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**Question Paper Code : 21242**

B.E./B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATIONS, NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023.

Second Semester

Civil Engineering

HS 3251 — PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH – II

(Common to: All Branches (Except Marine Engineering))

(Regulations 2021)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 100 marks

Answer ALL questions.

PART A — (10 × 2 = 20 marks)

1. Fill in the gaps with suitable tense forms by choosing from the words given at the end in bracket.  
\_\_\_\_\_ the latest news? – The president \_\_\_\_\_ that he \_\_\_\_\_ resign next summer. – That's not new. I \_\_\_\_\_ that for ages!  
(YOU HEAR, JUST ANNOUNCE, PLAN, KNOW)
  
2. Choose the correct word or phrase for each blank.
  - (a) At the moment I'm reading a \_\_\_\_\_ about a family who escaped from Germany during World War II. (FICTION / LITERATURE / WRITING / NOVEL)
  - (b) Who \_\_\_\_\_ you how to play so well? (LEARNED / EXPLAINED / MADE / TAUGHT)
  - (c) We \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves at the party and had a lot of fun.  
(ENJOYED / PLEASED / ENTERTAINED / ADORED)
  - (d) This car is one of the most \_\_\_\_\_ ones that the company has to offer. (REASONABLE / ECONOMIC / CAPABLE / ECONOMICAL)

3. Rewrite as directed.
- (a) Have you completed your assignment? (into passive voice)
  - (b) She has mastered the subject of design (into passive voice)
  - (c) The radio was switched off by them. (into active voice)
  - (d) Coffee was ordered by him at 6 pm. (into active voice)
4. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate form of the words given in the brackets.
- (a) Mr. Parks' lessons are really \_\_\_\_\_. I hate his lessons. (bore)
  - (b) My sisters are very \_\_\_\_\_. (ambition)
  - (c) I am so \_\_\_\_\_ that we are going to New York tomorrow. (excite)
  - (d) Women wear these skirts \_\_\_\_\_. (tradition)
5. Read the following sentences and identify and correct the errors:
- (a) Many peoples attended the funeral of the great man.
  - (b) The shepherd took the cattles to the field.
  - (c) Sita could not understands what the teacher was saying.
  - (d) Do you know the importance for clean water?.
6. Complete the following sentences using appropriate compound words. The first part of the expression has been given in brackets.
- (a) My grandmother does not step out of the house without her \_\_\_\_\_ (walking).
  - (b) The \_\_\_\_\_ young man helped the traveler find his way. (kind)
  - (c) The \_\_\_\_\_ were blessed by the elderly. (newly)
  - (d) We need to buy some furniture for the \_\_\_\_\_ (living)
7. Supply suitable conjunctions for the blanks in the sentences.
- (a) The weather in Texas is hot, \_\_\_\_\_ it's known to get cold there as well.
  - (b) \_\_\_\_\_ it rains on Sunday, I will not be able to drive.
  - (c) I like dogs a lot \_\_\_\_\_ they're so friendly.
  - (d) Amber doesn't have a ride, \_\_\_\_\_ Pearl will have to take her home.

8. Select the correct preposition for the following.
- (a) This shop doesn't have the toys I was looking \_\_\_\_\_. (up/for)
  - (b) The teacher divided the sweets \_\_\_\_\_ all the children. (between/among)
  - (c) Bruce did not fare well \_\_\_\_\_ his examination, (in/at)
  - (d) The dog is grateful \_\_\_\_\_ its owner. (to/for)
9. Negate the following questions. Mind the tenses in the questions.
- (a) Does Alex like garlic?
  - (b) Are you going to talk to Peggy?
  - (c) Who watched the film?
  - (d) Where will it rain?
10. Identify whether the following sentences are simple, compound or complex sentences.
- (a) I did not know that this food was meant only for the staff.
  - (b) She is innocent, so she has appealed to the court.
  - (c) The sun looks, amazing today.
  - (d) If you are not ready with the song, it is better to let them know.

PART B — (5 × 16 = 80 marks)

11. (a) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. (10)

The Carpet Fitter

Eddie was a carpet fitter, and he hated it. For ten years he had spent his days sitting, squatting, kneeling or crawling on floors, in houses, offices, shops, factories and restaurants. Ten years of his life, cutting and fining carpets for other people to walk on, without even seeing them. When his work was done, no-one ever appreciated it. No-one ever said Oh, that's a beautiful job, the carpet fits so neatly." They just walked all over it. Eddie was sick of it.

