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Question Paper Code : 97235

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

Second Semester

Civil Engineering

HS 6251 — TECHNICAL ENGLISH – II

(Common to all Branches except Marine Engineering)

(Regulation 2013)

Time : Three hours   Maximum : 100 marks

Answer ALL questions.

PART A — (10 × 2 = 20 marks)

1. Change the following into passive voice :   (2 × 1 = 2)

    (a) The clerk prepares the list every month.

    (b) The workers built these houses last year.

2. Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate Modal verbs from the list given in
    the brackets: (can, will, may, should, must, shall)   (4 × ½ = 2)

    (a) You ——————— not waste your time.

    (b) John ——————— speak English fluently

    (c) All cadets ——————— attend roll call at 6.30 am.

    (d) ——————— You lend me your bicycle.

3. Combine the following with appropriate cause and effect expressions :
                                                                 (2 × 1 = 2)

    (a) There was only half an hour left for the train to leave. He took a taxi.

    (b) John missed the bus. He woke up late.

4. Give the numerical expressions for the following : $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

   (a) a base of 12 acres

   (b) an incline of 18 degrees

   (c) a journey of 500 kilometers

   (d) a panel of 7 members

5. Complete the following "if" clauses : $(2 \times 1 = 2)$

   (a) If the weather is good, —————

   (b) —————, she would have more friends.

6. Frame sentences by using any TWO of the following words both as a noun and a verb : $(2 \times 1 = 2)$

   (a) drink

   (b) water

   (c) sleep

   (d) taste.

7. Fill in the blanks with suitable forms of the homophones given in brackets :
                                                           $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

   (a) You may————— the arrangements. (alter/altar)

   (b) All were present ————— her. (Except/accept)

   (c) Sam needs————— to purchase a flat. (Loan/lone)

   (d) He is waiting for the————— to take off. (Plain/plane)

8. Frame sentences using any TWO of the phrasal verbs : $(2 \times 1 = 2)$

   (a) pull down

   (b) call off

   (c) break out

   (d) take off.

9. Use the following idioms by choosing the correct one for the blanks given. Make necessary changes in tenses : $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

   (behind bars,   all ears,   hale and hearty,   jumped for joy)

   (a) My grandmother is 94, but she is still —————

   (b) His brother is ————— for stealing motorbikes.

   (c) Vivek ————— when he passed his driving test.

   (d) Students must be ————— when the teacher is teaching.

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10. Fill in the blanks with right options to complete the collocations : $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

(a) The dangerous ———— was blindly supported by the politicians.

    (i) corrupt

    (ii) illegal

    (iii) culpable

    (iv) criminal

(b) In her youth, the actress was in a ———— and had many fans.

    (i) proper manner

    (ii) great shape

    (iii) certified coach

    (iv) unselfish person.

(c) Like previous year this year too, we have a bad ————

    (i) Garner

    (ii) Gather

    (iii) Harvest

    (iv) Mow.

(d) His ———— plan of kidnapping the child was found out by the police.

    (i) View

    (ii) Evil

    (iii) Plans

    (iv) aims.

PART B — (5 × 16 = 80 marks)

11. Answer both sections (a) and (b).

(a) Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions below it :

The latest buzz word in the continuing debate about the environment is "sustainable management"- that means using plants and animals for our benefit, but ensuring that enough are left alive to guarantee the survival

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of the species. This sounds good, but is it practical in reality? In spite of years of scientific research, no one really knows how much damage human beings are doing to their environment. We know that, they are responsible for many problems ranging from global warming to ozone depletion, and there is no doubt that they have a devastating effect on animal and plant life on earth. About 50,000 animal and plant species are becoming extinct every year. All species depend in some way on one another for survival. If you remove one species from this complex web of inter relationships, we have little idea of the repercussions on the ecosystem in general. What makes things more complicated is the fact that unlike global warming - which, if the political will was there, could be reduced by cutting gas emissions -preserving bio diversity- remains a difficult dilemma. There are also questions about whether sustainable management is practical as far as protecting areas of great bio-diversity such as the world's tropical forest are concerned. In theory, the principle should be the same as with elephants; i.e, to cut a number of trees, but not so many as to completely destroy the forest.

