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Question Paper Code : 54013

B.E./B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATION, JANUARY 2018
First Semester
Civil Engineering
HS8151 : COMMUNICATIVE ENGLISH
(Common to : All Branches (Except Marine Engineering))
(Regulations 2017)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum : 100 Marks

Answer ALL questions

PART - A

(10×2=20 Marks)

1. Write Wh-questions for the following statements. (4×½=2)
- I am planning to relocate to Canada in 2018.
 - Tanuj was late and so he could not attend the meeting.
 - The schools reopen on the 21st.
 - This is my friend's calculator.
2. Complete the word in the blank using the correct suffix. (4×½=2)
- His exemplary service in the army proves his patriot ____ (-ness, -ism, -cy, -ward)
 - I found a new book ____ on dental health in the library. (-let, -ish, -worm, -ing)
 - Sugar crystal _____ very quickly. (-ism, -ing, -izes, -ed)
 - The stranger had a strange appear _____ (-ing, -ance, -less, -dis)
3. Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions : (4×½=2)
- Steve Jobs co-founded Apple Computer _____ Steve Wozniak _____ 1976. It soared _____ its start as a garage venture _____ a technology giant.
4. Guess the meaning of words in bold from the context. Choose the options from the answers given : (4×½=2)
- The judgement of a good leader should not be coloured by **Prejudices**.
 - tolerance
 - bias
 - broadmindedness
 - dishonesty



- ii) A balanced diet is **crucial** for maintaining one's health and fitness.
a) peripheral b) necessary c) optional d) unnecessary
- iii) She is very kind and **empathetic** to patients.
a) indifferent b) compassionate
c) rude d) careless
- iv) **Domestic** servants are well paid these days.
a) foreign b) intern c) household d) private
5. Use a single word that substitutes the following phrases : (4×½=2)
- i) A person who abstains from alcoholic drinks.
a) alcoholic b) drunkard c) teetotaller d) abstinence
- ii) A doctor who specialises in child health.
a) paediatrician b) physician c) psychologist d) anaesthetist
- iii) The first speech delivered by a person.
a) Oration b) Extempore
c) Speech d) Maiden speech
- iv) A lady who remains unmarried.
a) Bachelor b) Spinster c) Maid d) Feminist
6. Choose the correct adverbs and complete the sentences : (4×½=2)
- i) He writes _____ (mechanically/legibly).
- ii) She responded _____ when she was interviewed by her supervisor (confidently/noisily).
- iii) He has been reprimanded _____ (twice/recklessly).
- iv) Ram _____ writes to me these days (seldom/unofficial).
7. Choose the most suitable synonym for the word in bold : (4×½=2)
- i) His ancestral property was located at a **remote** place.
a) ancient b) rustic c) distant d) local
- ii) Many farmers are committing suicide on account of their inability to pay back their **debt**.
a) dues b) arrears c) salary d) finances
- iii) The behaviour of the criminal was rather **detestable**.
a) commendable b) despicable c) mysterious d) puzzling
- iv) The health care services in India are **understaffed**.
a) ample b) sufficient c) inadequate d) excess



8. Fill in the blanks with suitable tense forms from the options given : (4×½=2)
- i) We _____ (have had/had) problems with our new printer recently.
- ii) All the children at the party hall were startled when the balloon _____ with a loud noise (burst/burst).
- iii) The artist _____ a beautiful portrait (drew/drawn).
- iv) I _____ (was reading/have read) a book when you called.
9. Choose the correct fixed expressions from the options given : (4×½=2)
- i) Life is not _____ (a joyful trip/a bed of roses).
- ii) He always came up with _____ for coming late (a lame excuse/silly ideas).
- iii) It is difficult _____ such boring people (to put down with/to put up with).
- iv) The answer was on _____ (the tip of my mouth/the tip of my tongue).
10. Fill in the blanks with suitable modal verbs : (4×½=2)
- i) Vijay _____ ride his two wheeler easily (can/would).
- ii) _____ we take a torch in case its dark in the alley ? (Should/Might).
- iii) _____ I borrow your dictionary ? (May/Might).
- iv) I _____ return the money by tomorrow. (shall/would).

PART - B

(5×16=80 Marks)

11. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below : (16)

The Coliseum is an ancient stadium in the center of Rome. It is the largest of its kind. It is very old. They started building it in the year 70. It took ten years to build. It is still around today. The Coliseum has been used in many ways. In ancient Rome, men fought each other in it. They fought against lions, tigers and bears. Oh my ! It was dreadful. But most of the people appreciated it. As many as 80,000 Romans would pack inside to watch the events with thrill. These gruesome events went on until 523. The Coliseum has been damaged many times over the years. It was struck by lightning in the year 217. This started a fire. Much of the Coliseum is made of stone. But the fire damaged the upper levels. They were made of wood. This damage took many years to repair. It was not finished until the year 240. The worst damage happened in 1349. A mighty earthquake shook Rome and the Coliseum. The south side of the building collapsed. Pieces of the arena were all over the ground. Many people took the fallen stones. Others took stones from the seating areas. They used them to repair houses and churches. The Romans of those days were not connected to the Coliseum. It had last been used as castle. Before that it was graveyard. It has been hundreds of years since the games. The damage to the Coliseum was never repaired. Its good thing the outer wall of it still stands



strong. Today the Coliseum is one of Rome's most popular attractions. People from all over the world come to Italy to see it. It has even appeared on the back of a coin. I guess that makes it a symbol that many people want too.

