A large bus was soon parked opposite the school gate. Our agriculture teacher too joined us. Soon we were all lined up. The principal had a last minutes talk with our science teacher. Very soon we were all in the bus. All of us were so happy that some of the students danced while the others kept on singing and clapping. In about half an hour the bus halted in front of the gates of the factory.

The name 'Milk White' was on a large board high on the main building. The premises were very clean and adorned by beautiful plants. A sturdy man in khaki came and talked to our teacher and she was taken inside. Very soon she came out with the manager. The manager seemed to be a very familiar figure to most of us. He was no other person than Mr. Kanagarajah, the most popular industrialist and philanthropist in Jaffna. He greeted us well and assigned some of his men to guide us into the

factory. The guides explained to us the several stages of soap manufacture from the raw materials to the finished product. We were all highly thrilled to see the huge machinery that turned out soap. It made me feel how much scant respect we pay and how ordinarily and carelessly we handle a commodity turned out with so many precautions and care. The raw materials are caustic soda and coconut oil. Both substances are mixed and heated. The frothy mass that turns out precipitates as soap.

Tea was served to all of us. As we returned to school one lasting memory remained firmly impressed in my mind and that was the figure and magnificence of Mr. Kanagarajah.

- ❖ Write an article to a newspaper about environmental pollution using the following points:
- How much concern is given to the problem.
 - How the environment is polluted.
 - The dangers of pollution.
 - How it can be eradicated.
-

19. Environmental Pollution

The environment has drawn the attention of all the scientists and thinkers of the world today. Special branches of study and research, have been set up in countries to deal with the menace of environmental pollution.

Pollution of the environment arises chiefly from heavy industrialisation and other human activities. Such pollution renders the environment unsuitable and dangerous for human habitation. Therefore it has become necessary for all humans to take remedial measures to fight pollution.

In many countries governments have set up separate ministries to deal with environment and pollution. It is the duty of each one of us to keep our environment clean and free from pollution. Healthy growth free from diseases and starvation requires a healthy environment. Our atmosphere, land and water have to be maintained free of pollution. Our scientists and technicians have to devote a lot of

attention and take extra-ordinary measures to ensure maximum safety and prevent the leakage of poisonous chemicals and radio-active materials into our environment. The incidents of Bhopal and Chernobyl of the recent past are glaring examples of the dangers of pollution. At Bhopal nearly three million people were affected and at Chernobyl the entire population had to be evacuated to safer places. If it becomes necessary human beings have to even change their pattern of life-style to preserve our environment.

- ★ Write an article about 'Space Travel'. Use about 200 words include the following points:
- Some achievements in space travel.
 - Problems in space travel.
 - Whether space travel to the common man is feasible.
-

20. Space Travel

The latter half of this century has seen the development of space flight when the first manned flight by Major Yuri Gagarin successfully orbited the earth in April 1961. In 1965 Col. Lesnov demonstrated the first 'walk' in space outside his spacecraft. The most astonishing feature was in 1969 when Neel Armstrong first stepped on the moon. In 1971 two space labs Soyuz and Salyut successfully docked in space. Thus the space programme continues.

Space travel is no longer viewed with wonder. Its possibility is not beyond comprehension of the layman. But there are some problems in space travel. The main difficulty is to remain normal in weightlessness. The traveller has to undergo hard training to learn to live with zero weight. The next problem is the tremendous cost of space travel. The cost of the moon mission to the United States was so appalling that a second mission has so far not been attempted. Therefore space travel is restricted to experiments, research and explorations purposes. How safe is space travel is the next problem. Space travel therefore is not within the reach of the common man in the immediate future. Furthermore unlike travel on earth space travel does not hold any worthy purpose for the common man.

-
- ★ Write an article on 'The problem of drought'. Use about 200 words and state how the problems in drought can be solved.
-

21. The Problem of Drought

Water is the basic life giver to all living things. All living things, other than human beings, adapt themselves to water scarcity. For humans drought is a problem. Under severe drought people migrate to places where water is less scarce.

The problem can be solved to large extent by various means.

Much of the excess water during the rainy season can be stored preventing drainage into the sea. Steps have to be taken to prevent wastage of water. Many of our lagoons can be converted into fresh water lakes. This requires the construction of bunds across the shallow water of the lagoons. Other sources of water can be tapped to replenish the salty waters of the lakes.

In places where drought is more severe water supply systems can be planned out. In times of drought water scarcity is unavoidable but through a well planned conservation and distribution system people can have the water they need.

- ★ You have been asked to write an article to the school magazine on 'Food and nutritions'.

Write the article in about 200 words using the following points:

1. The importance of nutrition.
2. The need for a balanced diet.
3. The need for sufficient intake of proteins.
4. The value of vitamins.

