

**GAYATRI VIDYA PARISHAD COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING FOR WOMEN**  
(AUTONOMOUS)

(Affiliated to Andhra University, Visakhapatnam)

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**ENGLISH- 24HE11RC01**

(Common to CSM, ECE & EEE)

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**SOLUTIONS**

1.a. Grenville Kleiser's poem 'Stay Calm' gives a message to keep calm in the face of adversities in one's life. The speaker begins by talking about how to react in certain situations. The speaker presents a few hypothetical situations when one is likely to lose one's temper. So he says that when you are angry and are about to shout at the other person or hear an insult from the other person, the best way to let go of any resentment is to stay silent. He says that if your mind is calm and tranquil, you will be able to overcome your negative emotions.

Then the speaker talks about a situation where one has been cheated or feels they have been deceived by the other person. In such situations, the speaker says that one can get angry quite easily. One can also feel irritated and disappointed when their orders or wishes are not fulfilled.

At this point, the speaker says that maintaining silence and staying calm will help one get over the selfishness and spiteful emotions that they might be feeling. By staying calm and maintaining silence one can purge and let go of their negative emotions and mind-sets. And it is important to keep quiet even though you know you are right in an argument.

The speaker leaves the readers with his last advice to always maintain their mental balance. He says that having a balanced mentality while being confronted by unknown enemies or even by known betrayers will allow one to overcome the situation. The speaker calls this the most important life skill.

1.b.

- i. restless, exhausted, drained.
- ii. wealthy, well off, prosperous.
- iii. intelligent, clever, sharp.
- iv. brave, fearless, heroic.

1.c.

- i. exit
- ii. weak
- iii. fail

2.a. Swami Vivekananda's assertion in "The Secret of Work", that every action, when done selflessly, contributes to one's spiritual progress. According to him, Man must work incessantly without attachment. Swami Vivekananda refers to Bhagavad Gita's central idea, 'Work is worship'. If we work continuously without attachment, we will be free from all sorts of misery.

The rippling effect of the work done by us is called Samskara, which is our inherent tendency that strengthens our character. Good and bad actions will have their own consequences. Good actions bring good and bad actions lead to bad outcomes. We have to work continuously without any attachment. Every work we do, leaves an impression on subconscious region of the mind. The sum total of such impressions makes our character. We have to do good work without expecting results to build a good character. Vivekananda puts it beautifully that our

best work comes when we stop being very preoccupied with the result. He also adds that we have to work like strangers and sojourners in this land. Work incessantly without attachment. We must not be selfish while working. Selfish work is a slave's work. If you work like a master, it brings happiness, peace and blessedness as its result. We have to look upon work as 'Worship', dedicating the result of our work unto God.

Here the writer notes Lord Krishna's advice to Arjuna stating that God is the master and He loves and working like a master makes him unattached.

2.b A dialogue of 5 exchanges without any grammatical errors and using phrases of introducing others.

3.a. In Katherine Mansfield's short story "The Doll's House," the contrasting attitudes of the Burnell children and the Kelveys reflect the impact of class distinction and social acceptance. While the Burnell children exhibit behaviour shaped by privilege, pride, and exclusion, the Kelveys, though marginalized and mistreated, respond with dignity, humility, and silent resilience. Their differing attitudes illuminate the central theme of social inequality that runs through the narrative. The Burnell children, particularly Isabel, show a strong awareness of their higher social standing. When the exquisite doll's house arrives as a gift, Isabel decides who gets to see it and who doesn't. Her attitude is one of pride and superiority, reflecting how class consciousness has already taken root in her young mind. She uses the doll's house not only as a toy but as a symbol of social power and control. The act of excluding the Kelveys is not questioned; it is accepted as natural, even encouraged by adults in their world.

In contrast, Kezia, the youngest Burnell, differs from her sisters in attitude. She does not accept the social rules that demand the exclusion of the Kelveys. Her decision to invite the Kelveys to see the doll's house is a moment of innocence and rebellion against class prejudice. However, her action is swiftly condemned by Aunt Beryl, reflecting how even well-meaning behaviour is punished when it challenges social norms.

