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Question Paper Code : X 60679

B.E./B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATIONS, NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020
Second Semester
Civil Engineering
HS 2161/HS 21/080020003 – TECHNICAL ENGLISH – II
(Common to all branches)
(Regulations 2008)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum : 100 Marks

Answer ALL questions

PART – A

(10×2=20 Marks)

1. Match the words in Column 'A' with their meanings in Column 'B'. (4×½=2)

A

B

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| a) diversity | (i) initiate |
| b) volatile | (ii) required by written law or legislation |
| c) trigger | (iii) variety, having a difference |
| d) statutory | (iv) unstable |

2. Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions. (4×½=2)

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the science _____ developing computers that can learn and follow instructions _____ great accuracy and speed. An example _____ this is the use _____ expert systems.

3. Make sentences expressing purpose using the hints given below. One example is done for you. (2×1=2)

Example : Syringe : Inject medicine into patient's body.

Ans. : A syringe is used to inject/for injecting medicine into a patient's body.

(Or) The purpose of a syringe is to inject medicine into a patient's body.

- a) SMS : To pass a message to someone
b) Photocopier : To obtain multiple copies of a document.



4. Match the causes in column 'A' with the effects in column 'B' using cause and effect expressions like 'because', 'due to', 'owing to' etc. (4×½=2)

A

B

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Failure of rains | Decrease in rainfall |
| Population explosion | Drying up of crops |
| Cutting down of trees | Hearing problems |
| Noise pollution | Shortage of resources |

5. Change into impersonal passive. (2×1=2)

- a) We should lubricate the bearings to avoid overheating.
- b) The operator generates the heat for fusion welding in several ways.

6. Use **any two** of the following words in a sentence of your own, as a noun and as a verb. (2×1=2)

- a) Compliment
- b) Object
- c) Refuse.

7. Rewrite the following in reported speech. (2×1=2)

- a) Ram said, "I finished my exam yesterday".
- b) Ravi said to Raja, "Will you join me for a cup of coffee ?"

8. Give an extended definition of a 'Computer' in four sentences. (4×½=2)

9. Rewrite the following into indirect speech. (1×2=2)

"Green buildings are becoming popular," said the civil engineer to his customer.

10. Fill in the blanks with suitable forms of the words. (8×¼=2)

Noun	Adjective	Person concerned
a) archeology	_____	_____
b) _____	_____	ornithologist
c) _____	conservational	_____
d) industrial	_____	_____



PART – B

(5×16=80 Marks)

11. Read the following passage and answer the questions given at the end :

Space is a dangerous place, not only because of meteors but also because of rays from the sun and the other stars. The atmosphere again acts as our protective blanket on earth. Light gets through and this is essential for plants to make the food we eat. Heat, too, makes our environment tolerable and some ultraviolet rays penetrate the atmosphere. Cosmic rays of various kinds come through the air from outer space, but enormous quantities of radiation from the sun are screened off. As soon as men leave the atmosphere they are exposed to this radiation but their spacesuits or the walls of their spacecraft, if they are inside, do prevent a lot of radiation damage.

Radiation is the greatest known danger to explorers in space. Doses of radiation are measured in units called 'rems'. We all receive radiation here on Earth from the sun, from cosmic rays and from radioactive minerals. The 'normal' dose of radiation that we receive each year is about 100 millirems (0.1 rem); it varies according to where you live and this is a very rough estimate. Scientists have reason to think that a man can put up with far more radiation than, this without being damaged; the figure of 60 rems has been agreed. The trouble is that it is extremely difficult to be sure about radiation damage. A person may feel perfectly well, but the cells of his or her sex organs may be damaged and this will not be discovered until the birth of (deformed) children or even grandchildren.

Early space probes showed that radiation varies in different parts of space around the Earth. It also varies in time because, when great spurts of gas shoot out of the sun (solar flares), they are accompanied by a lot of extra radiation. Some estimates of the amount of radiation in space, based on various measurements and calculations, are as low as 10 rems per year, others are as high as 5 rems per hour, Missions to the moon (the Apollo flights) have had to cross the Van Allen belts of high radiation and during the outward and return journeys, the 'Apollo 8' crew accumulated a total dose of about 200 millirems per man. It was hoped that there would not be any large solar flares during the times of Apollo moon walks because the walls of the LEMS (Lunar Excursion Modules) were not thick enough to protect the men inside, though the command modules did give reasonable protection. So far, no dangerous doses of radiation have been reported, but the Gemini orbits and the 'Apollo 8' missions have been quite short. We simply do not know yet how men are going to get on when they spend weeks and months outside the protection of the atmosphere, working in a space laboratory or in base on the moon. Drugs might help to decrease the damage done by radiation, but no really effective ones have been found so far. At present, radiation seems to be the greatest physical hazard to space travelers, but it is impossible to say just how serious the hazard will turn out to be in the future.