He was especially sick of it on this hot, humid day in August, as he worked to put the finishing touches to today's job. He was just cutting and fixing the last edge on a huge red carpet which he had fitted in the living room of Mrs. Vanbrugh's house. Rich Mrs. Vanbrugh, who changed her carpets every year, and always bought the best. Rich Mrs. Vanbrugh, who had never even given him a cup of tea all day, and who made him go outside when he wanted to smoke. Ah well, it was four o'clock and he had nearly finished. At least he would be able to get home early today. He began to thy-dream about the weekend, about the Saturday football game he always played for the local team, where he was known as "Ed the Head' for his skill in heading goals from corner kicks.

Eddie sat back and sighed. The job was done, and it was time for a last cigarette. He began tapping the pockets of his overalls, looking for the new packet of Marlboro he had bought that morning. They were not there.

It was as he swung around to look in his toolbox for the cigarettes that Eddie saw the lump. Right in the middle of the brand new bright red carpet, there was a lump. A very visible lump. A lump the size of -- the size of a packet of cigarettes.

"Blast!" said Eddie angrily. "I've done it again! I've left the cigarettes under the blasted carpet!"

He had done this once before, and taking up and refitting the carpet had taken him two hours. Eddie was determined that he was not going to spend another two hours in this house. He decided to get rid of the lump another way. It would mean wasting a good packet of cigarettes, nearly full, but anything was better than taking up the whole carpet and fitting it again. He turned to his toolbox for a large hammer.

Holding the hammer, Eddie approached the lump in the carpet. He didn't want to damage the carpet itself, so he took a block of wood and placed it on top of the lump. Then he began to beat the block of wood as hard as he could. He kept beating, hoping Mrs. Vanbrugh wouldn't hear the noise and come to see what he was doing. It would be difficult to explain why he was hammering the middle of her beautiful new carpet.

After three or four minutes, the lump was beginning to flatten out. Eddie imagined the cigarette box breaking up, and the crushed cigarettes spreading out under the carpet. Soon, he judged that the lump was almost invisible. Clearing up his tools, he began to move the furniture back into the living room, and he was careful to place one of the coffee tables over the place where the lump had been, just to make sure that no one would see the spot where his cigarettes had been lost. Finally, the job was finished, and he called Mrs. Vanbrugh from the dining room to inspect his work.

"Yes, dear, very nice," said the lady, peering around the room briefly. "You'll be sending me a bill, then?"

"Yes madam, as soon as I report to the office tomorrow that the job is done." Eddie picked up his tools, and began to walk out to the van. Mrs. Vanbrugh accompanied him. She seemed a little worried about something.

"Young man," she began, as he climbed into the cab of his van, laying his toolbox on the passenger seat beside him, "while you were working today, you didn't by any chance see any sign of Armand, did you? Armand is my parakeet. A beautiful bird, just beautiful, such colors in his feathers... I let him out of his cage, you see, this morning, and he's disappeared. He likes to walk around the house, and he's so good, he usually just comes back to his cage after an hour or so and gets right in. Only today he didn't come back. He's never done such a thing before, it's most peculiar..."

“No, madam, I haven’t seen him anywhere,” said Eddie, as he reached to start the van.

And saw his packet of Marlboro cigarettes on the dashboard, where he had left it at lunchtime....

And remembered the lump in the carpet....

And realised what the lump was....

And remembered the hammering....

And began to feel rather sick....

Questions:

- (i) Why did Eddie hate being a carpet-fitter?
  - (1) The pay was too low.
  - (2) He didn’t like working alone.
  - (3) No one appreciated his work.
  - (4) He couldn’t smoke on the job.
- (ii) What did Eddie think of Mrs. Vanbrugh?
  - (1) She was a kind, thoughtful lady.
  - (2) She was rich and selfish.
  - (3) She was always losing things.
  - (4) She had good taste in furniture.
- (iii) Why was Eddie called “Ed the Head” by his friends?
  - (1) Because he was such an intelligent carpet-fitter,
  - (2) Because he had a large head.
  - (3) Because he was very proud and self-important
  - (4) Because of his footballing skills.
- (iv) What did Eddie want to do when he had finished fitting the carpet?
  - (1) Have a cigarette
  - (2) Hammer the carpet flat
  - (3) Look for Mrs. Vanbrugh’s lost bird
  - (4) Start work in the dining room

