



GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

# ENGLISH

## HIGHER SECONDARY - SECOND YEAR

A publication under Free Textbook Programme of Government of Tamil Nadu

Department of School Education

**Untouchability is Inhuman and a Crime**

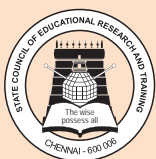
## Government of Tamil Nadu

First Edition - 2019

(Published under New Syllabus)

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### Content Creation



State Council of Educational  
Research and Training

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### Printing & Publishing



Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational  
Services Corporation

[www.textbooksonline.tn.nic.in](http://www.textbooksonline.tn.nic.in)

# THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Jana-gana-mana-adhinayaka jaya he  
Bharata-bhagya-vidhata.

Punjaba-Sindhu-Gujarata-Maratha-  
Dravida-Utkala-Banga

Vindhya-Himachala-Yamuna-Ganga  
Uchchhala-jaladhi-taranga

Tava subha name jage,

Tava Subha asisa mage,

Gahe tava jaya-gatha.

Jana-gana-mangala-dayaka jaya he  
Bharata-bhagya-vidhata

Jayahe, jayahe, jaya he,

Jaya jaya, jaya, jaya he.

- Rabindranath Tagore.





## தமிழ்த்தாய் வாழ்த்து

நீராருங் கடலுடுத்த நிலமடந்தைக் கெழிலொழுகும்  
சீராரும் வதனமெனத் திகழ்பரதக் கண்டமிதில்  
தெக்கணமும் அதிற்சிறந்த திராவிடநல் திருநாடும்  
தக்கசிறு பிறைநுதலும் தரித்தநறுந் திலகமுமே!  
அத்திலக வாசனைபோல் அனைத்துலகும் இன்பமுற  
எத்திசையும் புகழ்மணக்க இருந்தபெருந் தமிழணங்கே!

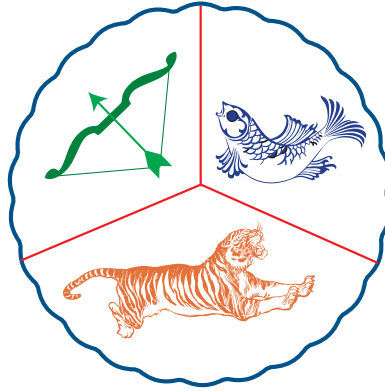
தமிழணங்கே!

உன் சீரிளமைத் திறம்வியந்து செயல்மறந்து வாழ்த்துதுமே!

வாழ்த்துதுமே!

வாழ்த்துதுமே!

– 'மனோன்மனீயம்' பெ. சுந்தரனார்.



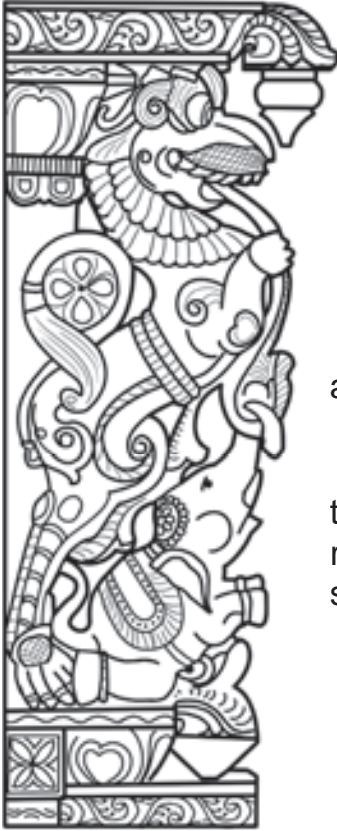
## தமிழ்த்தாய் வாழ்த்து – பொருள்

ஒலி எழுப்பும் நீர் நிறைந்த கடலெனும் ஆடையுடுத்திய நிலமெனும் பெண்ணுக்கு, அழகு மிளிரும் சிறப்பு நிறைந்த முகமாகத் திகழ்கிறது பரதக்கண்டம். அக்கண்டத்தில், தென்னாடும் அதில் சிறந்த திராவிடர்களின் நல்ல திருநாடும், பொருத்தமான பிறை போன்ற நெற்றியாகவும், அதிலிட்ட மணம் வீசும் திலகமாகவும் இருக்கின்றன.

