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Question Paper Code : 57024

B.E./B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATION, MAY/JUNE 2014.

First Semester

Civil Engineering

HS 6151 – TECHNICAL ENGLISH – I

(Common to all branches)

(Regulation 2013)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 100 marks

Answer ALL questions.

PART A — (10 × 2 = 20 marks)

- Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions. (4 × ½ = 2)
Positive health involves learning to listen _____ the finely tuned rhythms _____ us which can tell us _____ ourselves and our state _____ health.
- Make eight words from the following by using appropriate prefixes or suffixes: (8 × ¼ = 2)
(a) port. (b) effective. (c) history. (d) kind. (e) nation. (f) organize.
(g) violent. (h) develop.
- Define Two of the following in a single sentence : (2 × 1 = 2)
(a) Internet. (b) catalyst. (c) satellite. (d) laptop.
- Make compound nouns from the following expressions: (4 × ½ = 2)
(a) a planet which is dwarf
(b) a method of production
(c) a line for transmission of power
(d) a workshop on creativity
- Combine the following with suitable cause and effect expressions: (2 × 1 = 2)
(a) The foreigner drank water from a tap. He caught cold.
(b) She fell from the bus. She was boarding a moving bus.
- Choose the correct verbs and fill in the blanks with their suitable tense forms: (4 × ½ = 2)
(protect, cling, allow, involve)

The acceptance of new ideas always ^(a) _____ a struggle. People ^(b) _____ to notions they hold dear. In this way, tradition ^(c) _____ itself for providing a testing ground for the new. It only ^(d) _____ what is of some value to assert itself.

7. Give a single word for each of the following: (4 × ½ = 2)
- (a) a complete list items, usually in a special order and with a description of each.
 - (b) continued effort to achieve something one has begun, despite setbacks.
 - (c) an alphabetical arrangement of the main topics, ideas, names. etc.
 - (d) an objective view of a situation, in which all its elements assume their importance.
8. Expand the abbreviations and acronyms: (4 × ½ = 2)
- (a) NASA, (b) TIFR, (c) UNESCO, (d) ONGC.
9. Rewrite the following in reported speech: (2 × 1 = 2)
- (a) The teacher said, "Have you completed your assignment?"
 - (b) The student said, No, madam, I wilt submit it tomorrow."
10. Fill in the blanks with appropriate fixed expressions: (2 × 1 = 2)
- I was driving on the highway. _____ a cyclist came in my way. I could not help but hit him hard. He fell on the road right in front of me. _____ I had not of hitting him at all. It just happened.

PART B — (5 × 16 = 80 marks)

11. (a) Answer both the subdivisions (a) and (b). Read the following passage and answer the questions given at the end:

The Yamuna River is polluted daily by untreated industrial waste and human waste and is usually too dirty to be used. But researchers from the university of Georgia say that there are colonies of bacteria buried deep in the mud along the banks of a remote salt lake that "breathe" a toxic metal to survive.

Their experiments with this unusual organism show that it may one day become a useful tool for industry and environmental protection. The bacteria are capable of reducing contaminants, including selenium and tellurium. "Besides, it could be used to help humans recover and recycle the valuable elements in the water. This way, the water stays clean and industry does not waste a valuable strategic resource.

The bacteria use elements that are notoriously poisonous to humans — such as antimony and arsenic — in place of oxygen. Antimony is a naturally occurring silver — colored metal that is widely used to make plastics, and a host of electronic components. The industries convert antimony into antimony trioxide for optimum use.

The researchers found that the bacteria make antimony trioxide naturally as a consequence of respiration — creating a useful industrial product without creating noxious byproducts or requiring legions of specialized equipment.

(i) Choose the correct answer: (4 × 1 = 4)

- (1) Selenium and tellurium are _____
(A) metals (B) contaminants
(C) bacteria
- (2) Antimony and arsenic are _____
(A) harmful (B) beneficial
(C) costly
- (3) Industrial waste and human waste _____ the Yamuna River
(A) support (B) contaminate
(C) dry up
- (4) Industrial conversion of antimony into antimony trioxide needs
(A) ordinary materials (B) high technology
(C) huge manpower

(ii) Answer briefly in a sentence or two: (2 × 2 = 4)

- (1) What solution is given by the researchers to cleanse the Yamuna River?
- (2) What are the two benefits of the bacteria, according to the researchers?

(b) Read the piece of conversation between Manav Varma and Ruskin Bond and answer the questions given at the end: (8)

Manav Varma (MV) : Do you enjoy being called a children's author despite writing for adults as well?

Ruskin Bond (RB) : Of course I do! Writing for children is something I have always enjoyed doing even though I do write an occasional adult novel.

MV : How do you go about your writing? Are you superstitious? For example, it is rumored that Shakespeare kept a rotting apple next to him while he wrote.

RB : (*chuckles*) No. I do not have any such superstitions as far as I know. But I do require a nice sunny room due to my failing eyesight.

MV : How do you create the characters for your stories? Are they based on real people or are they mostly fictional?

RB : My characters are always based on real people I know and I draw upon their personalities. They are not exact replicas but there are similarities. Charles Dickens was known to have created a lot of his characters from the people around him his family and relatives. I find a lot of children write stories with foreign names and localities, but I would advise you to look around you and create from your very surroundings, Dreams make very good stories. Of course you tend to forget most. Except for the ones you have early in the morning just before you wake up.

MV : Do you remember any of your dreams?

