

PANORAMA

Class XII

# PANORAMA

COMPULSORY ENGLISH

BOOK II

Class  
XII



BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION  
RAJASTHAN, AJMER

# PANORAMA

CLASS XII

COMPULSORY ENGLISH  
BOOK II



BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION  
RAJASTHAN, AJMER

# **TEXTBOOK DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

## **PANORAMA**

### **CLASS XII**

#### **COMPULSORY ENGLISH BOOK II**

##### **CONVENER**

: **Dr. Seema Malik**  
Professor and Head, Department of English  
Dean, Postgraduate Studies  
Mohanlal Sukhadia University  
Udaipur

##### **EDITORS**

- : 1. **Dr. Shive Sharma**  
Lecturer in English  
Government Meera Girls College  
Udaipur
2. **Manish Maharshi**  
Lecturer in English  
Government Dungar College  
Bikaner
3. **Bhanwar Singh Rajpurohit**  
Lecturer in English  
Government Senior Secondary School  
Bali
4. **Prahlad Sharma**  
Lecturer in English  
Government Senior Secondary School  
Talera

##### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Editors and the Board of Secondary Education, Rajasthan, Ajmer express their gratitude and indebtedness to the authors whose valuable creations have been included in this book.

Although every effort has been made to trace copyright holders of the material printed in this book, it has not been possible to trace the copyright in all cases. The Editors apologize for any omissions and would be glad to hear from any such unacknowledged copyright holders.

**For Free Distribution**

**Editors**

## SYLLABUS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

### PANORAMA

#### CLASS XII

#### COMPULSORY ENGLISH BOOK II

#### Convener :

**Dr S. K. Agrawal**

Professor & Head, Department of English  
Maharaja Ganga Singh University  
Bikaner

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <b>Dr Sohrab Sharma</b><br>Lecturer<br>Government College, Kota  | 5. <b>Ranvir Singh Syag</b><br>Sr. Teacher<br>Government Sr. Sec. School,<br>Narsinghpura (Ganganagar) |
| 2. <b>Jai Prakash Raghav</b><br>Lecturer<br>Government Sr. Secondary School<br>Khatipura, Jaipur            | 6. <b>Kewa Ram</b><br>Sr. Teacher<br>Government Adarsh Sr.<br>Secondary School<br>Sanfara (Jalore)     |
| 3. <b>Urmila Vijayvargiya</b><br>Lecturer<br>Govt. Sr. Upadhyay Sanskrit School<br>Kota                     | 7. <b>Dr B. L. Soni</b><br>Retd. D.E.O.<br>3, Bohra Ganesh Temple Road,<br>Udaipur                     |
| 4. <b>Devilal Patidar</b><br>Sr. Teacher<br>Government Mahipal Sr.<br>Secondary School, Sagwara (Dungarpur) |  |

## **PREFACE**

This book is designed for the students of Class XII studying English, Board of Secondary Education, Rajasthan, as per the specifications given in the syllabus at this level. The main objective of this book is to make reading an enjoyable experience, and enable students to understand the social milieu around them by appreciating some of the most exquisite literary writings.

Literature replenishes lives, broadens mental horizon and enhances awareness of human values. The short stories in this collection are like rare gems and encompass varied shades of life and cultures. The collection is a thoughtful blend of the classic and the contemporary, highlighting human relationships, social, political and environmental issues that are integral to the understanding of human life. It is hoped that the students will find these stories interesting and will enhance their linguistic skills through reading and writing.

Each story is preceded by a brief introduction of the author and is followed by a gist of the story as well as an exhaustive glossary. Different types of comprehension questions will help the students understand the text in a better way. The questions based on imagination will bring out the creative spark in the students.

I hope the textbook shall meet its purpose. Suggestions for improvement are welcome.

**Convener**

## SYLLABUS

### PANORAMA

#### CLASS XII

#### COMPULSORY ENGLISH BOOK II

The Examination Scheme for the subject is as follows -

Paper	Time (Hrs.)	Marks for the Paper	Sessional	Total Marks
One	3.15	80	20	100

Area of Learning	Marks
Reading	15
Writing	25
Text book : <b>RAINBOW</b>	25
Supp. Book : <b>PANORAMA</b>	15

### SECTION A

#### 1. **Reading** - passages for comprehension and note making 15

Two unseen passages (about 700-900 words in all)

The passages will include two of the following -

- (a) **Factual passage** e.g. instruction, description, report.
- (b) **Discursive passage** involving opinion e.g. argumentative, persuasive or interpretative text.
- (c) **Literary passage** e.g. extract from fiction, drama, poetry, essay or biography.

The details are as given below -

Unseen passages	Testing Areas words	No. of	Marks	Total
Comprehension	1. Short answer type questions to test local, global and inferential comprehension	400-500	6	9
	2. Vocabulary-such as word formation and inferring meaning.		3	
Note-making	1. Note-making in an appropriate format	300-400	4	6
	2. Abstraction		2	

## SECTION B

<b>Writing</b>	<b>25</b>
3. One out of two short compositions- (about 50 words) (It includes- writing advertisement and notices, drafting posters on social, current or national issues, description of arguments for or against topic accepting and declining invitations.)	4
4. A report on an event or a factual description - (about 100 words) (one out of two based on some verbal input )	7
5. Letter - (one out of two based on some verbal input )	7
The letters will include the following -	
(a) business or official letters (for making enquiries, registering complaints, asking for and giving information, placing orders and sending replies):	
(b) letters to the editor on various social, national and international issues	
(c) application for a job including CV (Curriculum Vitae)/Resume.	
6. One out of two compositions - (about 100 words) (based on visual and or verbal input, the compositions may be descriptive or argumentative in nature such as an article, or a speech.)	7

