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Question Paper Code : 71684

B.E./B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL/MAY 2015.

Second Semester

Civil Engineering

HS 2161/HS 21/080020003 — TECHNICAL ENGLISH – II

(Common to all Branches)

(Regulation 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 × ½ = 2)

            A   B

    (a) jeopardy   —   very expensive, unaffordable

    (b) levitate   —   a reciprocal action or effect

    (c) prohibitive   —   danger

    (d) repercussion   —   rise or float in the air with no physical support.

2. Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions :   (4 × ½ = 2)

    Auctions are public sales _____(a)_____ goods, conducted by an officially approved auctioneer. He asks the crowd assembled _____(b)_____ the auction room to make offers, or 'bids' _____(c)_____ the various items on sale. He encourages buyers to bid higher figures, and finally names the highest bidder as the buyer _____(d)_____ the goods.

3. Use the hints below to make sentences expressing purpose : $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

    (a)   dynamite   :   to break limestone into smaller pieces in a quarry

    (b)   syringe   :   to inject medicine into patient's body

    (c)   binocular   :   to observe birds from a distance

    (d)   constructing   :   to reduce traffic congestion in a city
           a bypass road

4. Fill in the blanks with appropriate noun forms. (Noun 1 refers to an action or state and Noun 2 refers to a substance or material) $(8 \times \frac{1}{4} = 2)$

Verb	Noun 1	Noun 2
e.g. pollute	pollution	pollutant
(a) regulate	_____	_____
(b) moderate	_____	_____
(c) disinfect	_____	_____
(d) distract	_____	_____

5. Select any **two** from the words given in the box and use them as nouns and as verbs in separate sentences : $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

    Example :

    (a)   The **project** was implemented last year.

    (b)   The picture was **projected** on the screen.

    | (a) book (b) suspect (c) export (d) rebel |

6. Form nouns from the following words using suitable suffixes : $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

    (a)   terminate

    (b)   argue

    (c)   accept

    (d)   persuade.

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7. Match the 'causes' in column 'A' with the 'effects' found in column 'B' and write four sentences using cause and effect expressions : $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

	A		B
(a)	coal burning factories	–	the fall in share prices
(b)	an increase in interest rates	–	acid rain
(c)	eating fatty food	–	ocean tides
(d)	moon's gravitational pull	–	heart disease.

8. Rewrite the following expressions as shown in the given example : $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

Example : a flask with a capacity of 10 litres

Answer : a 10-litre flask

(a) a journey of five miles

(b) a bulb with a power of 60 watts

(c) a symposium lasting three days

(d) a panel of six members.

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

The American spelling bee is a contest of orthography. The contest is simple : a word —————(a)————— (speak) and the contestant has to spell it. The most active part of the contest is often when the speller repeats the word in question to make sure that she or he —————(b)————— (hear) it correctly. The maximum amount of time the speller can spend at the microphone is a minute and a half ; during that time the contestant is mostly silent, using a personal method of recall. Everyone seems to have his own spelling gesture. Many spellers —————(c)————— (write) with their fingers on the backs of the numbered placards they —————(d)————— (wear) for identification. Some close their eyes and squeeze their lips. It is interesting to watch their mannerisms.

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10. Fill in the blanks with suitable articles (a, an, the) or 'x' if no article is needed :

$(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

    (a)   You should evaluate ——————— equipment and make sure fitness machines are modern and in working condition.

    (b)   Pandas and ——————— tigers are both endangered animals.

    (c)   Christmas comes once ——————— year.

    (d)   Hawaii is ——————— island in the Pacific Ocean.

PART B — $(5 \times 16 = 80$ marks)

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

Every motorist dreams of a car of the future that does not have to be refuelled every few hundred miles, a car that will cost little to run because there is no outlay on petrol.

'Of course', you hear it said by an optimistic motorist, 'the answer is the atom. Harness atomic power in a car, and you'll have no more worries about petrol. The thing will run for years without a refill'.