RB : Yes. I have had this recurring dream — I am in this big jungle lodge all alone, sitting on the deck and reading, when I see a lone tiger approaching, I rush inside, bolting the front door behind me! I then remember that the back door is conveniently open. I run back and forth, trying to shut all the doors and windows around. Just then I hear the creature at the door, snarling and hitting on the glass pane with its enormous paws. Panic stricken, I pull up a table and try getting out of the sky light on to the roof. I am just in time as the animal breaks in, pounces and knocks over my thermos flask which gets stuck in its throat. And then I wake up. Boy, I am glad it is all a dream!

MV : Who are your favorite authors?

RB : I have always liked the classics. Charles Dickens is a favorite. I even ran away from home like David Copperfield did, only to be back the next day as I had run out of pocket money! Agatha Christie is one of my favorites, especially the Hercule Poirot series. Do you know that she is one of the most successful authors of all times? Her play 'Mouse Trap,' which was first staged in 1952, is still running in London!

(i) Choose the correct answer: (4 × 1 = 4)

- (1) What does Bond need for inspiring him?
 - (A) a rotten apple
 - (B) a bright room
 - (C) a superstition
- (2) Who does Bond write for?
 - (A) Children
 - (B) Adults
 - (C) Both children and adults
- (3) Who among the following is not an author?
 - (A) David Copperfield.
 - (B) Agatha Christie
 - (C) Charles Dickens
- (4) What makes good stories, according to Bond?
 - (A) Imagination
 - (B) Dream
 - (C) Real situation

(ii) Answer briefly in a sentence or two: (2 × 2 = 4)

- (1) Why does Bond refer to Dickens?
- (2) What suggestion does Bond give to young writers?

12. (a) Write a brief autobiography of yourself as a scientist in about 300 words. (16)

Or

(b) Write a brief biography of Srinivasa Ramanujan in about 300 words. (16)

13. (a) Rearrange the following jumbled sentences into a coherent passage. (16)

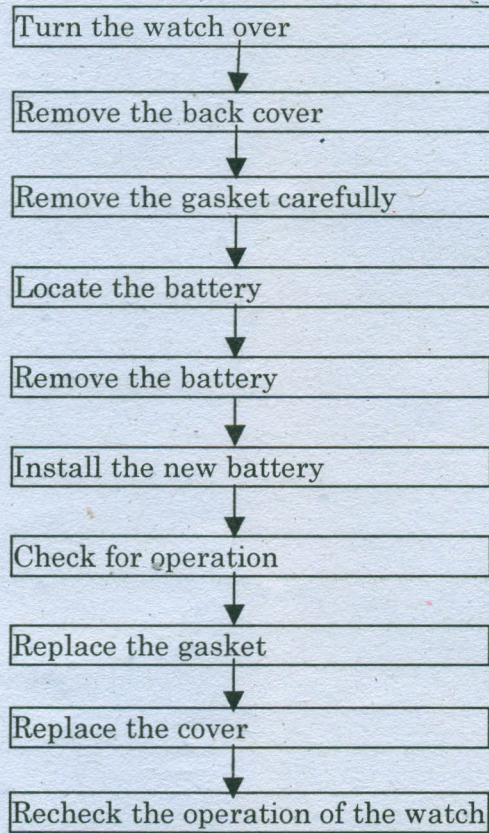
- (i) Now various nations and their people do not think in terms of nationalism.
- (ii) Science has unified the whole world by bringing about speedy means of transport and communications between different nations.
- (iii) Nations now do not aim at self-sufficiency.
- (iv) In fact, the concept of nationalism has undergone a radical change.
- (v) This has brought Internationalism in to the forefront.
- (vi) They do not crave for expansion at the expense of other nations.
- (vii) They are alive to the problems of the whole world.
- (viii) There is also speedier communications of ideas between different countries by means of the press and the radio.

Or

(b) Rearrange the following jumbled sentences into a coherent passage. (16)

- (i) One day the bank man reported that there was a discrepancy of a few paise in the money given to him and the money collected.
- (ii) On hearing this, Gandhiji went on fast saying that the contribution being collected is a donation for the poor and every paise should be accounted for.
- (iii) The devotees of Gandhiji used to collect whatever was given by the people and this collection was counted by the supporting staff of Gandhi family.
- (iv) Mrs. Sumitra Kulkarni narrated an incident about her grandfather which she had personally witnessed.
- (v) Mahatma Gandhi used to have a prayer meeting daily at a fixed time in the evening
- (vi) Such was Gandhiji's integrity.
- (vii) After the prayers, there used to be a collection of voluntary gifts for the welfare of the under-privileged Sections of society.
- (viii) Gandhiji was informed the details of the collection before his dinner and the next-day morning the money was handed over to a bank man who visited them every morning.

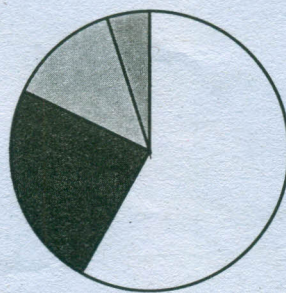
14. (a) Interpret the flowchart on changing the battery of a watch in a paragraph of about 150 words. (16)



Or

- (b) Interpret the following pie chart on the UK household energy consumption in a paragraph of about 150 words. (16)

UK Household Energy Consumption



- Space (room) heating 58%
- Water heating 24%
- Lighting and home 13%
- Cooking 5%

15. (a) Write in about 300 words an essay comparing laptop computers with mobile phones. (16)

Or

- (b) Write an email to a friend describing your visit to a place of importance, for example museum, planetarium. etc). Your text may be in about 300 words. (16)