The Kelveys sisters, Lil and Else, present a very different attitude. They are quiet, withdrawn, and painfully aware of their social position. From their appearance to their behaviour, everything about them signals their internalization of society's rejection. Yet, they do not complain or retaliate. Instead, they display a quiet strength. When Kezia invites them to see the doll's house, they are hesitant and unsure, expecting rejection even in a moment of kindness. And when they are eventually driven away by Aunt Beryl, they do not protest; they simply leave. Their acceptance of their place in the social hierarchy is not born out of belief in their inferiority, but out of long experience with cruelty and exclusion.

3.b. The meaning of Phrasal verbs changes according to the context.

- i. The car broke down on the way to office
- ii. The cricket match was called off due to bad weather.
- iii. We have to carry on our culture and traditions for the next generations.
- iv. I have come across my childhood friends after a long time.
- v. Can I drop you off at the airport?
- vi. John has given up on his efforts to score well in exams
- vii. Parents look after their children.

4.a. The poem was written when India was under the British Rule and people were eagerly waiting to get their freedom from the British Rule. The poem is written in the form of a prayer to the God, the Almighty for a true freedom for his country. And thus Tagore reveals his own concept of freedom throughout the poem, Where the Mind is Without Fear.

In the very first line, the poet prays to the Almighty that his countrymen should be free from any fear of oppression or forced compulsion. He wishes that everyone in his country has his head held high in dignity. In other words, according to him, in a truly free country every person should be fearless and should have a sense of self dignity.

Then, the poet dreams of a nation where knowledge would be free. Education should not be restricted to the upper class only but everybody should be allowed to acquire knowledge. Not only that, the children should learn freely from the nature and the world around them. They should not be forced to memorize some predetermined lessons. And this is Tagore's typical concept of education.

He emphasizes on the unity of not only of his countrymen but also of the entire world. He thinks there should be no division among people based on their caste, creed, colour, religion or other baseless superstitions. In other words, prejudices and superstitions should not divide the people in groups and break their unity.

Tagore wants a nation where people are truthful. They should not be superficial and words should come out from the depth of their hearts.

He wants everyone to work hard to reach their goal, and in the long run to reach perfection. He thinks they should not be tired by working. People should not be lazy and ignoring their work.

The poet compares 'reason' or logical thinking to a "clear stream" and in the next line compares 'dead habits' or superstitious beliefs to a 'dreary desert'. He wants the stream of reason not to lose its way into the desert of prejudices. In short, people's thought should be monitored by rational thinking, not by superstition; logic should rule over old baseless beliefs. The poet wishes his countrymen to be progressive and broad-minded. He wants that their minds are "led forward" to "ever-widening thought and action" by the Almighty. In short, we should be open-minded and do something unusual or extraordinary, overcoming the narrowness of mind.

In the final line of the poem, the poet addresses the God as 'Father'. He asks him to awaken his country into such a 'heaven of freedom' where the above conditions meet.

4.b. Format of formal letter (address/station, date, subject, salutation & complimentary close)

Body of the letter relevant to the given question

appropriate use of grammar and vocabulary

5.a. In O. Henry's short story "The Last Leaf," the most important moment happens when Johnsy, a young girl who is very sick, looks out of her window after a storm and sees that one last leaf is still on the ivy vine. Before this, Johnsy had lost all hope and believed that she would die when the last leaf on the vine fell. But when she sees the leaf still there, she begins to believe that she might live.

At the beginning of the story, Johnsy is very weak and has pneumonia. She tells her friend Sue that she is counting the leaves falling from the ivy vine outside. She says that when the last leaf falls, she will die too. Sue tries her best to cheer her up, but Johnsy doesn't listen. She keeps looking at the vine and waiting for the final leaf to fall.

Then comes a night of strong wind and rain. Sue is very worried, thinking the last leaf will surely fall during the storm. But in the morning, something surprising happens. When Johnsy wakes up and looks outside, the last leaf is still there. It did not fall. This gives her a new hope. She realizes that she was wrong to give up on life. She tells Sue that she now wants to get better. This is the turning point of the story because Johnsy's thinking changes completely. She chooses to live.

