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Question Paper Code : 20739

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

Second Semester

Civil Engineering

HS 8251 — TECHNICAL 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. Choose the appropriate verb that agrees with the subject in the following sentences: (4 × ½ = 2)

   (a) Improving one's communication skills ———— (is/are) one of the most important employability skills although many other skills ———— (is/are) also necessary.

   (b) Companies ———— (pay/pays) millions to celebrities to endorse their products as the celebrities ———— (represent/represents) certain values.

2. Write compound words in the blanks combining two words given below suiting the meaning of the sentences. (4 × ½ = 2)

   (point   telling   feed   white   story   collar   power   back)

   (a) Taking ———— from others on our performance can be useful.

   (b) If statistics is presented in graphs in a ————it is easy to remember.

   (c) ———— simplifies complex ideas and helps the listeners understand and follow.

   (d) Everyone loves a ———— job which does not involve a lot of physical labour.

3. Write definitions for any of the two following terms: $(2 \times 1 = 2)$

Speedometer, Bunsen burner, pliers, laptop

4. Convert the following statements into impersonal passive voice: $(2 \times 1 = 2)$

(a) The President gave the awards to the soldiers on Republic Day.

(b) The students listened to the podcast regularly.

5. Write the correct numerical adjective for two of the following phrases:

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

(a) A movie lasting for three hours.

(b) A committee of seven members.

(c) A house of thousand square feet.

(d) A television screen of 55 inches width.

6. Identify the word with the correct spelling: $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

(a) neccessary, necassary, necessary, nesecery.

(b) courtesy, cortesy, courtsy, cortesy

(c) comparitive, comparative, comparrative, comparetive

(d) lightning, litening, lightining, litining

7. Fill in the most appropriate sequence words in the blanks: $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

(finally, initially, next, secondly, first)

(a) The application form has to be downloaded —————.

(b) ————— take a print out of it.

(c) Fill in all the details —————.

(d) ————— submit it in the correct counter.

8. Convert the following into indirect speech: $(2 \times 1 = 2)$

The musician said, "It is a moment of great honour to be receiving the award today. This award is dedicated to all the members of my team."

9. Choose the appropriate synonyms for the words highlighted in the sentences:

(a) INNOVATIVE projects were presented in the Science Fair. $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

    (i) ancient   (ii) interesting

    (iii) new   (iv) famous

(b) The school made participation in sports MANDATORY.

    (i) compulsory   (ii) optional

    (iii) flexible   (iii) practice

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(c) The team was HUMILIATED due to their defeat.

(i) rejected   (ii) praised

(iii) shamed   (iv) hated

(d) The atmosphere in the company was very AMIABLE.

(i) easy   (ii) difficult

(iii) hostile   (iv) friendly

10. Complete the sentences using the correct conditional phrases: (4 × ½ = 2)

(a) If everyone had attended the meeting, they —————— (understand) the seriousness of the issue.

(b) Students will go on a tour, if the Principal —————— (agree).

(c) If I received any information on this, I —————— (tell) you at once.

(d) Sports Day would take place as planned, if it —————— (do) not rain.

PART B — (5 × 16 = 80 marks)

11. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below:

Stars may be spheres, but not every celestial object is spherical. Objects in the universe show a variety of shapes: round planets (some with rings), tailed comets, wispy cosmic gas and dust clouds, ringed nebulae, pinwheel-shaped spiral galaxies, and so on. But none of the shapes on this list describes the largest single entities in the universe. These are the double radio sources, galaxies with huge clouds of radio emission that dwarf the visible galaxies, sometimes by a factor of a hundred or more. Stretching over distances greater than a million light-years, these radio-emitting regions resemble twin turbulent gas clouds, typically forming dumbbell-like shapes with the visible galaxy (when it is visible) in the center. These double radio sources present astronomers with a puzzle. Their radio emission arises from the synchrotron process, in which electrons accelerated to nearly the speed of light move through magnetic fields. However, in view of the rate at which the radio sources emit energy, they should disappear in a few million years as their electrons slow down and cease producing radiation. Somehow new electrons must be continually accelerated to nearly the speed of light, otherwise, by now almost none of the double radio sources would be observed.

With the advent of high-resolution radio interferometers during the late 1970's, part of the answer became clear: the electrons are produced in jets that are shot out in opposite directions from the center of galaxy. Remarkably narrow and highly directional, the jets move outward at speeds close to the speed of light. When the jets strike the highly rarefied gas that permeates intergalactic space, the fast-moving electrons lose their highly directional motion and form vast clouds of radio-emitting gas. Cosmic jets have ranked among the hottest topics of astronomical research in recent years as astronomers strive to understand where they come from. Why should a galaxy eject matter at such tremendous speeds in two narrow jets? And why are such jets not seen in the Milky Way?

