SCERT Kerala · Class 12 · English

English

ORIGINAL STUDY COMPANION
PADIKAM
CLASS 12 | ALL STREAMS
English
Kerala SCERT / prescribed NCERT core lessons
16 chapter lessons
Quick explanations, core points, exam practice and chapter-specific notation in one consistent format.
Padikam explanations are independently written. Official textbooks are used as the coverage map, chapter sequence and terminology reference.

Contents
01 Unit 1: The 3Ls of Empowerment 09 Unit 3: Didi
02 Unit 1: Any Woman 10 Unit 3: Stammer
03 Unit 1: Matchbox 11 Unit 4: When a Sapling Is Planted
04 Unit 1: Horegallu 12 Unit 4: Rice
05 Unit 2: Mending Wall 13 Unit 4: Dangers of Drug Abuse
06 Unit 2: Amigo Brothers 14 Unit 5: Post Early for Christmas
07 Unit 2: The Hour of Truth 15 Unit 5: This Is Going to Hurt Just a Little Bit
08 Unit 3: A Three-Wheeled Revolution 16 Unit 5: Crime and Punishment
Study rhythm
Read the quick explanation, recall the core points aloud, then answer the prompts without looking back. Use the official textbook links for full prescribed readings, activities and diagrams.
Textbook and verification links
1. https://www.hsslive.in/2015/05/plus-two-2-new-text-booksscert.html
2. https://samagra.kite.kerala.gov.in/
3. https://www.hsslive.in/2014/11/plus-one-english-notes.html

CHAPTER 01
Unit 1: The 3Ls of Empowerment
Quick understanding
Christine Lagarde argues that learning, labour and leadership can expand women's agency and strengthen society.
Core points Check your learning
Learning builds capability and confidence. Explain the central idea of Unit 1: The 3Ls of Empowerment in your own words.
Labour requires access, fair opportunity and recognition. Apply one idea from Unit 1: The 3Ls of Empowerment to a textbook-style example or source.
Leadership changes institutions as well as individual lives.
Literary craft
Public speech
Three-part structure

Evidence joined with a call to action
One-line recall Learning builds capability and confidence.
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CHAPTER 02
Unit 1: Any Woman
Quick understanding
Katharine Tynan presents the mother as the sustaining centre of family life while quietly revealing the cost of that role.
Core points Check your learning
Domestic images turn care into structural support. Explain the central idea of Unit 1: Any Woman in your own words.
The speaker's fear of absence shows emotional dependence. Apply one idea from Unit 1: Any Woman to a textbook-style example or source.
The poem invites respect for labour that is often treated as ordinary.
Literary craft
Extended metaphor
Repetition
Prayer-like closing
One-line recall Domestic images turn care into structural support.
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CHAPTER 03
Unit 1: Matchbox
Quick understanding
Ashapurna Debi uses a household conflict to expose how secrecy, pride and unequal power can ignite emotional resistance.
Core points Check your learning
Nomita's anger grows from repeated invasion of Explain the central idea of Unit 1: privacy. Matchbox in your own words.
Ajit treats control as entitlement. Apply one idea from Unit 1: Matchbox to a textbook-style example or source.
The matchbox image joins smallness, danger and suppressed fire.
Literary craft
Domestic realism
Symbolism
Sharp dialogue and irony
One-line recall Nomita's anger grows from repeated invasion of privacy.
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CHAPTER 04
Unit 1: Horegallu
Quick understanding
Sudha Murty's anecdote shows how patient listening can become a resting place for people carrying emotional burdens.
Core points Check your learning
The stone bench becomes a metaphor for non- Explain the central idea of Unit 1: judgmental support. Horegallu in your own words.
The grandfather and Ratna help without claiming to Apply one idea from Unit 1: Horegallu to solve every problem. a textbook-style example or source.
Empathy can be practical even when no advice is given.