This moment is also very special because of what we find out later. That last leaf was not a real leaf. It was a painting made by an old artist named Behrman. He wanted to give Johnsy hope. So, on the night of the storm, he went outside and painted a perfect realistic leaf on the wall. Because of the cold and rain, Behrman caught pneumonia and died later. His act of kindness and sacrifice saved Johnsy's life.

5.b. Appropriate explanation of Note-making strategies such as outline , tree diagram,

mindmap, table format and cornell method.  
Content without grammatical mistakes

6.a Rudyard Kipling's poem *If* offers timeless guidance on how to face life's many challenges with strength, patience, and wisdom. Throughout the poem, Kipling presents a series of challenges that a person may encounter and provides suggestions on how one ought to respond to them with balance and courage.

One of the first challenges mentioned is the ability to remain calm when others are panicking or blaming. Kipling advises that when those around are losing their self-control and casting blame unfairly, it is important that one keeps a steady mind and does not allow emotions to take over. This reflects the value of composure and inner strength in the face of chaos.

Another challenge lies in the experience of being doubted by others. Kipling suggests that one should trust oneself even when others express disbelief. At the same time, one must also make room for the opinions of others and not become arrogant. Similarly, when treated with hatred, it is noble to resist the urge to hate in return. One must remain true to personal values and respond with dignity rather than bitterness.

The poem also explores the balance between dreaming and thinking, and living wisely. While it is important for one to dream and reflect, it is equally vital that one not become controlled by dreams or thoughts. Maintaining a balance between imagination and practical action is a sign of maturity.

A major test of character, according to Kipling, is found in dealing with loss and failure. One is encouraged to take risks and accept the possibility of losing everything. If such a loss occurs, one should be willing to begin again without complaint or despair. This shows the importance of resilience and determination.

Another significant challenge is when one's words are twisted by dishonest people or truth is misused to deceive others. In such cases, one must remain honest and composed, not allowing frustration or injustice to disturb one's sense of purpose. This demonstrates moral strength and a deep sense of integrity.

Furthermore, the poem addresses the situation where one may feel completely exhausted physically, mentally, and emotionally. In such moments, Kipling advises that one should push forward with sheer willpower, drawing strength not from the body but from the heart and mind. The ability to continue when energy has run out reflects true endurance.

The poem also warns against becoming overly proud in success or overly discouraged in failure. Kipling calls both "Triumph and Disaster" impostors, meaning that neither should be taken too seriously. One must learn to treat both success and failure with balance and humility, recognizing that neither defines a person completely.

6.b.

- i. achieve two aims at once.
- ii. something easily achieved
- iii. to do or say something that is exactly right
- iv. discuss a matter without coming to the point
- v. be extremely expensive
- vi. to make a bad situation even worse
- vii. to feel sorry or sad about something that has already happened

7.a. In his essay 'Of Studies', Francis Bacon offers profound insights into the purpose and methods of reading. Among his most memorable lines is the statement, "Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested." This vivid metaphor compares reading to the act of eating, suggesting that just as different foods require different ways of consumption, likewise different books require different approaches.

When Bacon says that “some books are to be tasted,” he refers to books that are meant to be sampled lightly. These are the kinds of works that do not demand full attention or deep engagement. One may glance through such texts, extract a few ideas or pieces of information, and then move on. These books serve a temporary purpose, often offering entertainment, surface-level knowledge, or momentary interest. In our modern context, this might include light fiction, magazine articles, or general online content works that are read quickly without requiring serious intellectual effort.

The next category, the books that are “to be swallowed,” are those that are read more thoroughly, but still without intense analysis. These are books we read from beginning to end, perhaps to understand a topic, follow a narrative, or learn about a subject. However, we do not necessarily stop to evaluate every idea or question every argument. Such books may include popular biographies, textbooks, or novels that provide insight and enjoyment but do not challenge the reader to think critically at every turn. They are to be read with attention but not necessarily with deep scrutiny.

Finally, Bacon speaks of books that are “to be chewed and digested.” These are the most valuable texts like books that offer depth, complexity, and enduring wisdom. They require time, patience, and repeated engagement. One must reflect on their meanings, analyse their arguments, and allow their insights to influence the mind and character. These are the kinds of books that shape one’s thinking and often remain relevant throughout life. Classic philosophical works, religious scriptures, and timeless literature fall into this category. These books are not just read but are studied, contemplated, and absorbed, becoming part of the reader’s intellectual and moral framework.