அந்தத் திலகத்தில் இருந்து வரும் வாசனைபோல, அனைத்துலகமும் இன்பம் பெறும் வகையில் எல்லாத் திசையிலும் புகழ் மணக்கும்படி (புகழ் பெற்று) இருக்கின்ற பெருமைமிக்க தமிழ்ப் பெண்ணே! தமிழ்ப் பெண்ணே! என்றும் இளமையாக இருக்கின்ற உன் சிறப்பான திறமையை வியந்து உன் வயப்பட்டு எங்கள் செயல்களை மறந்து உன்னை வாழ்த்துவோமே! வாழ்த்துவோமே! வாழ்த்துவோமே!







## THE NATIONAL INTEGRATION PLEDGE

“I solemnly pledge to work with dedication to preserve and strengthen the freedom and integrity of the nation.”

“I further affirm that I shall never resort to violence and that all differences and disputes relating to religion, language, region or other political or economic grievances should be settled by peaceful and constitutional means.”

## A STUDENT'S VOW BEFORE MOTHER INDIA

Name :

Class :

School :

“I shall overcome the obstacles raised by caste and communal prejudices and work for the greatness of my Motherland putting to the fullest use the benefits that I derive through education.

Vandae mataram!



# PREFACE

The general English syllabus for Class 12 aligns with the Recommendations of the National curriculum framework 2005. Based on the communicative approach to language learning, the textbook follows the design and structure of the revised class 11 Course Book published in 2017. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century learner needs to be able to competently collaborate, think critically, solve problems and access digital resources proficiently. Therefore, the selected texts, drawn from different genres, themes and Writings across the world are age appropriate, value oriented and motivating. The tasks based on the texts encourage and train the learner to:

- ❖ seamlessly integrate the use of the four major language skills, namely listening, speaking, reading and writing naturally and confidently.
- ❖ acquire fluency and accuracy in Speaking and Writing and ensure appropriate use of format, style and structure.
- ❖ enrich vocabulary through guided practice
- ❖ develop an attitude of contemplation and enquiry which fosters analytical and critical thinking skills
- ❖ to understand and appreciate prose, poetry and drama
- ❖ inculcate creativity and initiative
- ❖ understand contemporary issues that they will face in the world outside the school
- ❖ participate actively in the learning process by following clear guidelines that encourage collaborative learning through pair work, group work and whole class work.

# Special Features

- ❖ Warm up activities lead the students to the theme of each text.
- ❖ Includes texts from a wide variety of genres offering learning experiences which promote discussion, and writing with clarity and creativity, facilitate the learners to analyze, interpret and extrapolate the texts.
- ❖ 'Item boxes' are given wherever suitable, to encourage learners to read beyond the prescribed texts.
- ❖ Language skills are reinforced by relevant 'check-points', intensive practice in speaking, listening, reading and writing.
- ❖ Vocabulary is expanded and grammar is internalised.
- ❖ Interesting activities are provided to motivate learners to use the language in context and acquire essential language skills.
- ❖ Innovative features like Grammar games, ICT Corner, Infographics and Learning Links lead the learners to further learning.

## QR Code Usage

- ❖ Download the QR code scanner from the Google PlayStore/ Apple App Store into your smartphone
- ❖ Open the QR code scanner application
- ❖ Once the scanner button in the application is clicked, camera opens and then bring it closer to the QR code in the text book.



QR GUIDE



## An Overview

Unit - 1

The prose section contains a touching narration titled **'Two Gentlemen of Verona'** by **A.J. Cronin**, which describes the responsible and mature behaviour of two young brothers who toil day and night to pay for the treatment of their elder sister, a war victim who suffers from a critical disease. **'The Castle'** by **Edwin Muir** describes the fall of a formidable castle caused by betrayal from within. The supplementary section consists of **Leo Tolstoy's** short story **'God Sees the Truth but Waits'**, which describes the ultimate triumph of truth proving a convict's innocence. It also brings out the magnanimous nature of Aksionov who forgives the actual culprit and breathes his last peacefully.