22. Food and Nutritions

Food is one of the main necessities in our day to day life. But the food we eat must also be nutritious. Therefore it is necessary that we plan the day's meal. A person requires a definite quantity of calories according to the needs of the work he does per day. The food we eat must also include a substantial ratio of proteins as proteins unlike other kinds of food substances cannot be replenished by the body from its storage. The intake of vitamins of all kinds is also necessary. Vitamin deficiency will cause diseases of various kinds. Therefore the food we take must contain in average all the ingredient nutrients that make a balanced diet. Nutrition is so important that it has become a separate specialised branch of study.

Mainutrition and many diseases are caused by vitamin deficiency. A knowledge of the vitamin contents of the various foods is very necessary.

-
- ★ Write an article to your class newspaper about 'Prevention of Diseases'. Use about 200 words.
-

23. Prevention of Diseases

Prevention is better than cure is often the motto of doctors. Diseases are mostly due to mainutrition and infection.

The problem of mainutrition can be mini mised through adult education classes and constant instruction in schools. Instructions through film shows, television and radio programmes will help a great deal.

A variety of micro organisms enter the body system and disorganise the metabolic processes of the body. This results in the death of the victim. These microbes enter the body mostly through contaminated air, water and physical contacts. A person already infected with a microbe is often the source of infection.

Precautionary steps on a big scale have to be taken to avoid infection.

Water is often contaminated with germs and it is therefore necessary to drink boiled water. This will help prevent diseases like diarrhoea and typhoid.

-
- ⊕ Write an article to your class newspaper on 'How to eradicate bad habits among school children'. Use about 150 words.
-

24. How to Eradicate bad habits among school children

At school children are under the vigilant care of their teachers. Most of the bad habits of children are acquired in their home environment. Therefore parents have to play a very major role in eliminating bad habits in their children.

Bad habits acquired in the native surroundings of the child can be wiped out if parents too like the teachers take vigilant care of the children. Teachers often give instructions to the children on the need for good habits. If parents can co-operate with the teachers and see that their children behave accordingly it will help a great deal. Very often children deal themselves in habits that spoil their health. Frequent checks on their cleanliness will help to curb the evils of bad health habits.

Bad habits in speech and social behaviour are more a result of the influences of their native environment. Parents from such places often seek admission for their children in the more refined schools where children easily get trained to better social habits by mingling with children from the more refined social groups.

-
- ⊕ Write an essay to your school magazine about 'Man of the Village'. Use about 150 words.
-

25. Man of the Village

He is a very broad built, sturdy but ugly faced figure. A large moustache covered his mouth. He moved about in the village freely with a sternness in his look that makes most people afraid. Even the Grama Sevaka moves with him with much care.

His name is Murugan. He is the man of the village. The Grama sevaka finds it astonishing that there have been no complaints against him at all. On the other hand complaints are made to him before they come to the Grama Sevaka. Nobody knows anything about either his family history nor his day to day life. It is all a mystery. If any village can remember to have been helped by anyone it is only Murugan. There is no one in the village who has failed to mention his name with affections. His numerous good deeds lie recorded in the hearts of the village.

-
- ✦ Write a report of a cricket match to your class newspaper.
Use about 200 words.
-

26. A Cricket Match

It was a final match of the inter school cricket tournament. The finalists were the Jaffna Hindu College Vs St. Johns college Jaffna. The limited 50 overs one day match drew much public interest. There was much publicity about it in the daily newspapers. The match was played at the St. John's College grounds.

It all started on a Saturday at 8.00 hrs. The St. Johns team won the toss and decided to field. A very large crowd had gathered well before the match started. Groups of school students of the respective schools stood cheering their teams. At 08.15 the two umpires clad in white coats and black trousers walked with the bails to the wicket. In a short while captain Selvaraj led his men into the field. The fielders took position quickly. Ramanan, the opening bowler looked all around the field giving instructions to the fielders. The wicket keeper knelt far behind the wicket was ready for fast bowling. On his right were 3 slips, one extra cover and one deep cover. The two opening batsman walked into the field well cheered by the crowd. The opening batsman Mani

took position. The first ball came at tremendous speed and was well off the wicket. The batsman simply avoided it. The wicket keeper collected the ball. The first was a maiden over. The first wicket fell during the 3rd ball of the second over when the second opener went L.B.W. to Suresh, the medium paced bowler, wickets fell successively at each over and at the end of the 10th over Jaffna Hindu College score was 40 runs for the loss of 5 wickets. Then came in Ranjan to bat. His performance was magnificent. He with his partner makes, saved Jaffna Hindu College from near collapse. The pair went through 29 overs and at the 40th over Ranjan was caught at the slips. His splendid score of 87 for his side with 14 boundaries and one sixer won for him the title 'Man of the Match'. Jaffna Hindu College were all out at the end of the 48th over. Their total score was 195.

