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Question Paper Code : 97153

B.E./B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2015/JANUARY 2016.

First Semester

Civil Engineering

HS 2111 — TECHNICAL ENGLISH – I

(Common to all branches)

(Regulations 2008)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 100 marks

Answer ALL questions.

PART A — (10 × 2 = 20 marks)

1. Match the words in Column A with their meanings in Column B : (4 × $\frac{1}{2}$ = 2)

A	B
(a) Distress	(i) getting rid of
(b) Disposal	(ii) abnormal accumulation of people, traffic
(c) Congestion	(iii) -taking out
(d) Extraction	(iv) suffering

2. Complete the "If – clauses" in the following sentences : (2 × 1 = 2)

(a) If you show more enthusiasm _____

(b) If the people had saved water _____

3. Define the following terms : (2 × 1 = 2)

(a) Transformer

(b) Rheostat

4. Change the following sentences into passive form : (2 × 1 = 2)

(a) Scientists have discovered traces of ice on the surface of mars.

(b) Sometimes people do not appreciate our efforts.

5. Expand the following compound nouns : (2 × 1 = 2)

- (a) A round – headed rivet
- (b) A steel jar.

6. Correct the following sentences as per the rules of concord : (4 × $\frac{1}{2}$ = 2)

- (a) The trousers is in the cupboard.
- (b) Your appearance as well as personality are against you.
- (c) Apples is in the fridge.
- (d) None of them have turned up for the party.

7. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate forms of words : (4 × $\frac{1}{2}$ = 2)

	Verb	Noun	Adjective
(a)	specify	specification	_____
(b)	_____	evolution	evolutionary
(c)	differentiate	_____	different
(d)	_____	civilization	civilizational

8. Punctuate the following passage : (8 × $\frac{1}{4}$ = 2)

how does one describe mother teresa she is of small stature almost frail in build softspoken yet clearly a very determined women of great courage..

9. Expand the following compound nouns : (4 × $\frac{1}{2}$ = 2)

- (a) Steam chest
- (b) Stop valve
- (c) Workshop machinery
- (d) Diesel engine.

10. Make antonyms of the following words by adding suitable prefixes : (4 × $\frac{1}{2}$ = 2)

- (a) courteous
- (b) inhabited
- (c) perceptible
- (d) justice.

PART B — (5 × 16 = 80 marks)

11. Read the passage and carefully and answer the questions that follow :

Memory is an abstraction referring to a set of skills rather than to an object. Memory is generally viewed as consisting of three stages : (a) *Acquisition* refers to learning the material; (b) *Storage* refers to keeping the material in the brain until it is needed ; and (c) *Retrieval* refers to getting the material back out when it is needed. These three stages may be viewed as the 3 R's of Remembering : *Recording Retaining and Retrieving*. We cannot do much about retrieval directly; but since retrieval is a function of recording, we can improve it by improving our methods of recording.

Memory consists of at least two different processes : *short-term memory and long-term memory* *Short-term memory* has a limited capacity and a rapid forgetting rate. Its capacity can be increased by chunking, or grouping separate bits of information into larger chunks. Long-term memory has a virtually unlimited capacity. Short-term memory and long term memory also differ in several other ways.

One measure of memory is recall, which requires you to produce information by searching the memory for it. In aided recall you are given cues to help you produce the information. In *free-recall* learning you can learn pair of words so that when the first word is given, you can recall the second word. A second measure of memory is *recognition*, in which you do not have to produce the information from memory, but must be able to identify it when it is presented to you. In a third measure of memory, *relearning*, the difference between how long it took to learn the material the first time and how long it takes to learn it again indicates how much you remember. Relearning is generally a more sensitive measure of memory than is recognition in the sense of showing retention where recognition does not; recognition is generally a more sensitive measure than recall.

Some material may be remembered in visual form (pictures), and other material may be remembered in verbal form (words). Visual images are easier to remember than words alone, leading some researchers to suggest that we should try to use visual images as much as possible in memory.

There are several explanations why we forget. *Passive-decay theory* says that learning causes a physical 'trace' in the brain that decays with time, *Repression theory* says that we purposely push unpleasant or unacceptable memories into our unconscious mind. *Systematic - distortion theory* says that our memories may be distorted by our values and interests, to be consistent with how we want the memories to be or how we think they should be. *Interference theory* says that forgetting is due to problems in retrieving the information and that we can remember almost anything if given the right cues.

