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Question Paper Code : 11593

B.E./B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATIONS, APRIL/MAY 2026.

Second Semester

Civil Engineering

HS3252 — PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH — II

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

(Regulations 2021)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 100 marks

Answer ALL questions.

PART A — ($10 \times 2 = 20$ marks)

1. Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate tense forms for the verbs in brackets: ($4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2$)

In 2023, scientists _____ (take) a major step toward futuristic energy tech after they _____ (build) a working prototype of a quantum battery. Since then, the field _____ (grow) rapidly, and researchers around the world _____ (explore) its full potential.

2. Choose the right option to complete the sentences: ($4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2$)

(a) The experiment was conducted _____ controlled conditions.

(i) in

(ii) on

(iii) at

(iv) by

(b) The new battery performs better _____ higher temperatures.

(i) in

(ii) on

(iii) at

(iv) over

- (c) The new data system was developed _____ a team of international researchers.
- (i) by
 - (ii) from
 - (iii) with
 - (iv) through
- (d) The device operates _____ the principles of quantum mechanics.
- (i) in
 - (ii) on
 - (iii) by
 - (iv) with
3. Change the voice of the following sentences: (2 × 1 = 2)
- (a) The ancient manuscript, was finally deciphered by a team of international linguists. (Change to active voice)
 - (b) NASA successfully completed the mission despite the many technical challenges during the journey. (Change to passive voice)
4. Choose any one verb from the list below and write two sentences - one using it as *gerund* and one using it as *to-infinitive*. Use the verb meaningfully in both sentences:
- Eg.: improve — *Improving* skills is important / Students need to improve skills. (2 × 1 = 2)
- (a) begin
 - (b) learn
 - (c) improve
 - (d) develop
5. Rewrite the passage after correcting the errors in it: (4 × $\frac{1}{2}$ = 2)
- Once a hub in vacation photos and aspirational lifestyle content, Instagram in India have now evolved into a space filled by political messaging range from cheeky memes to political propaganda.
6. Complete the following if-conditional sentences: (2 × 1 = 2)
- (a) If I had only seen the message earlier, _____
 - (b) Natasha would attend the party, if _____

7. Choose the right modal verb to fill in the blanks: $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

- (a) Arun missed the meeting. He _____ have forgotten about it.
- (i) may
 - (ii) must
 - (iii) should
 - (iv) would
- (b) You _____ have informed me earlier, we could have avoided this issue.
- (i) must
 - (ii) might
 - (iii) shall
 - (iv) should
- (c) It _____ rain this evening, so better carry an umbrella.
- (i) can
 - (ii) may
 - (iii) shall
 - (iv) should
- (d) Vinay _____ join us for the meeting later; but I'm not sure yet.
- (i) might
 - (ii) must
 - (iii) shall
 - (iv) will

8. Rewrite the following conversation in reported format: $(2 \times 1 = 2)$

Susan: The new boutique has announced a sale this week. Can we go?

Nina: Nah, I'm not interested in their dresses. They don't have a wide variety.

9. Rewrite the following phrases as numerical adjectives: $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

- (a) cotton cloth of 6 metres
- (b) workshop lasting for five days
- (c) a vacation trip for 12 days
- (d) three drums which has storage capacity for 10 litres

10. Combine the following sentences using a suitable relative clause: (2 × 1 = 2)

- (a) Navin bought a new laptop. It has advanced gaming features.
- (b) The lady is my neighbour. You met her yesterday in the party.

PART B — (5 × 16 = 80 marks)

Question 11 is a compulsory question.

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

Homelessness is an issue that affects people of every age and from every country. If you walk down the street in many big cities in India, you might notice people sleeping on the sidewalk or begging for food or money. These individuals are very visible to passersby, and it is difficult to ignore them. But there are also homeless people who do not sleep on the streets. They are not as visible to the public eye, but they are also homeless. These people often spend their nights sleeping in shelters, which provide food, rooms, and often a variety of social services (like old age homes). We might not see these people on the streets, but it does not mean that they aren't suffering.

When thinking about homelessness, one of the first questions that might come to mind is: why are people homeless? People become homeless for a variety of reasons, often outside of their own personal control. Two key reasons have been identified on why people become homeless. The first is a lack of affordable housing. The second is poverty, or the condition of being poor. The government is usually responsible for providing affordable housing to people and families in need. It builds large apartment buildings or housing developments for people who cannot afford to live elsewhere. Sometimes there is not enough affordable housing for all the people who need it. Those who are unable to secure housing may become homeless.