- (v) Why didn't Eddie remove the carpet to take out the thing that was causing the lump?
- (1) He couldn't take the carpet up once he had fitted it.
  - (2) He didn't need the cigarettes because he had some more in the van.
  - (3) It would take too long to remove the carpet and re-fit it.
  - (4) He intended to come back and remove the lump the next day.
- (vi) What did Eddie do with the hammer?
- (1) Hammered nails into the lump
  - (2) Fixed the coffee table
  - (3) Left it under the carpet
  - (4) Flattened the carpet
- (vii) What was Mrs. Vanbrugh worried about?
- (1) Her bird was missing.
  - (2) She thought the carpet was going to be too expensive.
  - (3) She thought Eddie had been smoking in the house.
  - (4) She couldn't find her husband, Armand.
- (viii) What was really under the carpet?
- (1) The cigarettes
  - (2) Eddie's toolbox
  - (3) Nothing
  - (4) The missing bird
- (ix) "Eddie was determined..." means that he:
- (1) Had no idea
  - (2) Decided for sure
  - (3) Felt very angry
  - (4) Couldn't decide
- (x) "Peculiar" in the sentence "He's never done such a thing before, it's most peculiar..." means:
- (1) Normal
  - (2) Like a bird
  - (3) Difficult
  - (4) Strange

(b) Write a summary of the passage given in Question No. 11(a). (6)

12. (a) You see this advertisement in a student newspaper.

Lifeguard assistants wanted

We are looking for someone in August to assist our lifeguards, provide supervision during beach activities and observe swimmers.

Write to the Lifeguard Manager, saying what your experience and qualifications are and stating the reasons why you are suitable for the job.

Write your email in 140-190 words in an appropriate style.

Or

- (b) You see this announcement in an English-language college prospectus. Scholarships.

Every year, two scholarships are offered to candidates from overseas who can show how our one-year course in English and American studies would help their careers. Scholarships cover fees, accommodation and food, but not transport or personal spending money.

To apply, write a letter explaining why you think you deserve a scholarship.

Write your letter in 140-190 words in an appropriate style.

13. (a) Your locality has witnessed a number of cases of theft in recent weeks. The local law and order authorities were approached but you find no change in the situation. Write a letter in 100-120 words to the editor of a local newspaper drawing the attention of the higher authorities to the problem.

Or

- (b) Write a problem-solution essay on any ONE of the following topics.
- (i) Choose a city you know. How can that city be made more bicycle and pedestrian-friendly?
  - (ii) Should there be controls on the way the media portrays celebrities?
  - (iii) What is the best way to help people who are victims of family violence?

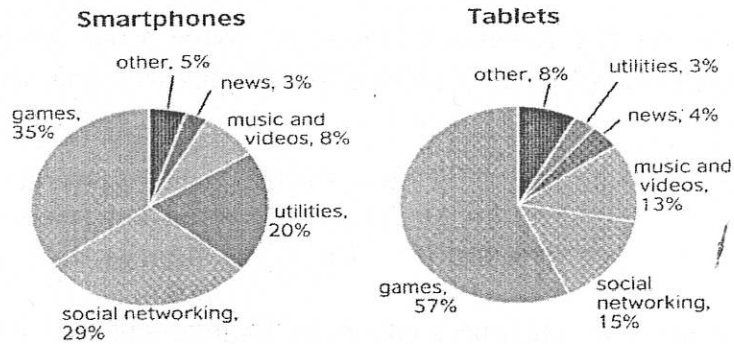
14. (a) Write any sixteen recommendations on eradicating beggars on streets.

Or

- (b) Read, Understand and then transcode the following pie chart into a coherent paragraph.

Time spent on smartphones and tablets, by category

Time spent on smartphones and tablets, by category



15. (a) Explain the steps involved in making an effective presentation.

Or

- (b) You would like to apply for the post of Marketing Manager in a reputed firm in Mumbai. Write a letter to the Public Relations Officer, Chantac Enterprises, Mumbai, applying for the job. Write the letter in 125-150 words giving your biodata.