Sustainable Management of trees requires controls on the number of trees which are cut down as well as investment replacing them. Most tropical forests exist in poor countries which depend on logging to make money. For most loggers in these countries, making money means-cutting down as many trees as possible in the shortest time. The price of trees remains stable, varying by 4-5% annually, whereas the interest rates in most developing countries can create 15% or more in returns. It therefore makes little sense, and certainly no economic sense, to delay tree felling. One solution could be to insist that wood comes from sustainably managed forests. In theory, consumers would buy only this wood and force logging companies to go "green" or else out of business. Unfortunately, unrestricted logging is more profitable than wood from sustainably managed forests which would cost unto 5 times more to control. Consumers would not be prepared to pay the extra sum just to protect the environment. The sad fact is that there is no practical solution to protect vegetation and wildlife of tropical forests in the future. It is estimated that these forests contain anything form 50-90 percent of all animal and plant species of the earth. In one study of a 5 kilometer square area of rain forest in Peru, for example, scientists counted 1300 species of butterfly and 600 species of bird. In the entire USA only 400 species of butterfly and 700 species of bird have been recorded. Sustainable Management represents gigantic experiment. If this doesn't work, we can't move to another planet to escape. It is a case of one planet, one experiment!

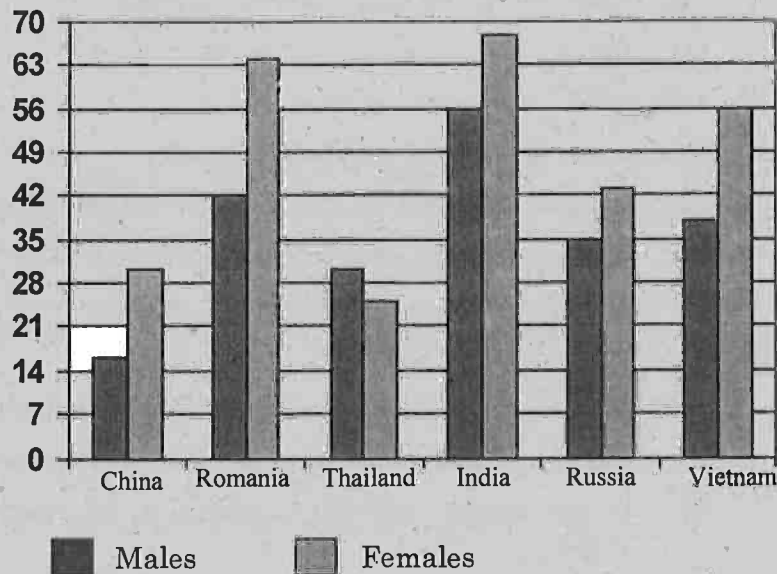Complete the following statements choosing from one of the given alternatives : $(6 \times 1 = 6)$

(i) The extent of the damage being inflicted on our environment....

    (1) can be estimated by years of scientific research.

    (2) is being calculated by scientific research exactly.

    (3) is impossible to assess despite years of scientific research.

    (4) is, thanks to years of scientific research, on the decrease. ·

(ii) The term "Sustainable Management" means using plants and animals for our own benefit, but.....

    (1) assuring none are left alive to guarantee the survival of the species.

    (2) making sure that enough are left alive to guarantee survival of the species.

    (3) take care of the survival of the species..

    (4) · make certain they are not all used up.

(iii) If a particular species becomes extinct.....

    (1) we know exactly what effect it will have on our ecosystem.

    (2) we have little knowledge about its effects on our ecosystem.

    (3) it has no relationship with other species in our ecosystem.

    (4) its removal from the ecosystem will have no repercussions.

(iv) Preserving bio-diversity......

    (1) is less complicated than reducing global warming.

    (2) can be resolved politically, just like global warming.

    (3) is not simply political dilemma to be resolved like global warming.

    (4) can be resolved only by cutting gas emissions.

(v) Most of the tropical forests are located in.......

    (1) economically backward countries.

    (2) developed countries.

    (3) both in developed and developing countries.

    (4) Peru and the USA.

(vi) The meaning of the word "depletion"........

    (1) fatigue.

    (2) reduction.

    (3) deficiency.

    (4) emptinesss.

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(b) (i) The forests are disappearing fast. Prepare a checklist of four steps
that you would take to prevent deforestation. $(4 \times 1 = 4)$

(ii) Look at the following information and graph about students
proficiency in English as a foreign languages. Analyse the given
data and give a short review in a short paragraph of not more than
120 words. $(6 \times 1 = 6)$

Students proficiency in foreign languages

* English is the most sought after language.

* Over the last few years Chinese government is making its
  people learn English

* Many countries learning English are developing countries.

