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Question Paper Code : 91323

B.E./B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATIONS, APRIL/MAY 2025.

Second Semester

Civil Engineering

HS 3252 — 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. Complete the following with the correct form of the verbs in parentheses.
Hi, I _____ (be) Matt Rotell, a friend of Alice's.
Oh, yes. Alice _____ (mention) you the other day.
Gee, you _____ (not look) like a detective.
Well, that's good, I _____ (guess).
2. Complete the following sentences using appropriate prepositional phrases.
Each question is followed by three suggested answers. Choose the most appropriate one.
 - (a) He acted _____ my instructions.
 - (i) according with
 - (ii) according to
 - (iii) accordance with
 - (b) He is _____ me.
 - (i) at enmity with
 - (ii) at enmity for
 - (iii) at enmity

- (c) I called him _____ my voice.
- at the top of
 - at the top off
 - with the top of
- (d) His words are _____ the facts.
- at variance with
 - at variance to
 - at variance of
3. Change the following as directed.
- I did not beat her.(change into passive voice)
 - I will never forget this experience.(change into passive voice)
 - The song was sung beautifully by the artist.(change into active voice)
 - A mystery novel has been written by Agatha Christie.(change into active voice)
4. Put in the verbs in brackets in the Gerund or the infinitive.
- Do you know what _____ (do) if there's a fire in the shop?
 - Avoid _____ (make) silly mistakes.
 - My parents wanted me _____ (be) home at 11 o'clock.
 - I dream about _____ (build) a big house.
5. Read the following sentences and identify and correct the errors.
- The children was playing in the Giant's garden.
 - The children decided to surprise Miss Holmes on teacher's day.
 - I saw Richard when I'm on the flight.
 - Man have depended on nature for a long time.
6. Complete the following IF clauses.
- If I _____ (oversleep) this morning, I wouldn't be late for work.
 - She would have been promoted if she _____ (make) so many mistakes in her presentation.
 - If it _____ (rain) later, I will take an umbrella with me.
 - They would have arrived on time if they _____ (leave) earlier.

7. Complete the following with suitable Conjunctions.
- He couldn't get the job _____ his qualifications.
 - The house wasn't very beautiful. I liked the garden, _____.
 - He is very clever and hardworking _____ he can't pass his exams.
 - He was very hungry _____ he refused to join our dinner.
8. Supply suitable prepositions for the blanks.
- My pen is superior _____ yours.
 - Whom was she talking _____?
 - This is the more interesting _____ the two.
 - Wisdom consists _____ doing the right thing at the right time.
9. Rewrite the following using numerical adjectives.
- A journey of 50 miles
 - A lecture for 3 hours
 - An expedition lasting for 5 days
 - A research grant of Rs. 2 lakhs
10. Complete the following using relative clauses.
- A hotel is a place _____ people stay when they're on holiday.
 - What's the name of the woman _____ lives in that house?
 - What do you call someone _____ writes computer programs?
 - A waiter is a person _____ job is to serve customers in a restaurant.

PART B — ($5 \times 16 = 80$ marks)

Question 11 is compulsory.

11. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. $8 \times 2 = 16$
- The happy man is the man who lives objectively, who has free affections and wide interests, who secures his happiness through these interests and affections and through the fact that they, in turn, make him an entity of interest and fondness to many others. To be the recipient of affection is a potent cause of happiness, but the man who demands affection is not the man upon whom it is bestowed. The man who receives liking is, speaking generally, the man who gives it. But it is useless to attempt to give it as a calculation, in the way in which one might lend money at interest, for a calculated affection is not honest and is not felt to be so by the beneficiary. What then can a man do who is doomed because he is enclosed in self? So long as he continues to think about the causes of his unhappiness, he continues to be self-centred and therefore does not get outside it. It must be of genuine interest, not by simulated interests adopted merely as a medicine. Although this difficulty is real, there is never the less much that he can do if he has rightly diagnosed his

trouble. If for instance, his woe is due to a sense of depravity, conscious or unconscious, he can first influence his conscious mind that he has no reason to feel sinful, and then proceed, to plant this rational conviction in his unconscious mind, concerning himself meanwhile with some more or less neutral activity. If he prospers in dismissing the sense of immorality, it is possible that genuine unbiased interests will arise spontaneously. If his trouble is self-pity, he can deal with it in the same manner after first persuading himself that there is nothing extraordinarily unfortunate in his circumstances. If fright is his worry, let him drill exercises designed to give bravery. Courage has been recognized from time immemorial as an important virtue, and a great part of the training of boys and young men has been devoted to producing a type of character capable of fearlessness in battle. But moral courage and intellectual courage have been much less studied. They also, however, have their technique. Admit to yourself every day at least one painful truth, you will find it quite useful. Teach yourself to feel that life would still be worth living even if you were not; as of course, you are, immeasurably superior to all your friends in virtue and in intelligence. Exercises of this kind protracted through numerous years will, at last, enable doing, might free you from the empire of fear on a very large scale.