- a) Choose the response which best reflects the meaning of the text. (4×1=4)
- i) Scientists have fixed a safety level of
 - 1) 10 rems per year
 - 2) 60 rems per year
 - 3) 100 millirems per year
 - 4) 5 rems per hour
 - ii) The spacemen were worried about solar flares when they were
 - 1) Crossing the Van Allen belts
 - 2) Setting up a moon base
 - 3) Exploring the surface of the moon
 - 4) Waiting in the command module
 - iii) When men spend long periods in space, how will they protect themselves ?
 - 1) By taking special drugs
 - 2) By wearing special suits
 - 3) By using a protective blanket
 - 4) No solution has been found yet
 - iv) Which of the following is true ?
 - 1) The grandchildren of astronauts are deformed
 - 2) The children of astronauts have damaged sex organs
 - 3) Radiation damage may show only in later generations
 - 4) Radiation does not seem to be very harmful
- b) Choose the definition which best fits these words or phrases as they are used in the text. (4×1=4)
- i) Cosmic rays
 - 1) Rays from outer space
 - 2) Sunbeams
 - 3) Ultraviolet rays
 - 4) Rays from spacecraft
 - ii) Scientists have reason to think...
 - 1) Scientists are right to think...
 - 2) Scientists have evidence to suggest...
 - 3) Scientists need to think...
 - 4) Scientist are certain...
 - iii) Get on
 - 1) mount
 - 2) walk
 - 3) survive
 - 4) advance
 - iv) Turn out to be
 - 1) change
 - 2) harm
 - 3) remain
 - 4) prove



- c) Look at the passage and decide whether the following statements are 'True' or 'False'. **(8×1=8)**
- i) The atmosphere screens off the Earth from excessive radiation.
 - ii) Everyone on earth is exposed to exactly the same amount of radiation.
 - iii) Solar flares are not dangerous.
 - iv) Space is a dangerous place because it is not fully explored.
 - v) The 'Apollo 8' missions have been quite long in duration.
 - vi) The drugs that have been found to decrease radiation are ineffective.
 - vii) The greatest, physical hazard to space, travelers is remaining for long hours in space.
 - viii) In space travel, spacesuits are absolutely necessary for the scientists.

12. a) Write a letter to the Human Resource Manager of an Automobile Company in Chennai requesting permission to visit the manufacturing unit as part of your industrial visit. **(16)**

(OR)

- b) Write a letter of complaint to the Manager of a bank about the problems you face in using your ATM card. **(16)**

13. a) Draft a letter of job application in response to the following advertisement. **(16)**

Candidates holding a bachelor's/master's degree with a background in information systems marketing or communications are required for work on company intranet, extranet and internet sites. Mastery of HTML coding, website design including graphic design and client server technology is vital. Applicants must also possess excellent writing skills and the ability to effectively manage multiple projects while interfacing with company employees.

Post your application and CV to Mr. Promod Tiwari, Human Resources Dept., Exclusive Software, North Main Street, Chennai – 67.

(OR)

- b) Write a letter to the Editor of 'The Hindu', Chennai, complaining of noise pollution as there are many theatres, community halls with loudspeakers in your locality. Include your suggestions to solve the problems you have discussed in your letter. **(16)**



14. a) Imagine that you have to attend an interview in a Core/Software Company in Mumbai. Make an eight-item check list with a proper title. **(16)**

(OR)

- b) Rearrange the following sentences in proper logical order.
- i) Online stores never close – they are open 24 hours a day.
 - ii) There are many sites that offer comparison of charts.
 - iii) The first step in the process of buying is to decide to buy the product. **(16)**

15. a) Write an essay in three to five short paragraphs on the problem of providing safe drinking water to the people in your district. Also give a set of solutions to the problems you discuss in your essay. **(16)**

(OR)

- b) Write a proposal for submission to the Principal of your college for giving employability training to your classmates. Give details regarding the need, the number of students, venue, time and dates, resource persons for the training, amount of money required, sponsorship, if any, etc. **(16)**
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