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Choose the most appropriate answers for the following: (10 marks)

(a)   The word "celestial" could best be replaced by

    (i)   visible   (ii)   astronomical

    (iii) glowing   (iv)   scientific

(b)   In the first paragraph, the author describes objects in the universe in terms of their

    (i)   color   (ii)   origin

    (iii) location   (iv)   shape

(c)   The word "entities" is closest in meaning to

    (i)   factors   (ii)   processes

    (iii) objects   (iv)   puzzles

(d)   According to the passage, scientists do not fully understand why double radio sources

    (i)   have not eventually disappeared

    (ii)   cannot be observed with a telescope

    (iii) are beginning to slow down

    (iv)   are not as big as some planets and stars

(e)   The word "their" in the second passage refers to

    (i)   speeds   (ii)   directions

    (iii) electrons   (iv)   clouds

(f)   According to the passage, what happens when electrons and gas collide in space?

    (i)   The gas becomes more condensed

    (ii)   The gas becomes less radiated

    (iii) The electrons disperse to form gas clouds

    (iv)   The electrons become negatively charged

(g)   The author suggests that astronomers consider the study of cosmic jets to be

    (i)   an obsolete scientific field

    (ii)   an unprofitable venture

    (iii) an intriguing challenge

    (iv)   a subjective debate

(h)   The second paragraph most likely discusses

    (i)   specific double radio sources

    (ii)   an explanation of the synchrotron process

    (iii) possible reasons for the presence of cosmic jets

    (iv)   the discovery of the first double radio sources.

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(i) The passage ends with

    (i)   the discovery of why such matter is ejected

    (ii) no answer found for the phenomenon

    (iii) a firm belief that no one could find the reason

    (iv) none of the above

(j) A suitable topic for the passage would be ——————.

State if the following passages are true or false.   (6 marks)

(k) Every object in space is round in shape.

(l) Galaxies with huge clouds of radio emission that dwarf the visible galaxies are known as double radio sources.

(m) Electrons can exceed the speed of light when passed through a magnetic field.

(n) When electrons lose speed they disappear into the cosmos.

(o) Cosmic jets are losing importance in astronomical sciences because of the mystery surrounding it.

(p) High-resolution radio interferometers can give answers for the cosmic jets.

12. (a) The pie-chart represents the amount of time spent by students on smartphones and tablets. Compare and write a paragraph interpreting the data given below in 200 words.

Smartphones — Other 5%, News 3%, Music and Videos 8%, Games 35%, Utilities 20%, Social Networking 29%

Tablets — Other 8%, Utilities 3%, News 4%, Music and Videos 13%, Social Networking 15%, Games 57%
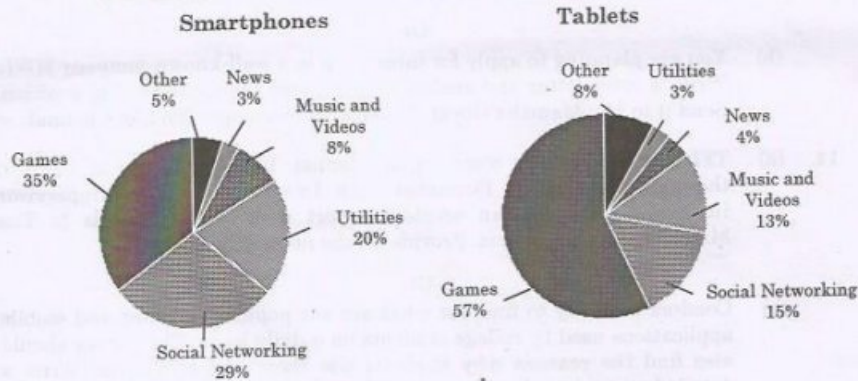
Or

(b) Study the following table which gives the details about the sales of Indian automobile industry in two years. Write a paragraph presenting the information using expressions or comparison in 200 words.

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Indian Automobile Industry — April-June 2012 / April-June 2013

Segment-wise Domestic Sales	Number of Vehicles		Overall Performance	
Passenger Cars	4,85,026		Production	52,32,684
	-10.41%	4,34,551	-3.63%	50,42,485
Two Wheelers	35,19,555		Domestic Sales	44,68,881
	-0.82%	34,90,677	-2.10%	43,75,082
Three Wheelers	1,11,251		Exports	7,42,836
	1,08,603	-2.38%	-5.65%	7,00,869
Total Passenger Vehicles	6,54,858			
	-7.24%	6,07,469		
Total Commercial Vehicles	1,83,217			
	1,68,333	-8.12%		

Source: SIAM   KBK Infographics

13. (a) Ford Industries has advertised looking for Freshers with engineering degrees in various departments for their new projects. Apply for the post with a detailed Resume to the email id careers.ford@fordindia.

Or

     (b) You are planning to apply for internship in a well-known company HWL. Write a cover letter and enclose your resume for an internship position. Send it to Ms. Manisha Goyal, Manager-internships, HWL of Chennai.

14. (a) TFL is a big fertilizer company in Chennai. There was a fire accident in the main plant on 4th December 2019. Imagine you are the Supervisor In-charge and write an accident report with all the details to The Manager, Safety Division. Provide all the necessary details.

Or

     (b) Conduct a survey to find out what are the popular websites and mobile applications used by college students on a daily basis. The survey should also find the reasons why students use them and how often. Write a detailed report based on the data collected and interpret the findings.

15. (a) Write an essay on the role of youth in building the nation as a superpower in about 250 words.

Or

     (b) Write an essay about the importance of being careful while posting content online in social media websites in about 250 words.

———————

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