The Johnians did well at the opening and took the score to 60 for no wickets in 17 overs. At the 18th over the first Johnian wicket fell to the bowling of Kugan. Thereafter wickets tumbled one after the other and at the end of 40 overs the Johnian score stood at 180 for the loss of 8 wickets.

The crowd stood in deep excitement watching the Johnians who had to score just 16 runs more for victory in 10 overs with 2 wickets in hand.

Tragedy Struck the Johnnians when at the end of the 46th over the 9th batsman was run out as the Johnnians score stood at 189 with the last pair left.

The spectators were very highly thrilled when the next two overs went maiden. At the fifth ball of the 49th over Rupan hit a splendid boundary. The crowds roared, shouted and cheered. The Jaffna Hindu College bowlers did their utmost to save runs. The last over was taken up by spinner Mohan. The batsman hit the ball hard. It went very high and was caught near the boundary line by fielder Narendran. Thus with much thrill and excitement the match came to a finish.

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- ✪ Write your ideas in brief about 'The uses of Plants' to your class magazine. Use about 150 words.
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27. The Uses of Plants

The uses of plants apart from trapping solar energy that sustains the living world, are many in our day to day life. House keepers around the world love plants for their ornamental values. The house is given a beautiful appearance by the plants that are grown in and around it. A variety of flower plants decorate many homes. A large number of people make it a hobby to grow beautiful flower plants in their gardens. Flowers are also used to make wreaths, garlands and bouquets. A large number of plants have medicinal uses. Most of the drugs are prepared from plants extracts. A large number of medicinal plants are grown in home gardens, to meet medicinal cure for simple ailments.

In industry plants find immense value in various fields. They are the raw materials in the paper industry.

Large trees are cut for their timber which is used widely for housing and making furniture.

In cottage industry plant leaves are used to weave baskets, mats and a variety of other household articles.

These apart from their fundamental necessity as a prime source of nourishment. Their uses are so wide that without them our lives would be tragically different.

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- ✪ You read books and you like a particular author for his writings. Write an account of the author you like best. Use about 200 words.
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28. My Favourite Author

My favourite author is Mr. Isaac Asimov. His books are all about the secrets of nature and the universe. He unfolds the works of great many scientists in such interesting manner that his writings are more or less like great stories. These stories of the universe, the earth and the mysteries of nature told from their beginnings to the future enriches the mind with deep thoughts and abundant knowledge. His book titled 'The Building Blocks of the Universe' features all the elements in matter, how they were discovered and named, their atomic structure, properties, uses and what they hold in them for the future.

His narration is so simple and brief that the ordinary student will find no difficulty in comprehending the simplicity and beauty of nature so easily brought out in his writings. He has very successfully dwelt on some of the most intricate aspects of the subject with remarkable ease, enabling the reader to plunge into deep thought. He has touched on every aspect of science in his writings. It would be apt to describe him as nature's story teller.

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- ✪ Write an essay titled 'Science and Technology' to your school magazine. Use about 200 words.
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29. Science and Technology

Science feeds technology and technology helps science to uncover unexplored fields. So intertwined are these two fields of knowledge and skill that without them the world would not be as what we see it today. The advancement of science equips technology with new concepts which find their application in different technologies. These advances bring about changes in our life styles.

The development of science and technology is so rapidly changing the world that keeping pace with it has become a problem specially in societies of the third world countries. A product turned out to suit modern life becomes outdated even before it finds utility, with the introduction of yet another more advanced type. It is therefore necessary that we keep up with the standards of the developed countries in science and technology.

Advances in biological sciences has led to the development of bio technology which is today one of the major frontiers that lead us into the 21st century. Likewise nuclear and computer sciences have given us nuclear and computer technologies.

✦ Write an article on 'The subject I like best' to your class magazine. Use about 200 words.

30. The Subject I like Best

The subject I like best is mathematics. It is common to all the people irrespective of nationalities. Mathematical derivations have helped to discover many scientific truths. Mathematics is the language of science. Its methods are sharp and accurate. It is the basis of scientific thinking. Without mathematics it is impossible to pick up many of the ordinary notions in modern life. Its importance is so highly recognised that the study of mathematics is made compulsory from the primary classes upto the G.C.E. (O/L).

I am deeply indebted to my maths teacher Mr. S. Narayanan who created a great deal of interest for me in the subject. He was very active and moved very simply in the class scrutinising the work of every student. Through maths, he expressed a whole world of thoughts touching on all aspects of life and the universe. His primary aim was to teach the subject more than coaching the class for examinations. He introduced to us the miracles of numbers and the way he solved highly complicated problems with much ease and simplicity fascinated me and drew all my attention and thoughts into the subject.