A) Choose the correct answer from the options given below : (10×1=10)

- 1) Which event happened first ?
 - a) An earthquake damaged the Coliseum
 - b) The Coliseum was struck by lightning
 - c) The Coliseum appeared on the back of a coin
 - d) The Coliseum was used as a castle
- 2) What does a 'Coliseum' mean ?
 - a) a symposium
 - b) a historical monument
 - c) a stadium or a large theatre
 - d) a dilapidated structure
- 3) What caused the fire that damaged the upper levels of the Coliseum ?
 - a) A bolt of lightning
 - b) Rowdy people who came to watch the events
 - c) An attacking army
 - d) An angry mob
- 4) For which purpose was the Coliseum not used ?
 - a) People fought other people in it
 - b) It was a private castle
 - c) People fought animals in it
 - d) It was a meeting place for the government
- 5) Which option caused the most damage to the Coliseum ?
 - a) Fires
 - b) Earthquakes
 - c) Wars
 - d) Hurricanes
- 6) What did the people do with the stones that they took from the Coliseum ?
 - a) They repaired buildings
 - b) They sold them
 - c) They used them as weapons
 - d) They used them as tombstones
- 7) Which option best defines the word gruesome as it is used in the second paragraph ?
 - a) Exciting
 - b) Funny
 - c) Horrifying
 - d) Boring



- 8) Which option best describes the main idea in the last paragraph ?
 - a) This is about all the things the Coliseum has been used for throughout history
 - b) This is about how the Coliseum is a popular place to visit today
 - c) This is about how the Coliseum is a symbol that many people know
 - d) This is about how the Coliseum is used today
 - 9) Which option is not a way in which the Coliseum was damaged over the years ?
 - a) Earthquake
 - b) Tornado
 - c) Lightning
 - d) Fire
 - 10) Which statement would the author most likely agree with ?
 - a) The Coliseum should be replaced with a building that is not damaged
 - b) The Coliseum has its place in history but it is not useful today
 - c) The Coliseum should be used for fighting once again
 - d) The Coliseum is very old and has been used for many purposes
- B) Choose the option that is **opposite** in meaning to the underlined word in the following sentences : (6×1=6)
- a) The Coliseum is an ancient stadium in the center of Rome.
 - i) Primeval
 - ii) Early
 - iii) Old
 - iv) Contemporary
 - b) It was dreadful.
 - i) Awful
 - ii) Lovely
 - iii) Appalling
 - iv) Frightful
 - c) But most of the people appreciated it.
 - i) Loved
 - ii) Delighted
 - iii) Commended
 - iv) Criticised
 - d) Today the Coliseum is one of Rome's popular attractions.
 - i) Repulsion
 - ii) Appeal
 - iii) Fascination
 - iv) Charm
 - e) A mighty earthquake shook Rome and the Coliseum.
 - i) Potent
 - ii) Great
 - iii) Large
 - iv) Weak
 - f) The south side of the building collapsed.
 - i) broke down
 - ii) rose up
 - iii) caved in
 - iv) flopped



12. Write two paragraphs of around 200 words on **one** of the topics. (16)
- a) Conservation of natural resources in our State.
(OR)
- b) The pleasures of reading.
13. a) Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper complaining about the inadequate water supply in your city. (16)
(OR)
- b) Imagine you have organized a cultural event in your college. Write a letter to your friend sharing your experiences with him/her. (16)
14. Rearrange the jumbled sentences in a logical order. Attempt either of the two sets. (16)

SET - A

- a) A) In 1904, he joined the Salem Government weaving school to master the art of weaving.
B) So, he left Salem after handing over his lucrative business to a partner and moved to Madras.
C) He had his school education in the town high school at Kumbakonam and moved to Salem in search of job opportunities.
D) C. Rajam was born on November 28, 1882 in the village of Swamimalai near Kumbakonam.
E) He manufactured dhoties, towels, shirt materials, etc., using fly shuttle looms.
F) Eventually, he started his own handloom factory in Salem with a capital of Rs. 1,000.
G) These materials were of high quality and found a ready market not only in Salem, but in all of Madras Presidency.
H) However, he was already looking out for newer pastures.

SET - B

- b) A) Again, it is rarely sufficient for an advertiser simply to amuse the target audience in order to reap the sales benefit.
B) There are indications that in substituting the hard sell for a more entertaining approach, some agencies have rather thrown out the baby with the bath water.
C) Making people laugh is tricky.
D) Therefore, it requires a balance of humour and the ability to convince the audience that the product is good enough to be purchased.



- E) This is because the commercial can fall flat on many grounds.
F) There are many advertisements which do amuse but do not even begin to set the cash tills ringing.
G) Making people laugh while trying to sell them something is a tougher challenge particularly when the medium is through a commercial.
H) At times, the intended humour may simply not come off.
15. Complete **any one** of the following dialogues : (16)
- a) Dialogue between Suresh and a travel agent.
Travel agent : Hello sir, How can I help you ?
Suresh : Our family is planning on a short trip to Kodaikanal ?
Travel agent :
Suresh :
(Add eight exchanges)
(OR)
- b) Sheila is conversing over the phone with her friend Asha in an Arts and Science college.
Sheila : Hi, Asha How're you ?
Asha : Great, By the way how are you ?
Sheila :
Asha :
(Add eight exchanges)