

II Semester B.A./B.Sc./B.Com./B.C.A. Examination, May/June 2010
(Freshers)

GENERAL ENGLISH
Language English (Paper – II)

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 90

- Instructions:* 1) Answer all the questions.
2) Mention the Sections and questions correctly.

SECTION – A

- I. Answer **any five** of the following. Each question carries **two** marks. (5×2=10)
- 1) What is non-verbal communication ?
 - 2) Mention two situations in which formal communication is used.
 - 3) Give two examples of verbal communication.
 - 4) What are the formal expressions for the following ?
a) help b) make
 - 5) Change the following informal sentence into a formal sentence :
Who do they want to meet ?
 - 6) How do you greet your teacher when he/she enters the classroom in the morning ?
 - 7) Mention two instances of face to face communication.

SECTION – B

- II. 1) You had promised your friend that you would help him/her in shifting to a new house. But you are unable to do it. Send an e-mail to your friend: 10
- apologising for disappointing him/her.
 - giving reasons for your inability to help.
 - assuring him/her that you would help in arranging things in the new house.



2) The following advertisement appeared in the Daily Express on 15th April' 10.

Sun and Sand International, Goa, a five star hotel requires graduates for the post of Receptionist. Candidates should have at least two years experience, excellent communication skills and should have a pleasing personality.

a) prepare a resume 10

b) write a cover letter 10

Send these to the HR Manager, Sun and Sand International, Goa, within 10 days.

3) You are the secretary of a travel agency called “Ganesh Tours and Travels”. Bangalore City College invites you to make a presentation on a special holiday tour to Belur, Halebeedu and Shravanabelagola. Final year degree students are your target audience. 10

Prepare:

a) a title slide with a suitable heading and sub-heading.

b) an introduction to your presentation.

4) The Principal of Arunodaya College has asked a group of students to find out a few details about the college canteen. The details include 10

• quality of the food served

• efficiency of the service

• cleanliness

• prices of the food items.

Write a report using an appropriate format. Analyse the findings and make suitable recommendations.

5) Read the following passage carefully and make notes using either a linear pattern or any diagram of your choice. 10

It is hard to think of any society without some form of sport or entertainment. The human need for recreation and excitement appears to be universal. Sports and games provide people not just with opportunities for physical exercise and team work but also nurture social interaction and community spirit. Forms of popular entertainment such as dance, music, drama and cinema help people break away from the hum-drum routine of everyday life.

They engage the imaginative and aesthetic faculties of their captivated audiences and often serve to communicate socially relevant messages. They are also avenues through which highly gifted individuals share the joy of artistic creativity with the wider public.

However the domain of sport and entertainment is not without problems that are peculiar to it. Sports and games can sometimes become tainted with politics, corruption or excessive commercialization. At times, they are used to incite sentiments of narrow nationalism and chauvinism, breeding hatred and ill will between nations and ethnic groups. Forms of entertainment, notably cinema often end up portraying and even glorifying extreme violence.

SECTION - C

III. Answer **any two** of the following :

(2×10=20)

- 1) Discuss the importance of Newspapers in our everyday lives.
 - 2) How does Radio compare with Television as a medium of mass communication ?
 - 3) Give reasons for the growing popularity of the radio in the present times.
 - 4) Do you consider Television a powerful tool in leading our country to a better tomorrow ? Justify your answer.
 - 5) What impact do advertisements have on consumers ?
 - 6) Do you agree with the view that the Internet has transformed the world into a global village ? Give reasons.
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(Repeaters Scheme)

GENERAL ENGLISH

Language English (Paper – II)

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Instructions: 1) Answer *all* the questions.

2) *Mention* the Section and question numbers *correctly*.

SECTION – A

1. Put the following jumbled sentences in the correct logical order in a paragraph : 5

- 1) Braille was accidentally blinded when he was 3 years old.
- 2) Louis Braille was born in France in 1869.
- 3) At the age of 10, he was sent to a special school for the blind; but he was not happy with the methods of teaching the blind there.
- 4) Braille decided to invent a system similar to night-writing to enable the blind to read.
- 5) He met a Captain Brabier who told him about a night-writing system which soldiers could use to read in the dark.

2. Identify the topic sentence and four supporting sentences : 5

To forgive an injury is often considered to be a sign of weakness. It is easy to allow oneself to be carried away by resentment and hate into an act of vengeance. However, it takes a strong character to restrain those natural passions. Forgiveness may even turn a foe into a friend. So mercy is the noblest form of revenge.

3. Write a paragraph of not more than 200 words on : 5

Stray dog menace in your street.

4. Write a paragraph of about 150 words on : 5

Honesty is the best policy.

OR

You are the President of your college Students' Union. Write a note on your ideas to improve student discipline in the college.

