

Reg. No. :

Question Paper Code : 20737

B.E./B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATIONS, APRIL/MAY 2022.

First Semester

Civil Engineering

HS 8151 — COMMUNICATIVE ENGLISH

(Common to: All Branches (Except Marine Engineering))

(Regulations 2017)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 100 marks

Answer ALL questions.

PART A — (10 × 2 = 20 marks)

1. Write Wh- questions for the following statements (2 × 1 = 2)
 - (a) They have kept the letter on the table:
 - (b) Books will be available from tomorrow.
2. Complete the word in the blank using the correct suffix. (4 × ½ = 2)
 - (a) Reading newspapers has definitely helped in the improve _____ of his vocabulary. (-ness, -ment, -cy, -ward)
 - (b) He was not able to write the exam as he lacked adequate attend _____ (-ance, -ence, ent, -er)
 - (c) The _____ pure water could have caused the illness. (em-, en-, im-, in-)
 - (d) The sweets served in the wedding were _____ resistible. (im-, un-, dis-, ir-)
3. Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions: (4 × ½ = 2)

Every day, (a) _____ an average, more than 2000 visitors
(b) _____ various areas of RK Colony visit the park. They complain that
the park is not being maintained (c) _____ a long time as weeds have
grown (d) _____ the walker's pathway.

4. Guess the meaning of words in bold from the context. Choose the options from the answers given: (4 × ½ = 2)
- (a) The house-owners decided to give their house a **makeover** for the festival.
- (i) transfer (ii) transmission
(iii) renovation (iv) relocation
- (b) The researcher tried to **substantiate** his ideas through various experiments.
- (i) prove (ii) substitute
(iii) tell (iv) write
- (c) The magazine was popular as it was **non-biased** and balanced in its news.
- (i) strict (ii) truthful
(iii) fair (iv) based
- (d) The icy layers of the lake **thawed** as the sun came out and shone brightly.
- (i) froze (ii) melt
(iii) evaporate (iv) harden
5. Use a single word that substitutes the following phrases: (4 × ½ = 2)
- (a) A person who cares for other human beings.
- (i) misanthropist (ii) philanthropist
(iii) philosopher (iv) orthodontist
- (b) The process of a liquid changing to hard pieces of solid.
- (i) evaporation (ii) crystallisation
(iii) melting (iv) heating
- (c) A false name used by writers or actors
- (i) Homonym (ii) antonym
(iii) pseudonym (iv) synonym
- (d) The specialist who grows plants yielding ornamental flowers, vegetables and fruits
- (i) fruitarian (ii) gardener
(iii) botanist (iv) horticulturist
6. Choose the correct adverbs and complete the sentences: (4 × ½ = 2)
- (a) The painter came to his work _____ at 8 am every day (punctually /sincerely).
- (b) The boys were shouting _____ after winning the match. (confidently/boisterously).

- (c) He drove _____ (fast/fastly) as there was no time.
- (d) The students wake up _____ as they have exams (early/quickly).
7. Fill in the blanks with suitable tense forms of the verb given in brackets
(4 × ½ = 2)
- (a) Her phone _____ (ring) while she _____ (write) her homework.
- (b) I _____ (need) time to think about your proposal. I _____ (travel) to my workplace right now, so I will let you know later.
8. Choose the correct phrasal verbs from the options given to fill in the blanks in the following sentences. (4 × ½ = 2)
- (a) The retiring principal _____ charge to her successor.
(i) handed in (ii) handed over
(iii) hands up (iv) handed down
- (b) The MNC _____ the administration of the franchise after receiving complaints from customers.
(i) took up (ii) took away
(iii) took over (iv) took in
- (c) The police were late in chasing the escaped prisoner and so the latter _____.
(i) got away (ii) got up
(iii) got in (iv) got down
- (d) She _____ 10 hours of work everyday.
(i) put up (ii) put off
(iii) put away (iv) put in
9. Fill in the blanks with suitable fixed expression, choosing from the list given below: (4 × ½ = 2)
(put up with, as far as I am concerned, reminds me, come to think of it, speaking of)
- (a) _____ it would be better not to interfere in others' issues.
- (b) _____, I remember seeing him at the supermarket last week.
- (c) It is difficult to _____ people who can think only about themselves.
- (d) That _____ I saw a pink umbrella on this desk.
10. Fill in the blanks with suitable modal verbs like must, can, will, shall, etc. (4 × ½ = 2)
- The buyers wanted to know if they _____ avail a discount of 10% on the price. The sales men said that in that case they _____ have to compromise on the quality. To this, the buyers said that they _____ never do that at any cost. Consequently, the sales men told that they _____ pay the given price.