- (a) What does calculated affection mean?
 - (i) affection which is recieved unwillingly
 - (ii) affection which is temporary
 - (iii) affection which is bogus and forge
 - (iv) affection which comes as an alm
- (b) According to the passage, a happy man
 - (i) is self-engaged
 - (ii) has free affection and wide interests
 - (iii) is free from outward passions
 - (iv) has no grudge
- (c) Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE in the context of the passage?
 - (i) The happy man has wide interests.
 - (ii) Courage has been recognized as an important virtue.
 - (iii) A happy man lives objectively
 - (iv) Moral courage and intellectual courage has been extensively studied.
- (d) Which of the following virtues, according to the passage, has been recognized for long as an important virtue?
 - (i) isolation
 - (ii) oblation
 - (iii) courage
 - (iv) unassertiveness

- (e) Which of the following words is **SIMILAR** in the meaning of the word 'simulated' as used in the passage?
- (i) imitated
 - (ii) accommodated
 - (iii) trusted
 - (iv) directed
- (f) A man who is suffering from the feeling of self-pity should
- (i) develop a feeling of fearlessness.
 - (ii) persuade himself that everything is alright in his circumstances.
 - (iii) seek affection from others.
 - (iv) control his passions and emotions
- (g) Which of the following statements is **TRUE** in the context of the passage?
- (i) Passions stem from unhappiness
 - (ii) A happy man lives subjectively
 - (iii) Virtues have dark sides as well
 - (iv) Courage is the virtue to face worries
- (h) Which of the following statements is **SIMILAR** in meaning to the word 'potent' as used in the passage?
- (i) adventurous
 - (ii) callous
 - (iii) vigorous
 - (iv) shrinking
12. (a) You are a member of a study group preparing for final exams. Write an email to group members discussing the upcoming study schedule, assigned topics for review, and responsibilities for each member.
- Or
- (b) Write a compare and contrast essay on any one of the following topics. Word limit 250
- (i) Classical vs. Rock music
 - (ii) Two famous historical leaders
 - (iii) Print advertisements and television commercials
13. (a) Write a letter replying to a customer who has made a complaint about a product purchased is not matching its online description. Invent necessary details.
- Or
- (b) Write a letter applying for the post of mechanical engineer in Ashok Leyland, Sardar Patel Road, Chennai-641028. Attach a detailed resume. (Invent necessary details)

14. (a) Read the following case study and answer the questions that follow.

$$8 \times 2 = 16$$

Monsooned Rebecca works with United Technologies a Chicago based company. She is talking on the phone to Anubhav, the manager of one of United Technologies vendors for customer service Outsourcing.

Rebecca: We really need to get all of the customer service representatives trained on our new process in the next two weeks. Can you get this done?

Anubhav: That timeline is pretty aggressive. Do you think it's possible?

Rebecca: I think it will require some creativity and hard work, but I think we can get it done with two or three days to spare.

Anubhav: Ok.

Rebecca: Now that our business is settled, how is everything else?

Anubhav: All's well, although the heavy monsoons this year are causing a lot of delays getting around the city.

Two weeks later...

Anubhav: We've pulled all of our resources and I'm happy to say that 60% of the customer service representatives are now trained in the new process. The remaining 40% will complete the training in the next two weeks.

Rebecca: Only 60%? I thought we agreed that they all would be trained by now!

Anubhav: Yes. The monsoon is now over so the rest of the training should go quickly.

Rebecca: This training is critical to our results. Please get it done as soon as possible.

Anubhav: I am certain that it will be done in the next two weeks.

Questions

- (i) How could Rebecca and Anubhav have better communicated their expectations and potential challenges during their initial conversation?
- (ii) What steps could Rebecca take to ensure clearer communication and alignment with Anubhav in future projects?
- (iii) Given the unforeseen delays caused by the monsoon, how should Anubhav have communicated the progress and challenges to Rebecca?
- (iv) What proactive measures can Anubhav implement to handle similar environmental or logistical challenges in the future?
- (v) How can Anubhav effectively manage resources to ensure the timely completion of training for all customer service representatives despite external challenges?
- (vi) What strategies can Rebecca suggest to Anubhav for prioritizing and accelerating the training process?

- (vii) What could Rebecca have done differently when setting the initial timeline to account for potential delays?
- (viii) How should Rebecca adjust her expectations and project timelines when unforeseen events occur?

Or

- (b) A newspaper published an article saying that college students with part-time jobs spend the extra money wastefully and also get lower college grades due to their jobs. Write a letter to the editor where you express your opinion and suggest ways that part-time work could be beneficial to college students.
15. (a) Discuss the steps involved in writing newspaper articles.

Or

- (b) Prepare a survey report on college students' choice of future career.