SECTION - B

5. Read the following passage and answer the questions set on it :

One of the main reasons why wrong ideas and useless practices can grow is ignorance. Among the primitive tribes today, as was the case too in prehistoric times, there is hardly any scientific knowledge; everything is mysterious. The sun rises and sets and the moon changes; but people have no idea why or what are the relations of the heavenly bodies to earth. No one knows about the natural causes of rain or drought, storms or earthquakes, famine or disease. Thus everything is put down to mysterious influences by magic or by good and bad spirits. Such ideas cannot very well be called superstitious so long as no better explanation is available. But reasons may show that they are false; and finally, when scientific knowledge demonstrates the way things really work, the ideas of magic or spirit influence can be seen to be mere superstitions.

So, as science progresses, superstition ought to grow less. But it is surprising how superstitions linger on. If we are tempted to look down on savage tribes and other nations for holding such ideas, we should remember that even today, among the civilized nations, a great many equally stupid superstitions exist and are believed in by a great many people. It is worth making a list of the superstitions which you know about. Some people will not sit down thirteen at table; others will not light three cigarettes from one match, or do not like to start anything important on a Friday, or refuse to walk under a ladder. Many people buy charms and talismans because they think they will bring them luck. Perhaps you yourself are inclined to believe in some of these ideas!

Probably the most terrible example of superstitions is the belief in witchcraft. In Western Europe, during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, over three-quarters of a million people were killed, mostly after being tortured, because they were found guilty of witchcraft - something for which today we can find no scientific evidence.

Even in civilized nations today, there are instances where laws are made on the basis of unproved assumptions as were many of those based on superstitions in the Middle Ages. For instance, it is often held as a principle that white people are by nature superior to people of other colours. In the same sort of way the ancient Greeks believed themselves by nature superior to the barbarians of Northern and Western Europe.



It is, however true that the increase of scientific knowledge does reduce superstition and also baseless guessing and useless argument and practices. Civilized people do not argue and get angry about what water is composed of ; the composition of water is known, and there is no argument about it. They may be frightened at a volcanic eruption or an outbreak of plague; but they do not try to calm the anger of mysterious powers to stop the eruption, or blame the plague on the sins of their enemies or on the plotting or witchcraft.

5. A) Answer the following in a word, a phrase or a sentence each : (10×1=10)
- 1) Give one reason why wrong ideas and useless practices can grow in a society.
 - 2) What can demonstrate that the ideas of magic or influence of spirit could be mere superstitions ?
 - 3) Do people in civilized nations believe in stupid superstitions ?
 - 4) Name two objects that are believed to bring good luck.
 - 5) Why were millions of people killed in Western Europe during the 16th and 17th centuries ?
 - 6) Where can we still find laws based on unproved assumptions ?
 - 7) What did the ancient Greeks believe ?
 - 8) What can scientific knowledge help to reduce ?
 - 9) Why is there no argument among civilized people about the composition of water ?
 - 10) Name two factors that could frighten people in a civilized society.
5. B) Answer the following in **two** or **three** sentences each : (5×2=10)
- 1) Why does the author say that primitive tribes have no idea about the relations of heavenly bodies to the earth ?
 - 2) Mention any four superstitions that the author talks about in the passage.
 - 3) What happened in Western Europe during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries ?
 - 4) Give two instances of unproved assumptions in civilized nations.
 - 5) How can the spread of scientific knowledge help to better a society ?

SECTION – C

6. Answer **any five** of the following in **two** or **three** sentences each : (5×2=10)

- 1) What are the terms and conditions mentioned in the sale agreement signed by Jenks in the broker's office ?
- 2) According to the poet of *Buying and Selling* , what do people gain by exchanging the gifts of the earth ?
- 3) Why was the author of *Money and Changing Life Styles* not robbed when in New York ?
- 4) What are the sounds that one hears on entering a bank ? What do they signify ?
- 5) In the last Vachana, which are the two temples ? According to the poet, which of the two is more valuable ?
- 6) What does the “voice of education” tell the speaker to do when he spots the snake ?
- 7) Why was the young boy surprised when the old man asked him “What's your dream ?”

7. Answer **any four** of the following in about **half a page** each : (4×5=20)

- 1) How did Madame Bernard and Mademoiselle Amanda react when Bernard declared that the proprietor wanted to reduce the rent ?
- 2) How do the bankers the “jackasses” realize the importance of money in the poem *Bankers Are Just Like anybody Else, Except Richer* ?
- 3) Describe the meeting between Jenks and Solomon in the barber's shop.



- 4) How had the old man lost everything in "What's your Dream"?
 - 5) Why could Effim never spare the time for the pilgrimage ?
 - 6) According to the author of *Money and Changing Life Styles*, how do children from rich families fund their expensive life styles ?
8. Answer **any two** of the following in a page each : (2×10=20)
- 1) Difference in the ability to spend among different classes of people can lead to tragedy. Discuss with reference to the essay *Money and Changing Life Styles*.
 - 2) Explain the philosophy of life as described in the three Vachanas of Allama Prabhu.
 - 3) Describe the services that Elisha offered to the poor people in the hut.
 - 4) What does the young boy dream of ? What advice does the old man give him ?
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