* The countries have their own language which is popular

Percentage of students proficient in a foreign language

Males   Females

12. (a) Read the following passage and answer the questions given below :

One of the main reasons of corruption in elections today is the lure of
power which haunts the politicians so much that they feel no qualms of
conscience in adopting any underhand method to come out successful.
The Watergate Scandal in the U.S.A. is an eloquent example to testify to
the fact how even the top level politicians can stoop to the lowest level in
order to maintain themselves in power. Who does not remember how
Adolf Hitler rode roughshod overall canons of electoral pro-piety to
capture power? In India also the record of the various political parties is

not clean. Corruption thrives in elections because those in the field play on the psychology of the electorate. The voters are swayed by the tall promises of the candidates to whose machinations they fall an easy prey. They are also susceptible to fall an easy prey to the adulations of the politicians due to their illiteracy. Besides, in the representative democracies today and particularly in big countries the constituencies are quite extensive obviating the possibility of corrupt practices being discovered. Anti-corruption laws are honored more in their breach than in their observance. Even the code of conduct to be observed by the parties fighting the elections becomes a dead letter in as much as it is jettisoned out of existence and thrown unscrupulously over board by the unfair politicians whose only aim is to maintain themselves in the saddle.

(i) Write a short summary of the above given passage in not more than 100 words. (6)

(ii) Answer the following questions in not more than 3 sentences (5 × 2 = 10)

(1) Why according to the writer do the voters fall an easy prey to the machinations of the politicians?

(2) Why according to the writer, are the corrupt practices indulged in elections go unnoticed?

(3) What happens to anti-corruption laws?

(4) What happens to the code of conduct?

(5) How does corruption thrive in elections?

Or

(b) Read the following passage and answer the questions given below :

What is immediately needed today is the establishment of a World Government or an International Federation of Mankind. It is the utmost necessity of the world today, and all those persons who wish to see all human beings happy and prosperous naturally feel it keenly. Of course,

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at times, we all feel that many of our problems of our political, social and cultural life would come to an end if there were one Government all over the world. Travellers, businessmen, seekers of knowledge and teachers of righteousness know very well that great impediments and obstructions are faced by them when they pass from one country to another, exchange goods, get information, and make an effort to spread their good gospel among their fellow-men. In the past religious sets divided one set of people against another, colour of the skin or construction of the body set one against the other. But today when philosophical light has exploded the darkness that was created by religious differences, and when scientific knowledge has falsified the theory of social superiority and when modern inventions have enabled human beings of all religious views and of all races and colours to come in frequent contact with one another, it is the governments of various countries that keep people of one country apart from those of another. They create artificial barriers, unnatural distinctions, unhealthy isolation, unnecessary fears and dangers in the minds of the common men who by their nature want to live in friendship with their fellow-men. But all these evils would cease to exist if there were one Government all over the world.

(i)   Write a short summary of the above given passage in not more than
       100 words. $(6 \times 1 = 6)$

(ii)   Answer the following questions in not more than 3 sentences.
                                                                     $(5 \times 2 = 10)$

       (1)   What is the urgent need of the world today?

       (2)   What was the factor that set one man against another?

       (3)   What will the world Government expected to do?

       (4)   What does the Government of various countries do to keep
              people of one country apart from those of another?

       (5)   What divide/divides people of one country against another?

13. (a) Write a job application letter to the following advertisement published in the "The Hindu" for the post of Deputy Manager, Design and Development, with resume to The Personnel Manager, Lucas-TVS, Hosur, India. (16)

Or

(b) Candidates holding a Bachelor's/Master's degree in information system are required to work on our company's intranet, extranet and internet sites. Applicants must possess excellent writing skills and the ability to communicate freely. Email your application and resume to the HR Manager at siva@gmailcom. (16)

14. (a) Write a survey report on project survey conducted to find out the preferences of youth to use two wheelers as a mode of transportation. (16)

Or

(b) A committee has been appointed by a company to consider the demands of the labour union for higher wages, less hours of work and better service conditions. Write a feasibility report on the recommendations given by the committee. (16)

15. Write a dialogue for the following situations :

(a) You wish to go to the US for higher studies. You meet the bank manager for getting a loan to fund your education abroad. Write a dialogue that happened between you and the Bank Manager. The first dialogue is given for you to start the dialogue. (16)

Bank Manager : Why do you want to go the US for your studies?

You : It has been my dream to study abroad that is in the US.

You should have minimum of eight exchanges (16 sentences) between you and the bank Manager.

Or

(b) You have purchased a laser printer and you are unable to use it. You take it to the shop to replace it with another printer. Write a dialogue that happened between you and the shopkeeper. The first dialogue is given for you to start the dialogue. (16)

You : Sir, I purchased this printer yesterday in your shop

Shop keeper : Yes sir, I remember you buying it.

You should have minimum of eight exchanges (16 sentences) between you and the Shop keeper.