PART B — (5 × 16 = 80 marks)

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

India has two national languages for central administrative purposes: Hindi and English. Hindi is the national, official, and main link language of India. English is an associate official language. The Indian Constitution also officially approves twenty-two regional languages for official purposes. Dozens of distinctly different regional languages are spoken in India, which share many characteristics such as grammatical structure and vocabulary. Apart from these languages, Hindi is used for communication in India. The homeland of Hindi is mainly in the north of India, but it is spoken and widely understood in all urban centers of India. In the southern states of India, where people speak many different languages that are not much related to Hindi, there is more resistance to Hindi, which has allowed English to remain a lingua franca to a greater degree.

Since the early 1600's, the English language has had a toehold on the Indian subcontinent, when the East India Company established settlements in Chennai, Kolkata, and Mumbai, formerly Madras, Calcutta, and Bombay, respectively. The historical background of India is never far away from everyday usage of English. India has had a longer exposure to English than any other country which uses it as a second language. Its distinctive words, idioms, grammar and rhetoric spreading gradually to affect all places, habits and culture.

In India, English serves two purposes. First, it provides a linguistic tool for the administrative cohesiveness of the country, causing people who speak different languages to become united. Secondly, it serves as a language of wider communication, including a large variety of different people covering a vast area. It overlaps with local languages in certain spheres of influence and in public domains. Generally, English is used among Indians as a 'link' language and it is the first language for many well-educated Indians. It is also the second language for many who speak more than one language in India. The English language is a tie that helps bind the many segments of our society together. Also, it is a linguistic bridge between the major countries of the world and India.

English has special national status in India. It has a special place in the parliament, judiciary, broadcasting, journalism, and in the education system. One can see a Hindi-speaking teacher giving their students instructions during an educational tour about where to meet and when their bus would leave, but all in English. It means that the language permeates daily life. It is unavoidable and is always expected, especially in the cities. The importance of the ability to speak or write English has recently increased significantly because English has become the de facto standard. Learning English language has become popular for business, commerce and cultural reasons and especially for internet communications throughout the world. English is a language that has become a standard not because it has been approved by any 'standards' organization but because it is widely used by many information and technology industries and recognized as being standard. The call centre

phenomenon has stimulated a huge expansion of internet-related activity, establishing the future of India as a cyber-technological super-power. Modern communications, videos, journals and newspapers on the internet use English and have made knowing English' indispensable.

The prevailing view seems to be that unless students learn English, they can only work in limited jobs. Those who do not have basic knowledge of English cannot obtain good quality jobs. They cannot communicate efficiently with others, and cannot have the benefit of India's rich social and cultural life. Men and women who cannot comprehend and interpret instructions in English, even if educated, are unemployable. They cannot help with their children's school homework every day or decide their revenue options of the future.

A positive attitude to English as a national language is essential to the integration of people into Indian society. There would appear to be virtually no disagreement in the community about the importance of English language skills. Using English you will become a citizen of the world almost naturally. English plays a dominant role in the media. It has been used as a medium for inter-state communication and broadcasting both before and since India's independence. India is, without a doubt, committed to English as a national language. The impact of English is not only continuing but increasing.