And, theoretically, he is right. The answer is the atom. If atomic power could be used in a car, one small piece of uranium would keep the engine running for twenty or more years. Of course, this would cut the cost of running a car by quite a few hundred pounds, depending upon how much you spend on petrol.

But is this science-fiction-like picture of the atom exploding peacefully beneath the bonnet of a car possible? In theory it is, since already the atom has been harnessed to drive submarines, and an atomic engine is already in existence. But, say the experts, there are many problems still to be conquered before such an engine can in fact be fixed into a car.

Now what exactly are these problems that stand between you and a car that you will never have to refuel? Frankly, most of them can be summed up in one word- radiation. An atomic reactor, the kind of engine that would produce energy by atom-splitting, throws off radiation, extremely dangerous radiation. These rays are just as dangerous as when they are released from an atomic bomb. This radiation penetrates anything except the thickest concrete and lead, with fatal results for anybody in its path. Thus, at the moment, any car carrying an atomic engine would also have to carry many tons of lead in order to prevent the radiation from escaping.

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Since a car made up of tons of lead is rather impracticable, the only answer at the moment seems to be the discovery or invention of a metal that will be strong enough to hold in the rays, but at the same time light enough for a vehicle to carry with ease and economy. Most likely this metal would have to be synthetic, since no natural metal except lead has yet proved fit for the job. When this light metal is invented, the motoring world will be well on the way to an atomic car. However, even after the invention of a protective but light metal, two other problems still remain, those of economics and safety.

It is extremely doubtful whether at the beginning a really economic engine could be made, that is, one cheap enough to make it worth putting in a car. But it seems safe to say that eventually, as techniques and mass production come in atomic engines, the price will go down. This is basic economics, and manufacturers should eventually be able to produce something that will at least be cheaper than having to pay for petrol during the lifetime of the car.

But then this third problem still remains–that of safety. Suppose that there is a road accident involving one, or perhaps two, atomic cars, and that the atomic reactor or its protective covering were damaged. Any explosion would be equal to that of a very small atomic bomb. The effects of such an explosion would be felt for several miles around. As will be realised, this is perhaps the biggest problem of all to overcome. Is it possible to make an atomic engine that will be really safe in every circumstance?

(a) Write the response which best reflects the meaning of the text :
$(5 \times 1 = 5)$

    (i) There are a number of problems involved in the production of an atomic car. Which of these is not one of them?

        (1) It would be too heavy to move.

        (2) It would be too expensive to produce.

        (3) It would be too dangerous to use.

        (4) It would be too costly to run.

    (ii) The ideal metal for use in atomic cars would be

        (1) Thick, heavy and cheap.

        (2) Synthetic, strong and thick.

        (3) Thin, light and economical.

        (4) Light, strong and synthetic.

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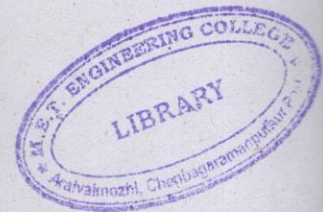
(iii) The most difficult problem to solve before atomic cars are possible is

    (1)   The cost of production.

    (2)   The prevention of accidents.

    (3)   The invention of new materials.

    (4)   The control of radiation.

(iv) It will become economically worthwhile to produce an atomic car as soon as

    (1)   All the technical problems have been solved.

    (2)   It becomes too expensive to buy and use petrol.

    (3)   The new type of metal can be produced cheaply enough.

    (4)   The advantages of mass production and savings on fuel are realised.

(v) Why would an atomic car need to carry a lot of lead?

    (1)   To prevent the engine from exploding.

    (2)   To stop the car from going too fast.

    (3)   To take the place of the petrol.

    (4)   To protect the people from the rays.

(b) State whether the following statements are true or false :   (5 × 1 = 5)

(i) Atomic cars will cost a lot to run.

(ii) A piece of uranium would last a long time.

(iii) An atomic engine has already been tried in a car.

(iv) Radiation is a major problem.

(v) It will be necessary to invent a light, impenetrable metal.