Literary craft
Personal anecdote
Central metaphor
Reflective comparison
One-line recall The stone bench becomes a metaphor for non-judgmental support.
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CHAPTER 05
Unit 2: Mending Wall
Quick understanding
Robert Frost turns an annual repair into a debate about boundaries, tradition and the reasons people repeat inherited rules.
Core points Check your learning
Nature and the speaker question the wall. Explain the central idea of Unit 2: Mending Wall in your own words.
The neighbour values a proverb and inherited practice. Apply one idea from Unit 2: Mending Wall to a textbook-style example or source.
The poem keeps both connection and separation in tension.
Literary craft
Blank verse
Conversational irony
Symbol and repeated proverb
One-line recall Nature and the speaker question the wall.
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CHAPTER 06
Unit 2: Amigo Brothers
Quick understanding
Piri Thomas follows two close friends whose boxing contest tests whether competition can coexist with loyalty.
Core points Check your learning
Antonio and Felix train separately to protect concentration. Explain the central idea of Unit 2: Amigo Brothers in your own words.
The fight becomes intense without becoming personal hatred. Apply one idea from Unit 2: Amigo Brothers to a textbook-style example or source.
Their final action places friendship above public result.
Literary craft
Sports narrative
Suspense
Contrast between combat and affection
One-line recall Antonio and Felix train separately to protect concentration.
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CHAPTER 07
Unit 2: The Hour of Truth
Quick understanding
Percival Wilde’s play tests Robert Baldwin’s integrity when money, family pressure and public scandal pull in opposite directions.
Core points Check your learning
Baldwin refuses to lie for his employer. Explain the central idea of Unit 2: The Hour of Truth in your own words.

His family's reasoning reveals how temptation
disguises itself as practicality. Apply one idea from Unit 2: The Hour of
Truth to a textbook-style example or
Unexpected honesty from another character confirms
source.
the value of principle.
Literary craft
One-act problem play
Dramatic irony
Moral conflict through dialogue
One-line recall Baldwin refuses to lie for his employer.
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CHAPTER 08
Unit 3: A Three-Wheeled Revolution
Quick understanding
The interview with Irfan Alam shows how redesigning the cycle-rickshaw business can improve safety,
income and dignity.
Core points Check your learning
Innovation begins by listening to workers and users. Explain the central idea of Unit 3: A
Three-Wheeled Revolution in your own
The model combines technology with
words.
entrepreneurship.
Apply one idea from Unit 3: A Three-
Social enterprise measures value in livelihoods as
Wheeled Revolution to a textbook-style
well as profit.
example or source.
Literary craft
Interview
Question-and-answer development
Real-world entrepreneurial case
One-line recall Innovation begins by listening to workers and users.
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CHAPTER 09
Unit 3: Didi
Quick understanding
Shaheen Mistri describes how sustained educational work grew from direct contact with children and
belief in their potential.
Core points Check your learning
Service begins with attention to local realities. Explain the central idea of Unit 3: Didi in
your own words.
A movement needs volunteers, organisation and
long-term commitment. Apply one idea from Unit 3: Didi to a
textbook-style example or source.
Educational inequality is social, not a lack of talent in
children.
Literary craft
Biographical profile
First-person reflection
Cause-and-effect structure
One-line recall Service begins with attention to local realities.
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CHAPTER 10
Unit 3: Stammer
Quick understanding
K. Satchidanandan reframes stammering as a human mode of expression rather than a simple defect to be mocked.
Core points Check your learning
The poem questions who defines fluent or normal speech. Explain the central idea of Unit 3: Stammer in your own words.
Pauses can hold emotion, history and resistance. Apply one idea from Unit 3: Stammer to a textbook-style example or source.
Language itself is shown as incomplete and searching.
Literary craft
Free verse
Paradox
Metaphor and rhetorical questioning
One-line recall The poem questions who defines fluent or normal speech.
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CHAPTER 11
Unit 4: When a Sapling Is Planted
Quick understanding
Wangari Maathai connects tree planting with women's work, ecological repair, democracy and community responsibility.
Core points Check your learning
Local environmental action can grow into a civic movement. Explain the central idea of Unit 4: When a Sapling Is Planted in your own words.
Ecological damage and social inequality reinforce one another. Apply one idea from Unit 4: When a Sapling Is Planted to a textbook-style example or source.
A planted tree represents both practical restoration and hope.
Literary craft
Nobel lecture
Personal testimony
Environmental and political argument
One-line recall Local environmental action can grow into a civic movement.
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CHAPTER 12
Unit 4: Rice
Quick understanding
Chemmanam Chacko's poem uses a returning speaker's shock to criticise the replacement of food crops and rural values by commercial priorities.
Core points Check your learning
The expectation of paddy fields meets an altered landscape. Explain the central idea of Unit 4: Rice in your own words.
Humour sharpens the social criticism. Apply one idea from Unit 4: Rice to a textbook-style example or source.
Rice becomes a sign of memory, food security and cultural belonging.
Literary craft
Satire
Irony