## SECTION C

<b>Text Books</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Rainbow</b>	<b>25</b>
7. One out of two extracts- (based on poetry from the text to test comprehension and appreciation)	4
8. Three out of four short questions from the poetry section to test local and global comprehension of text.	6
9. Four short answer questions based on the lessons from prescribed text.	8
10. One out of two long answer type questions based on the text to test global comprehension (about 125 words each)	7
<b>Panorama</b>	<b>15</b>
11. One out of two long answer type question based on Supplementary Reader to test comprehension and extrapolation of theme, character and incidents ( about 125 words)	7
12. Four short answer questions from the Supplementary Reader	8

### **Prescribed Books -**

**1. Rainbow** - Published by Board of Secondary Education, Rajasthan, Ajmer

**2. Panorama**- Published by Board of Secondary Education, Rajasthan, Ajmer

#### **1. RAINBOW (Text Book)-**

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. On Reading in Relation to Literature | - Lafcadio Hearn      |
| 2. Third Thoughts                       | - E.V. Lucas          |
| 3. A Walk Through the Fire              | - A.D. Smith          |
| 4. A Room 10 x 8                        | - K.S. Duggal         |
| 5. Indians Gifts to the World           |                       |
| (i) How Yoga Heals                      | - Timothy Burgin      |
| (ii) Purity is Power                    | - Dr. K. Subrahmanyam |
| 6. Deep Water                           | - William Douglas     |
| 7. Water                                | - C.V Raman           |
| 8. Indigo                               | - Louis Fischer       |
| 9. Lost Spring                          | - Anees Jung          |
| 10. Journey to the End of the Earth     | - Tishani Joshi       |
| 11. On the Face of It                   | - Susan Hill          |

#### **Poems**

- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. The Seven Ages of Man | - William Shakespeare   |
| 2. A boy's Song          | - Wilfrid Wilson Gibson |
| 3. The Noble nature      | - Ben Jonson            |
| 4. The Snare             | - James Stephens        |
| 5. The Hope              | - Rajan Agrawal         |

#### **2. PANORAMA (Text Book)-**

- |                                   |                             |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Trouble in Bohemia             | - Arthur Canon Doyle        |
| 2. Dead Men's Path                | - Chinua Achebe             |
| 3. Drought                        | - Sharat Chandra Chatterjee |
| 4. The Gift of the Magic          | - O' Henry                  |
| 5. The Guitar Player & Swayanwara | - Suniti Nam Joshi          |
| 6. Love Across the Salt Desert    | - Keki N. Daruwalla         |
| 7. The Portrait of a Lady         | - Khushwant Singh           |
| 8. The Last Lesson                | - Alphonse Dandet           |
| 9. Going Places                   | - A.R. Barton               |
| 10. The Rattrap                   | - Selma Lagerlof            |
| 11. The Tiger King                | - Kalki                     |



## CONTENTS

Sr. No.	Lesson	Page No.
1.	The Tiger King	1
2.	The Portrait of a Lady	10
3.	(i) The Guitar Player	15
	(ii) Svayamvara	
4.	Drought	20
5.	Love Across the Salt Desert	31
6.	Trouble in Bohemia	41
7.	Dead Men's Path	47
8.	The Gift of Magi	53
9.	The Last Lesson	61
10.	Going Places	67
11.	The Rattrap	77

# 1. The Tiger King

Kalki

---

## About the writer

Ramaswami Iyer Krishnamurthy, better known by his pen name Kalki, was a Tamil writer, journalist, poet, critic and an Indian independence activist. He derived his pen name Kalki from the suffixes of his wife's name Kalyani and his name Krishnamurthy. His writings include a large number of short stories, five novels, editorial and political writings, film and music reviews.

\* \* \* \* \*

## I

The Maharaja of Pratibandapuram is the hero of this story. He may be identified as His Highness Jamedar-General, Khiledar-Major, Sata Vyaghra Samhari, Maharajadhiraja Visva Bhuvana Samrat, Sir Jilani Jung Jung Bahadur, M.A.D., A.C.T.C., or C.R.C.K. But this name is often shortened to the Tiger King. I have come forward to tell you why he came to be known as Tiger King. I have no intention of pretending to advance only to end in a strategic withdrawal. Even the threat of a Stuka bomber will not throw me off track. The Stuka, if it likes, can beat a hasty retreat from my story.

Right at the start, it is imperative to disclose a matter of vital importance about the Tiger King. Everyone who reads of him will experience the natural desire to meet a man of his indomitable courage face-to-face. But there is no chance of its fulfillment. As Bharata said to Rama about Dasaratha, the Tiger King has reached that final abode of all living creatures. In other words, the Tiger King is dead.

The manner of his death is a matter of extraordinary interest. It can be revealed only at the end of the tale. The most fantastic aspect of his demise was that as soon as he was born, astrologers had foretold that one day the Tiger King would actually have to die.

“The child will grow up to become the warrior of warriors, hero of heroes, champion of champions. But...” they bit their lips and swallowed hard. When compelled to continue, the astrologers came out with it. “This is a secret which should not be revealed at all. And yet we are forced to speak out. The child born under this star will one day have to meet its death.”