Homelessness and poverty are quite clearly linked. Poor people must often choose between such important things as buying food or paying for medical care versus paying the rent. When poor people are faced with these difficult decisions, housing is often the first expense to be dropped because it generally requires the largest amount of money. Many of the homeless in India are simply unable to find jobs due to a lack of opportunity. Others are mentally ill or addicted to drugs. Still others who are homeless have previously relied on some kind of assistance but have lost that assistance for one reason or another.

There are three distinct kinds of homelessness. The first is called chronic homelessness, and it represents the group of people who move from shelter to shelter in a seemingly never-ending cycle. The chronically homeless are usually older, and they are often disabled or suffer from addiction.

The second type of homelessness is called transitional homelessness, and it describes people who must enter a shelter for a short period of time. For example, if they are evicted from their homes for not being able to pay the rent, they might go into a shelter or enter government-based transitional housing. They may live there for up to two years until they are able to get back on their feet.

The third kind of homelessness is called episodic homelessness, which accounts for people who move in and out of shelters at various points throughout their life. Those who experience episodic homelessness usually have difficulty maintaining steady employment. People who are considered transitionally homeless and those who are episodically homeless are often young.

Homelessness rises when people are unable to find or keep jobs. But it also affects people who are not even employed in the first place: children under sixteen years old. Most families that experience homelessness are made up of a mother and her children. Some adults in homeless families in our country are working. Yet the wages are often not enough to support the various needs of a family, like healthcare, food, and shelter. Families that experience homelessness in any situation are under a ton of stress, due to the lack of stability and privacy. There are no simple solutions to this major social issue. But homelessness affects too many people around the world to be ignored.

(a) Based on the passage choose the right answer for the questions given below: (10 × 1 = 10)

(i) According to the passage, which of the following best describes the homeless people who stay in shelters?

- (1) They are easily noticed by people on the street.
- (2) They beg for food and money in public places.
- (3) They receive no social services or support.
- (4) They are not visible to the public but are still suffering.

(ii) What is the underlying issue suggested in the passage regarding homelessness?

- (1) housing shortage
- (2) personal failure
- (3) policy gaps
- (4) income inequality

(iii) Which of the following statements best supports the statement "housing is often the first expense to be dropped" made in the third paragraph of the passage?

- (1) Many homeless individuals migrate from rural areas to cities in search of better opportunities.
- (2) High rental costs in urban areas make it difficult for low-income families to maintain stable housing.
- (3) Homelessness is increasing in several countries due to changing lifestyles.
- (4) Some people prefer living independently rather than staying with family members.

- (iv) A 45-year old man who repeatedly moves between shelters due to long-term addiction and disability. Which type of homelessness does he most likely belong to, and why?
- (1) transitional homelessness
 - (2) episodic homelessness
 - (3) temporary homelessness
 - (4) chronic homelessness
- (v) Why are younger individuals more commonly associated with transitional and episodic homelessness?
- (1) temporary instability
 - (2) long-term addiction
 - (3) permanent disability
 - (4) stable employment
- (vi) What is the most significant implication of the passage about employment and homelessness?
- (1) Children are the primary cause of homelessness.
 - (2) Only unemployed people experience homelessness.
 - (3) Employment alone cannot prevent homelessness.
 - (4) Homelessness is mainly due to personal choices
- (vii) Which option best captures the central argument of the passage?
- (1) Homelessness is limited to urban population.
 - (2) Shelters are the primary solution to homelessness.
 - (3) Most homeless individuals are unemployed.
 - (4) Homelessness is a complex issue driven by multiple systemic factors.
- (viii) Which of the following assumptions underlies the author's argument about homelessness?
- (1) Governments always provides enough housing.
 - (2) Homeless people prefer shelters over homes.
 - (3) Economic conditions influence housing stability.
 - (4) Employment guarantees financial security.

(ix) Which one of the following is true according to the passage?

- (1) The passage highlights economic factors without statistical evidence.
- (2) The Passage provides statistical data to support its claims.
- (3) The passage discusses all the reasons for rural homelessness.
- (4) The passage mainly blames government for the homelessness of people.

(x) Which of the following best describes the tone of the passage?

- (1) indifferent and detached
- (2) informative yet empathetic
- (3) critical and accusatory
- (4) optimistic and celebratory

(b) Choose the right meaning for the words taken from the passage :
(6 × 1 = 6)

(i) What is the closest meaning of "affordable housing"?

