

[This question paper contains 12 printed pages.]

Your Roll No.....

Sr. No. of Question Paper : 726 A

Unique Paper Code : 52031903

Name of the Paper : English Proficiency

Name of the Course : B.Com. Programme

Semester : IV

Duration : 3 hours 30 minutes Maximum Marks : 75

Instructions for Candidates

1. Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.
2. This question paper has two parts, A and B. Both parts are compulsory.
3. Answer a total of six questions, of which 3 are from Part A and 3 are from Part B.

PART A

Answer any three questions. (3×10= 30)

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow it in brief using your own words as far as possible : (5×2)

P.T.O.

The self-portrait is nothing new. Painters and photographers have always used themselves as subjects. Today, however, almost everyone walks around with a camera in his or her pocket. This is because most cell phones have cameras on them. The fact that most people have cell phone cameras with them all the time has led to the rise of the selfie. A selfie is a self-portrait usually taken with a cell phone.

People usually take selfies when they are engaged in normal day-to-day activities. They take selfies of their commutes to work or school. People take selfies of themselves eating. Other people take selfies to show what they are wearing or whom they are hanging out with.

Some people think that selfies are a sign that people are becoming vain or superficial. It is not often that people take pictures of themselves that make them look bad. When people take pictures of themselves they usually are trying to present themselves in the best light. However, some people use selfies to show what they really look like. Some people are trying to challenge stereotypes of what makes someone attractive.

- (a) What is a selfie?
- (b) Why has it become so common for people to take photos of themselves?
- (c) List any **two** occasions on which people take selfies.
- (d) Why are some people not happy with the culture of taking selfies?
- (e) How are some people using selfies to challenge stereotypes?

2. Complete the given sentences by selecting the correct word from the pair given in brackets after each blank : (10×1)

- (a) Let me give you a piece of _____ (advice / advise).
- (b) An accident has happened at a construction _____ (cite / site).
- (c) Every one left me in my hour of need _____ (accept / except) you.

- (d) A former teacher has written the _____
(foreword / forward) to my book.
- (e) People protested against the _____ (injustice /
justice) of the authorities.
- (f) Be very _____ (careful / careless) on the road.
- (g) She is so _____ (lenient / strict) that students
dare not misbehave in her class.
- (h) They decided to re-unite after having lived _____
(apart / together) for many years.
- (i) She looked _____ (into / through) the window at
the beautiful garden.
- (j) Despite terrible losses in the war, the Ukrainians
refuse to give _____ (away / up).

3. Form questions for the statements given below :

(5×2)

Example:

Statement: *Kalidasa wrote 'Shakuntalam'.*

Question: *Who wrote 'Shakuntalam'?*

- (a) The parcel will arrive next week.
- (b) She is absent because she has a fever.
- (c) They are going to the hills.
- (d) No, the boy is not telling the truth.
- (e) Yes, I spoke to her.

4. Complete the dialogue given below between two individuals X and Y by choosing words / expressions from the following box to fill in the five blanks :

(5×2)

I'm afraid, please, You're welcome,
Excuse me, Thanks anyway

X: __(a)__, could you tell me the way to the post office __(b)__ ?

Y: __(c)__ I don't know as I am new to the area. But that *paan-wallah* will be surely able to guide you.

X: You are right. I will ask him. __(d)__ !

Y: __(e)__.

P.T.O.

5. Use the information given below to write a paragraph of about 100 words on the famous tourist destination of Wayanad : (10)

Location : district in Kerala on the southern tip of the Deccan plateau

Altitude : 700 to 2100 metres above Mean Sea Level

Area : 2,132 sq.Kms.

Main towns : Kalpetty (district headquarters), Sultan Bathery, Mananthavady

Languages : Malayalam (the local language), English; Kannada and Tamil (in the border areas)

Climate : chilly from December to February; pleasant for the rest of the year

Main attractions : Meenmutty waterfalls, Muthanga Wildlife Sanctuary, Chembra Peak, Banasura Sagar Dam, Pookot Lake

Famous items : Spices, coffee, tea, bamboo items, native craft, honey, herbal plants

PART B

(3×15=45)

Answer any three questions.

6. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow it in brief using your own words as far as possible : (5×3)

The early ancestor of man was very ugly and unattractive. He was quite small, much smaller than the people of today. The heat of the sun and the cold wind of winter had coloured his skin dark brown. His head and most of his body was covered with long, rough hair. He had very thin but strong fingers which made his hands look like those of a monkey. His forehead was low and his jaw was like the jaw of a wild animal which uses its teeth both as fork and knife. He wore no clothes. He had seen no fire except the flames of the volcanoes which filled the earth with their smoke and lava.

The primitive man lived in big forests that were big and dark, as the pygmies of Africa do to this day.

P.T.O.

When he felt hungry, he ate raw leaves and roots of plants or he took eggs away from an angry bird to provide food for his own young. Once in a while, after a long and patient chase, he would catch a sparrow or a small wild dog or perhaps a rabbit. These he would eat raw for he had not discovered that food tasted better when it was cooked.

During the day this primitive human being searched for things to eat. When night fell, he hid in a hollow tree or behind some heavy rocks, for he was surrounded on all sides by dangerous animals, and when it was dark those animals began to prowl about, looking for something to eat, and they liked the taste of human beings. It was a world where you must either eat or be eaten and life was very unhappy because it was full of fear and misery

- (a) Did the primitive man look better than us? Describe any **two** features of his appearance.
- (b) List **three** food items of the primitive man.
- (c) Why did the primitive man eat his food raw?

(d) What was the daily routine of the primitive man?

(e) Did the primitive man lead a happy life? Why?

(3×5=15)

7. Complete the given sentences by selecting the correct word from the pair given in brackets after each blank : (15×1=15)

(a) My neighbour is _____ (a / an) university professor.

(b) _____ (A / The) Yamuna flows through Delhi.

(c) Mount Everest is _____ (a / the) highest mountain peak in the world.

(d) I have been waiting at the bus stop for _____ (a / an) hour.

(e) The last bus leaves _____ (at / in) five minutes.

(f) My next paper is _____ (in / on) Monday.

(g) The paper will begin _____ (at / on) 2.30 p.m.

P.T.O.

- (h) There was a painting _____ (in / on) the wall.
- (i) The dustbin is _____ (over / under) the table.
- (j) _____ (Who / Whom) is at the door?
- (k) _____ (Which / Whose) bag is yours?
- (l) Have you posted the letter? _____ (No / Yes), I have.
- (m) Did she call you up? _____ (No / Yes), she didn't.
- (n) You don't like dogs, _____ (do / don't) you?
- (o) They will come, _____ (will / won't) they?
8. Frame suitable statements / responses for the following situations : (3×5=15)
- (a) You want your friend to go with you to a movie on Sunday. What would you say to invite her / him?

- (b) You have bought a new dress. You want to know what your friend thinks of it. How would you ask for her / his opinion?
- (c) You want to ask your teacher about your assignment. She is busy talking to a colleague. What would you say to draw her attention?
- (d) Your friend has not noticed that the floor is being cleaned with soap and water and is very slippery. S/he is about to step on it. How would you warn her / him?
- (e) Your phone is showing a low battery warning. How would you ask permission from a classmate to use her / his phone to make an urgent call?
9. Write a paragraph of about 150 words on the lessons (about health, relationships, life, social responsibility, etc.) that you have learnt from the Covid pandemic. (15)

10. 'Nanhi Kali', an NGO, is looking for volunteers to conduct a campaign for the upliftment of the girl child in slum areas. Write a letter to the Manager expressing your wish to be a part of the campaign. Give reasons why you are suited to the task. (15)