- (a) State whether the following statements are true or false : (6)
- (i) The word memory refers to a set of feelings
 - (ii) Retrieval means getting the material back whenever needed
 - (iii) In free recall learning, the material is recalled in any random order

- (iv) In aided recall, help is provided in the form of materials
 - (v) Measures of memory include short-term memory and long-term memory
 - (vi) When compared to words, images are easier to remember.
- (b) For the questions given below, choose the best alternative from the options given below : (6)
- (i) The word memory refers to
 - (1) a set of feelings (2) a set of abstract actions
 - (3) a set of things (4) a set of skills.
 - (ii) Which of the following is NOT mentioned about retrieving?
 - (1) Retrieval means getting the material back whenever needed
 - (2) We cannot directly influence the process of retrieving
 - (3) Retrieval is a function of recording
 - (4) The retrieval stage is considered to be problematic.
 - (iii) Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?
 - (1) Compared to words alone, visual images are easier to remember
 - (2) Compared to recall, recognition is more sensitive a measure of memory
 - (3) In free recall learning, the material is recalled in any random order
 - (4) All of the above
 - (iv) According to the interference theory,
 - (1) One forgets when one has a lot of problems
 - (2) Memories fade with time
 - (3) Retrieval is full of problems
 - (4) If we are given right cues, one can remember anything
 - (v) Which of the following is NOT MENTIONED in the passage as a reason for forgetting?
 - (1) The physical traces caused in the brain due to learning decay with time
 - (2) Unacceptable and unpleasant memories are pushed into our unconscious mind
 - (3) Our values and memories distort memory
 - (4) Memory consists of three stages

- (vi) The three measures of memory include
- (1) Long-term memory, middle term and short-term memory
 - (2) Acquisition, storage and retrieval
 - (3) Recall and retrieval
 - (4) None of the above.
- (c) From the options given below, choose the best fit for the given word : (4)
- (i) Identify
- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| (1) separate | (2) recognize |
| (3) join | (4) set aside. |
- (ii) Cue
- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| (1) clue | (2) memory |
| (3) marks | (4) problems. |
- (iii) Virtual
- (1) having the appearance of real
 - (2) temporary
 - (3) almost fast
 - (4) almost gone.
- (iv) Distorted
- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| (1) change of shape | (2) reduce |
| (3) magnify | (4) exaggerate. |

12. (a) Write a set of eight instructions that are to be followed by students in the language laboratory. (16)

Or

(b) Write a set of eight instructions that are to be followed while travelling by bus. (16)

13. (a) As an NCC cadet, you had gone on a trekking expedition to the Himalayas. Write a letter to your brother about the unforgettable experiences you had in the adventure. (16)

Or

(b) Write a letter to the MD of LG Electronics, seeking permission to undergo a project work in his company. State why you chose the company. (16)

14. (a) Write a paragraph of 200 words describing your experience in the Communication Skills Laboratory. (16)

Or

- (b) Write a coherent paragraph of 200 words describing your difficulties in adjusting to the new situation when you joined the hostel of your college
15. (a) Rearrange the following sentences into a coherent paragraph : (16)

- (i) Bungee jumping is an activity that involves jumping from a tall structure while connected to a large elastic cord.
- (ii) The most common ways of attaching oneself to the cord is by using a body harness or a leg harness.
- (iii) Other injuries include eye trauma, rope burn, uterine prolapse, dislocations, bruises and back injury.
- (iv) The tall structure is usually a fixed object such as building, bridge or a crane.
- (v) One can be injured during a jump if the safety harness fails, or if the cord elasticity is miscalculated or if the cord is not properly connected to the jump platform.
- (vi) However it is also possible to jump from a movable object, such as a hot air-balloon or helicopter that has the ability to hover over one spot on the ground.
- (vii) Another major injury occurs when the jumper experiences cord entanglement with his/her own body.
- (viii) There is a wide spectrum of possible injuries during a jump.

Or

- (b) Rearrange the following jumbled sentences into a coherent paragraph : (16)

- (i) Scientific medicine at first had to combat superstitions, similar to those that inspired belief in witchcraft.
- (ii) But after the emperor died, Vasalius was accused of cutting people up before they were dead.
- (iii) He was, however, saved from prosecution for a time by the Emperor Charles V, who believed that no other physician could keep him healthy.

- (iv) In spite of his work and that of Harvey, other great men of medicine continued to be largely superstitious
 - (v) When Vasalius first practiced dissection of corpses, for example, the church was horrified.
 - (vi) He was ordered as a punishment to go on a pilgrimage to the holy land.
 - (vii) The ignorance of the general public communed even longer.
 - (viii) On the way he was shipwrecked and died of exposure.
 - (ix) It is only by the time of Lister and Pasteur that medicine can be said to have become more scientific.
 - (x) All this brought a lessening of human suffering which is beyond calculation.
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