- (1) luxury housing
- (2) government housing
- (3) temporary housing
- (4) low-cost housing

(ii) In context, "secure housing" most nearly mean:

- (1) obtain housing
- (2) protective housing
- (3) lock housing
- (4) build housing

(iii) What does "condition" mean in the phrase, "the condition of being poor?"

- (1) illness
- (2) behaviour
- (3) rule
- (4) situation

(iv) The phrase "get back on their feet" most nearly means:

- (1) walk properly
- (2) become physically fit
- (3) regain stability
- (4) find shelter

(v) What does the word they refer to in the sentence:

"They are not as visible to the public eye."

- (1) passersby
- (2) government officials
- (3) family members
- (4) homeless people

(vi) What is the best meaning of "ignored" in the final sentence:

"But homelessness affects too many people in the world to be ignored."

- (1) not noticed or addressed
- (2) forgotten deliberately
- (3) misunderstood completely
- (4) hidden intentionally

12. (a) You are in charge of a team that is organizing a technical workshop for first-year students. Prepare a list of eight recommendations to ensure all preparations are complete before the session begins. Your list should include participant communication, equipment, workshop materials, infrastructure, logistics etc.

Or

- (b) With the increasing use of online classes and webinars, students often face issues related to discipline and engagement. Write eight recommendations for your peers to maintain effective learning habits during online sessions. Your recommendations should be clear and focused.

13. (a) Write an essay analyzing the effects of excessive screen time on the physical and mental well-being of college students. (250-300 words).

Or

- (b) To what extent should artificial intelligence replace human decision-making in critical fields like healthcare and engineering? Write an essay discussing your viewpoint in 250-300 words, using a clear paragraph structure.

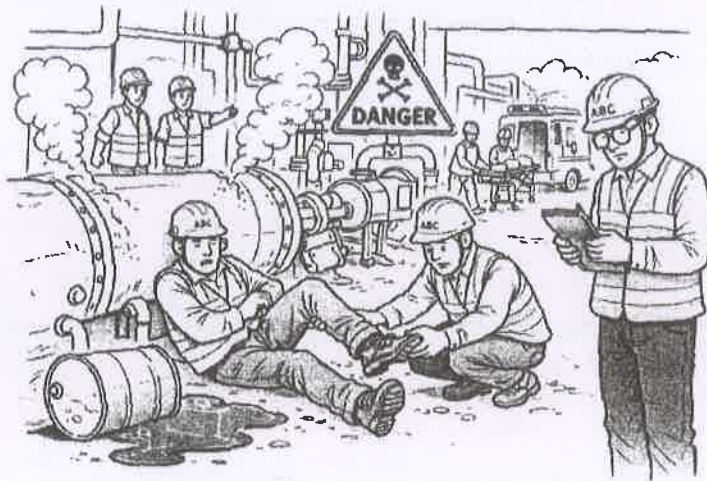
14. (a) A survey was conducted among 100 engineering students to examine their awareness and practice of sustainability measures on campus. The results are given below: Write a survey report analyzing the data. Identify main pattern in the data, comment on the gap between awareness and practice and suggest a few suitable recommendations.

Awareness vs.Practice

Activity	Awareness (%)	Practice (%)
Recycling	80%	40%
Energy conservation	75%	50%
Waste segregation	65%	30%
Participation in drives	55%	20%

Or

- (b) Study the given picture. As the Executive Engineer, who is incharge of the department, write an accident report to your General Manager describing the incident. Include the cause, people involved, injuries, action taken and recommendations to prevent such accidents in future.



15. (a) You came to know about a job opportunity for the position of Junior Engineer at Techware Technologies, Bangalore - 18. Write a job application letter for the position along with your resume. You should include your qualifications, skills, and reasons for applying.

Or

- (b) Respond to the following job advertisement in "The Hindu" (dated 10th of this month):

TechBridge Solutions, Chennai, Tamilnadu
Internship opening
Engineering Intern – Fresher

Details:

Duration: 3 to 6 months

Stipend: Rs.8000 – Rs.12000/ month

Mode: On-site

Eligibility:

B.E/ B.Tech (Mech/ Civil/ ECE/EEE/CSE)

Minimum 60% aggregate

Good communication and analytical skills

We offer:

Hands-on industry project experience

Mentorship + Completion Certificate

Full-time opportunity based on performance

How to Apply?

Send resume to: careers@techbridgesolutions.com

Subject: Application for Internship- Your Name