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(c) Choose the definition which best reflects the meaning of the word as it is used in the text : (6 × 1 = 6)

    (i) outlay

        (1) exploitation

        (2) exemption

        (3) exaggeration

        (4) expenditure

    (ii) harness

        (1) utilize

        (2) unite

        (3) undertake

        (4) uncover

    (iii) conquered

        (1) undertaken

        (2) overlooked

        (3) overcome

        (4) undergone

    (iv) summed up

        (1) resumed

        (2) added together

        (3) illustrated

        (4) described

    (v) fatal results

        (1) resulting in serious damage

        (2) resulting in death

        (3) resulting in bad health

        (4) resulting in injury

    (vi) impracticable

        (1) not feasible

        (2) not usual

        (3) not economical

        (4) not sensible.

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12. (a) Read the following advertisement published in 'The New Indian Express' and write a letter of application. Enclose your resume with the letter of application : (16)

STAG WEB SOLUTIONS

Requires

WEB DESIGNER

Job Description :

(i) Develops clean and structured HTML.

(ii) Designs and creates high quality front-end websites including new WEB interfaces.

(iii) Understands functional requirements and converts them into creative flash designs.

Qualifications :

- B.E./B.Tech.,

- must know the following:

  HTML, Flash, Photoshop, Dream weaver

- knowledge in Java script is preferable

- ability to produce dynamic design applications including websites and other interactive online content.

Minimum Experience : 2 years

Send your application to :

STAG WEB SOLUTIONS

49 Residence Lane

Devakul Road

Bangalore – 560 054

Or

(b) Imagine that you are the Secretary of Fine Arts Association of your college. You have a plan to conduct a 3-day Intercollegiate Cultural Programme in your college campus. Write a letter to the Principal of your college to get permission to organise the programme in a grand manner. In your letter, give the details like total number of colleges to be invited, kind of events, auditorium, furniture, and halls needed for the events. Besides, explain how this programme is going to be useful to the students. (16)

13. Write an essay on any ONE of the following topics. The essay should not exceed 300 words. (16)

    (a) Importance of communication skills in workplaces.

    (b) Use of plastic bags and environmental problems.

14. (a) Write a set of eight recommendations that will ensure employment opportunities for the youth in rural areas. (16)

                                    Or

    (b) Assume that you are organising a guest lecture for the first year B.E. students. You come to know that the speaker is going to use power point presentation in the seminar hall of your college. Prepare a check list of eight important items that you have to arrange in the seminar hall before the commencement of the speaker's presentation. (16)

15. Two groups of sentences given below are not in the correct order. Select any ONE group of jumbled sentences and rewrite them in the correct order : (16)

    (a) (i) Viewers can ride a monorail to view these animals in simulated natural habitats.

        (ii) Here the visitors can even swim with dolphins.

        (iii) Among various popular attractions in the city, Miami Metro Zoo is a 300-acre cage less zoo.

        (iv) The third important place is Venetian Pool which has been designed to echo the lagoons of Venice.

        (v) In this zoo, there are 1300 animals from Asia, Africa and Australia.

        (vi) Miami, the magical city, is known for fascinating places that amuse visitors.

        (vii) Thus the city with several attractions remains a paradise for visitors.

        (viii) Another remarkable place is Miami Seaquarium where visitors can enjoy outdoor shows featuring dolphins and killer whales.

                                    Or

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(b) (i) This has become one of Chicago's most popular destinations.

    (ii) Millennium Park is the newest jewel in the Chicago landscape.

    (iii) The Crown Fountain consists of two 50-foot glass brick towers with LED video screens that display the faces of 1000 Chicagoans.

    (iv) It was completed in 2004 – four years after the Millennium.

    (v) Cloud Gate is a 110-ton elliptical sculpture and its shiny surface reflects Chicago's skyline.

    (vi) The popularity of this park is due to various artistic highlights such as Jay Pritzker Pavilion, Crown Fountain and Cloud Gate.

    (vii) In short, Millennium Park remains a major architectural and landscape design for visitors with an artistic outlook.

    (viii) Jay Pritzker pavilion represents a revolutionary design for outdoor concert venue and it accommodates around 11000 people.

———————