**Grammar :** Tenses, Modal auxiliaries, Reported speech

**Writing :** Letter Writing

Unit - 2

**A Nice Cup of Tea** is an essay by **George Orwell**. It is a description of the craft of making tea. In the poem **'Our Casuarina Tree'** the poet **Toru Dutt** describes the huge tree in her garden which symbolises her happy childhood associations. **'Life of Pi'** by **Yann Martel** is a 'fantasy' which describes the incredible experience of a young man who survives a dangerous ordeal in the sea. The story was made into a film in the year 2012.

**Grammar :** Prepositions, Prepositional phrases, Conjunctions and connectives.

**Writing :** Article Writing, Essay Writing

Unit - 3

**'In Celebration of Being Alive'** is an extract from a speech of **Dr. Christian Barnard**, the first doctor to perform a heart transplant surgery. The doctor recounts an incident involving two critically ill children, whose zest for life made him understanding how important it is to celebrate being alive. **William Shakespeare's** poem **'All the World's a Stage'**, traces the seven different stages in a man's life with all the characteristics of each stage. **Percival Wilde's** play **'The Hour of Truth'** forms the supplementary section, portraying the integrity of Robert Baldwin and his painful sacrifice of friendship in defence of truth.

**Grammar :** Active & Passive Voice, Interrogations or questions

**Writing :** Story writing

Unit - 4

**'The Summit'** is a travelogue – an amazing account of the conquest of Mt. Everest by **Edmund Hillary** and **Tenzing Norgay**. The poem **'Ulysses'** by **Alfred Tennyson** describes the mythical Greek hero's unquenchable thirst for adventure. **'The Midnight Visitor'** by **Robert Arthur**, is a gripping story of high drama at midnight in which a detective who defies stereotype outwits a hardened criminal with his quick wit and presence of mind.

**Grammar :** Kinds of Sentences, Conditional Clauses

**Writing :** Summarizing, Interpreting Non-Verbal Presentations

Unit - 5

The prose text **'The Status of Tamil as a Classical Language'** is an official letter by the foreign scholar **George L. Hart**. The poem **'A father to his Son'** by **Carl August Sandburg** captures a loving father's invaluable advice to his son. **'All Summer in a Day'** by **Ray Bradbury**, a piece of science fiction, explores the theme of life on planet Venus.

**Grammar :** Non-Finite Verbs, Degrees of Comparison

**Writing :** Slogan Writing, Paragraph Writing

Unit - 6

**'On the Rule of the Road'** an essay by **A.G Gardiner**, emphasises the importance of responsible public behaviour respecting the liberty of others and upholding the norms of the society. The poem **'Incident of the French Camp'** by **Robert Browning**, is a heartrending story of a young soldier who sacrifices his life for the sake of his country with great pride and honour. The humorous play **'Remember Caesar'** by **Gordon David** revolves around Lord Weston's mistaken threat to his life.

**Grammar :** Concord

**Writing :** Describing a Process

# Contents

1	Prose	Two Gentlemen of Verona	1
	Poem	The Castle	19
	Supplementary	God Sees the Truth but Waits	24
2	Prose	A Nice Cup of Tea	34
	Poem	Our Casuarina Tree	52
	Supplementary	Life of Pi	58
3	Prose	In Celebration of Being Alive	67
	Poem	All the World's a Stage	88
	Supplementary	The Hour of Truth (Play)	95
4	Prose	The Summit	111
	Poem	Ulysses	127
	Supplementary	The Midnight Visitor	135
5	Prose	The Status of Tamil as a Classical Language	142
	Poem	A Father to his Son	161
	Supplementary	All Summer in a Day	168
6	Prose	On the Rule of the Road	177
	Poem	Incident of the French Camp	189
	Supplementary	Remember Caesar (Play)	195



E - book



Assessment



DIGI links