(a) Choose the best answer for the following statements: (6 × 1 = 6)

- (i) According to the writer, the Indian constitution recognizes
- (1) 22 official languages.
 - (2) Hindi as the national language.
 - (3) 2 national, official languages.
 - (4) 2 national languages.
- (ii) English's status as a lingua franca is helped by
- (1) its status in northern India.
 - (2) the fact that it is widely understood in urban centres.
 - (3) the fact that people from the south speak languages not much related to Hindi.
 - (4) it shares many grammatical similarities with Hindi.
- (iii) In paragraph 3, 'toehold' means that English
- (1) dominated India.
 - (2) changed the names of some cities in India.
 - (3) has had a presence in India.
 - (4) has been in India longer than any other language.
- (iv) Hindi-speaking teachers
- (1) might well be heard using English.
 - (2) only use English.
 - (3) only use English for instructions.
 - (4) do not use English.

- (v) In paragraph eight, it says 'the prevailing view', which suggests that
- (1) the view is correct.
 - (2) the view is held by the majority.
 - (3) the view is incorrect.
 - (4) the view is held by the minority.
- (vi) English in India
- (1) is going to decrease.
 - (2) has decreased since independence.
 - (3) causes disagreement.
 - (4) is going to have a greater importance.
- (b) Choose the best meaning for the following words taken from the passage:
(1 × 6 = 6)
- (vii) resistance
- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| (1) affinity | (2) opposition |
| (3) persistence | (4) acceptance |
- (viii) cohesiveness
- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| (a) togetherness | (b) sticky |
| (c) difference | (d) collision |
- (ix) overlap
- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| (a) separate | (b) related to |
| (c) overt | (d) relapse |
- (x) de facto
- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| (a) in reality | (b) defeat |
| (c) factful | (d) hypothetically |
- (xi) indispensable
- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| (a) unnecessary | (b) distinct |
| (c) ordinary | (d) vital |
- (xii) interpret
- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| (a) understand | (b) infer |
| (c) explain | (d) describe |
- (c) Complete the following sentences. (2 × 2 = 4)
- (xiii) The two main purposes of English in India are _____ and _____. (2)
- (xiv) If one cannot _____ or _____ instructions in English, employment opportunities are less for them. (2)

12. Write two paragraphs of around 150 words each (300 words total) on one of the topics.

(a) The best tourist place you have visited. (16)

Or

(b) Importance of exercise for good health. (16)

13. (a) Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper complaining about the mosquito menace in your locality. Explain the problems faced by the people and suggest some solutions. (16)

Or

(b) Write a letter to your friend about an interesting book that you have read recently. (16)

14. Rearrange the jumbled sentences in a logical order. Attempt ONE of the two sets.

(a) (i) Another source of electricity we depend upon is battery — something that temporarily gives us power before it is trashed.

(ii) Moreover think about all those times when those wires tangled.

(iii) All human beings need and love electricity and there is no argument in this.

(iv) So, finally this is where wireless electricity (WiTricity) comes into picture.

(v) One problem is both wires and batteries are dangerous when overhead wires get damaged in rough weather and cause problems even to human lives.

(vi) Imagine a technology through which we can use electricity without plugging our computer or phones into plug points?

(vii) Coming to think of it, there are several negative features to both these sources.

(viii) Huge investments are being made in constructing power stations and making wires that transfer electricity from its place of generation to our homes. (16)

Or

(b) (i) She first flew on Space Shuttle Columbia in 1997 as a mission specialist and primary robotic arm operator.

(ii) She got her Bachelor of Engineering degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Punjab Engineering College, India.

(iii) Kalpana Chawla was an American astronaut, engineer, and the first female of Indian origin to go to space.

(iv) As a child, Kalpana liked to draw pictures of airplanes.

- (v) She moved to the United States in 1982 and obtained a Master of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Texas at Arlington in 1984.
- (vi) Chawla was posthumously awarded the Congressional Space Medal of Honor and several streets, universities and institutions have been named in her honor.
- (vii) Chawla went on to earn a second Masters and a PhD in aerospace engineering from the University of Colorado Boulder.
- (viii) In 2003, Chawla was one of the seven crew members who died in the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster when the spacecraft disintegrated during its re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere. (16)

15. Write an essay of 350 words on any ONE of the following topics.

- (a) How can students develop the essential leadership qualities that our country needs. (16)

Or

- (b) Discuss any scientific invention that you think has changed our lives. Discuss both the advantages and disadvantages of that invention. (16)