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**Question Paper Code : X 60678**

B.E./B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATIONS, NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020

First Semester

Civil Engineering

HS 2111/HS 11/080020001 – 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 under Column A with their meanings given under Column B :

(4×½=2 Marks)

**Column A**

- a) Affect
- b) Periodic
- c) Svelte
- d) Lassitude

**Column B**

- i) Occurring at regular intervals
- ii) Lack of energy
- iii) Influence
- iv) Gracefully thin

2. Convert the following into passive voice :

(2×1=2 Marks)

- a) The lawyers document the records carefully.
- b) We cannot twist and bend certain metals to the desired shapes.

3. Define the following terms :

(2×1=2 Marks)

- a) Transformer
- b) Rheostat.

4. Change the following sentences into passive form :

(2×1=2 Marks)

- a) Scientists have discovered traces of ice on the surface of mars.
- b) Sometimes people do not appreciate our efforts.



5. Fill in the blanks with suitable comparative adjectives, using the words given in brackets. **(4×½=2 Marks)**
- Comic books are \_\_\_\_\_ (fun) history books.
  - Apples are \_\_\_\_\_ (healthy) chips.
  - My brother is \_\_\_\_\_ (tall) me.
  - Madhya Pradesh is \_\_\_\_\_ (hot) Coimbatore.
6. Expand the following compound nouns : **(4×½=2 Marks)**
- Education policy
  - Community hall
  - Election Commission
  - Water purifier.
7. Edit the following : **(2)**
- Cities founded around turn of eighteenth century such as Williamsburg, Annapolis and especially Philadelphia, are lay out in a regular grid with public square, while cities laid on in the mid seventeenth century, such as Boston, remain chaotic this day till.
8. Use **two** of the following cause and effect expressions in separate sentences of your own : **(2×1=2 Marks)**
- as a result of
  - because of
  - therefore.
9. Expand the following compound nouns : **(4×½=2 Marks)**
- Steam chest
  - Stop valve
  - Workshop machinery
  - Diesel engine.
10. Make antonyms of the following words by adding suitable prefixes : **(4×½=2 Marks)**
- courteous
  - inhabited
  - preceptible
  - justice.



PART – B

(5×16=80 Marks)

11. Read the passage 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 recall the material in any order; and in *paired associate* 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.



- i) State whether the following statements are true or false : (6×1=6)
- 1) The word memory refers to a set of feelings.
  - 2) Retrieval means getting the material back whenever needed.
  - 3) In free recall learning, the material is recalled in any random order.
  - 4) In aided recall, help is provided in the form of materials.
  - 5) Measures of memory include short-term memory and long-term memory.
  - 6) When compared to words, images are easier to remember.
- ii) For the questions given below, choose the best alternative from the options given below :
- 1) The word memory refers to (6×1=6)
- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| A) a set of feelings | B) a set of abstraction |
| C) a set of things   | D) a set of skills      |
- 2) Which of the following is NOT mentioned about retrieving ?
- A) Retrieval means getting the material back whenever needed
  - B) We cannot directly influence the process of retrieving
  - C) Retrieval is function of recording
  - D) The retrieval stage is considered to be problematic
- 3) Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage ?
- A) Compared to words alone, visual images are easier to remember
  - B) Compared to recall, recognition is more sensitive measure of memory
  - C) In free recall learning, the material is recalled in any random order
  - D) All of the above
- 4) According to the interference theory
- A) One forgets when one has a lot of problems
  - B) Memories fade with time
  - C) Retrieval is full of problems
  - D) If we are given right cues, one can remember anything
- 5) Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the passage as a reason for forgetting ?
- A) The physical traces caused in the brain due to learning decay with time
  - B) Unacceptable and unpleasant memories are pushed into our unconscious mind
  - C) Our values and memories distort memory
  - D) Memory consists of three stages.
- 6) The three measures of memory include
- A) Long-term memory, middle term and short-term memory
  - B) Acquisition, storage and retrieval
  - C) Recall and retrieval
  - D) None of the above



iii) From the options given below, choose the best fit for the given word : (4×1=4)

1) Identify

A) separate

B) recognize

C) join

D) set aside

2) Cue

A) clue

B) memory

C) marks

D) problems

3) Virtual

A) having the appearance of real

B) temporary

C) almost fast

D) almost gone

4) Distorted

A) change of shape

B) reduce

C) magnify

D) exaggerate

12. a) Read the following paragraph and draw a bar chart : (16)

It is possible that if safe, convenient and attractive bicycle track were available, then some users of cars, buses, three and two wheelers who make trips of less than 5 km would shift to bicycles. The percentages of trips for less than 5 km in Delhi have been calculated. 30% of bus trips, 30% of car trips, 44% of scooter/motor cycle trips and 60% of all three wheeler trips are less than 5 km. This means that more than two million trips have some potential to be converted to bicycling.