#### 7.b. Format of the essay (Introduction, Body& Conclusion)

Content of the essay with unity of thought, coherence and examples relevant to the given topic- Correct usage of grammar &-vocabulary

8.a. Toru Dutt’s ‘*Our Casuarina Tree*’ symbolises nostalgia, longing, and cherished memories. It is a symbol of both the joys of the past and the sorrow of those who are no longer present. The poem explores the poet’s childhood memories in India. Her description of the tree expresses her pride in the tree for it remains strong despite the creeper winding around like a python. She has played beneath it many years ago with sweet companions whom she really loved. The tree will always be dear to her for their sake. The tree appears in her memory along with her old companions’ images and this makes hot tears fall from the poet’s eyes. The tree, blended with the memory of them, gives her the images of the intense love they shared, leaving the poet in tears. The poet mourns for the loss of her loved ones as she thinks down the memory lane. From her description of its appearance, she moves on to describe the activities happening around it. She ensures that the beauty of the tree is no more than an added gift, for her real connection with the tree lies in the numerous happy memories she shared with it. She tells how the tree manifests itself in the foreign land as she has seen it at her young age. Finally, in the concluding part, she wants to honor the tree, therefore she makes an attempt to write a poem. Also, she seeks Love’s support to preserve the tree from the affliction of time.

8.b.

- i. I know the answer.
- ii. She did not go to the market.
- iii. The news is very depressing.
- iv. Each of the boys has a book.
- v. He is taller than his brother.
- vi. My brother and I went to the market.
- vii. Neither the manager nor the employees were aware of the issue.

9.a. Tom is stuck painting Aunt Polly's fence. He's even jealous of Jim's chore of going to fetch water, which would at least give him the chance to talk to others at the well. Tom tries to convince Jim to trade tasks, but Jim says Aunt Polly has already told him not to let Tom leave the fence. Jim resists Tom's offer of a white marble in exchange for painting some of the fence, but gives in when Tom promises to show him his sore toe. Aunt Polly immediately arrives and forces Jim away with a smack from her shoe. Tom continues whitewashing the fence when along comes Ben Rogers, eating an apple and playing at running an imaginary steamboat. Tom pretends to be wholly absorbed in his task. When Ben teases him about having to work, Tom contends that whitewashing is a privilege, and one that Aunt Polly would only trust to him. Ben begs Tom to let him try, which Tom does, but only after Ben agrees to hand over the rest of his apple to Tom. Tom plays this trick on other boys for the rest of the day. He amasses all sorts of treasure: a dead rat on a string, marbles, a chalk fragment, and more and gets the boys to do so much work for him that the fence has three coats by quitting time. By tricking others Tom cleverly made the unpleasant chore of whitewashing the fence delightful.

9.b. Do's and Don'ts of Telephone etiquette in line with greeting and introduction – tone and clarity – active listening – handling hold request- transferring calls- ending the call.

10.a. Henley shows how important it is to be strong, brave, and in control of ourselves through vivid images and determined language. Invictus encourages readers to face their problems head-on by showing that the human spirit can endure and never give up, even when outside forces cause pain and battle. "Invictus" is a poem about resilience in the face of suffering. This resilience comes from the courage to embrace life and refuse despair. In addition to its proud statement of the speaker's current bravery, the poem is also a balm against any future instances of adversity; it's ultimately an assertion of the boundless strength of the human spirit. The poem has a repetitive structure that emphasizes the recurring nature of adversity and the constancy of inner strength. The poet then closes with an assertion "unconquerable soul." That is, the speaker's resilience remains untouched by life's difficulties. His idea takes a similar form, now turning to physical bludgeoning as a metaphor for life's unpredictable difficulties. Though "bloodied," the speaker doesn't bow to these difficulties and instead faces them head on. However, the speaker remains "unafraid" and self-possessed as he quotes, "I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul".

10.b. e-mail format with To, cc, bcc and subject line – appropriate introduction , body and conclusion