Colloquial voice and contrast
One-line recall The expectation of paddy fields meets an altered landscape.
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CHAPTER 13
Unit 4: Dangers of Drug Abuse
Quick understanding
The essay explains how psychoactive substances can alter judgement, create dependence and damage health, relationships and society.
Core points Check your learning
Tolerance and dependence can trap users in increasing harm.
Prevention needs accurate information and supportive relationships.
Treatment should combine medical, psychological and social care.
Literary craft
Expository essay
Definition and classification
Cause-and-effect reasoning
One-line recall Tolerance and dependence can trap users in increasing harm.
Explain the central idea of Unit 4: Dangers of Drug Abuse in your own words.
Apply one idea from Unit 4: Dangers of Drug Abuse to a textbook-style example or source.
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CHAPTER 14
Unit 5: Post Early for Christmas
Quick understanding
R. H. Wood's comic play turns an ordinary post office into escalating confusion through eccentric customers and misunderstood parcels.
Core points Check your learning
Repetition builds the comic rhythm.
The assistant remains the practical centre of a chaotic scene.
Miscommunication converts routine service into farce.
Literary craft
One-act farce
Comic timing
Situational irony
One-line recall Repetition builds the comic rhythm.
Explain the central idea of Unit 5: Post Early for Christmas in your own words.
Apply one idea from Unit 5: Post Early for Christmas to a textbook-style example or source.
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CHAPTER 15
Unit 5: This Is Going to Hurt Just a Little Bit
Quick understanding
Ogden Nash humorously exaggerates a dental visit to capture the fear, helplessness and absurdity patients often feel.
Core points Check your learning
The speaker's imagination enlarges small discomforts.
Explain the central idea of Unit 5: This Is Going to Hurt Just a Little Bit in your own

words.
Inventive rhyme makes complaint playful.
Apply one idea from Unit 5: This Is Going
The final comparison reverses ordinary ideas of
to Hurt Just a Little Bit to a textbook-style
justice and pain.
example or source.
Literary craft
Comic verse
Hyperbole
Unexpected rhyme and wordplay
One-line recall The speaker’s imagination enlarges small discomforts.
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CHAPTER 16
Unit 5: Crime and Punishment
Quick understanding
R. K. Narayan’s story uses a teacher’s desperate mistake and a child’s bargaining power to examine
fear-based education.
Core points Check your learning
The teacher’s anxiety drives increasingly poor Explain the central idea of Unit 5: Crime
decisions. and Punishment in your own words.
The child recognises and exploits the changed Apply one idea from Unit 5: Crime and
balance of power. Punishment to a textbook-style example
or source.
Comedy reveals the damage caused by punishment
without trust.
Literary craft
Short-story realism
Irony
Shifting power and comic escalation
One-line recall The teacher’s anxiety drives increasingly poor decisions.
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