(OR)

b) Make a flowchart from the following paragraph : (16)

Paddy husk or rice husk is derived from paddy grains by thrashing them. This rice husk, generally considered to be a waste product and also to be difficult to dispose of can be put to commercial use to produce a type of cement known as rice husk cement. To obtain this commercial product, lime sludge, which is the waste lime obtained from sugar and other industries is used along with rice husk. The process of producing rice husk cement from rice husk and lime sludge involves various steps. At first, rice husk and lime sludge in equal weights are mixed thoroughly in order to produce cakes. Thereafter, the cakes so prepared are initially dried in sunlight and then burnt in the open until they leave a residue. This process subsequently leaves a residue in the form of ash that is collected. Finally, the ash residue in crude form is ground to a fine powder, which is nothing but the rice husk cement.



13. a) Rearrange the following jumbled sentences : (8×2=16)
- i) If the latter are reluctant, start with the former.
  - ii) Mix the quick ones with the slow ones.
  - iii) Call for reports after few minutes of discussion.
  - iv) The quick learners, spread over the class, can guide this discussion.
  - v) Then gradually move to the latter, drawing them out of their shells.
  - vi) The discussion can be in pairs or in groups.
  - vii) The discussion provides a meaningful context to use English to communicate orally.
  - viii) Please encourage discussion among your learners especially the weak ones.

(OR)

- b) Write any eight instructions to conserve electricity. (16)
14. a) Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper about increasing accidents and traffic in the city and also suggest suitable measures for the same. (16)

(OR)

- b) Assume that you are the Collector of Chennai. Write a letter to the Principal of your college declining his invitation to preside over the Annual Day function. State valid reasons for declining the invitation. (16)
15. Read the following passage and draw a flow chart. (16)
- a) Pure water is not found in nature. Unlike ground water, surface water requires different treatment processes as bacteria, chemicals and other contaminants enter lakes, rivers and reservoirs through run off. Before water enters the plant for treatment, it flows through intake screens that remove large objects such as plants and logs. Next step is chemical treatment which is called pre-treatment process. Now chlorine, ammonia and lime are injected into the untreated water. Chlorine and ammonia together form a chemical called chloramines, which disinfects the water by killing harmful bacteria and viruses. Then lime is added to adjust the pH of the water. The third step is physical treatment. After the injection of pre-treatment chemicals, the water is rapidly mixed with aluminum sulfate to evenly distribute the chemicals. The aluminum sulfate acts as a coagulant and it neutralizes particles and other impurities in the water to form large, heavy particles called floc. This is called flocculation and it takes place in flocculation basins. From the flocculation basins, the water flows into sedimentation basins, where the floc comes to the bottom and the resulting residuals are removed. Then the water travels through large filters made of sand, gravel and anthracite. This removes the suspended particles which cannot be removed during sedimentation. Once the water is filtered, other chemicals are added to disinfect the water and



adjust pH. Chlorine is added as the primary disinfectant. Lime is injected to readjust the pH to normal levels and fluoride is added to help the prevention of tooth decay. Orthophosphate is also added to the water to prevent corrosion of water pipes. Finally, chlorine and ammonia are added to disinfect the storage tanks and distribution pipes.

(OR)

- b) Chocolate is a delicious dessert that many people enjoy. It is rich with antioxidants which keep the immune system in perfect condition. To prepare this dessert, one may need cocoa beans, sugar, additional flavouring, vanilla and milk. First the raw cocoa beans have to be roasted for about 30 minutes in 300 degree oven. Then the beans can be cooled and the husks can be removed. Now the beans can be broken into small pieces by using mortar and pestle. In the next stage of crushing, pepper grinder can be used to crush the beans. The beans are now turned into a brown mush. Afterwards the cocoa bean paste is transferred to a small pan and the pan is kept in a large pan. The large pan is full of water and it is heated. Then the paste is transferred to a bowl where mortar can be used till the paste attains its smoothness. Next sugar, flavouring, milk and vanilla are added. After mixing sugar and flavouring, chocolate is poured into a mold or a large pan so that chocolate can be cut into small bars. The chocolate is then cooled. This can be done at room temperature. Finally the chocolate is cut into small bars.
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