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Your Roll No.....

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E

Unique Paper Code : 52031903

Name of the Paper : English Proficiency

Name of the Course : B.Com (Prog)

Semester : IV

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 75

Instructions for Candidates

1. Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.
2. This Paper has two parts; Part A and Part B.
3. Answer three questions from Part A and three questions from Part B.

Part A

Answer Three questions.

P.T.O.

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

A stranger was on a pilgrimage to Kashi. One evening, he rested in a village. The villagers were kind and helpful, They offered him food to eat and a place to stay. As he got ready to leave the next morning, his host had a word with him, "As you go north, there is a village called Jhootagav – the village of lies. Avoid this village. You will not find a single kind soul there. The villagers lie, quarrel, and cheat each other, Truth has fled from that place."

The pilgrim thanked his host and left. It was noon when he reached a village, where he rested under a tree. He did not know he was in Jhootagav.

A group of men decided to play a prank on the visitor. They lighted a candle in broad daylight and started walking towards him. "What are you doing here in the middle of the night?" they asked.

The pilgrim looked up – the sun was shining bright. He looked at the candle they were holding.

"You seem to be a traveller. Would you like to carry this candle with you?" asked one of the men.

"You have to pay for it. We will accept your gold chain," said the other helpfully.

The third one forcefully snatched the chain as the first man thrust the lighted candle in his hand.

The pilgrim looked at the lighted candle in his hand. "Alas, there is so much darkness here," he said.

The next moment, the tricksters were in a shock. It turned pitch dark. They could hardly see each other. The only thing they could see was the candle light, which was moving away from them.

From that day onwards, the village did not see a sunrise. Candles could not be lit. Jhootgav now became Andhergav, the village of darkness.

With no sunlight, no work could be done. No crops could be grown. Other villages shunned the villagers of Andhergav. No one ever entered or left Andhergav.

Months passed, or may be days - who could tell without the sun?

One day a child started crying. She was convinced it was Diwali. She wanted to light lamps. But no one could light anything in the village.

At that moment, the villagers saw a light flickering at a distance. It got brighter. It seemed to be moving closer. Then they saw a man holding a candle in his hand. He was the same pilgrim who had passed through that village.

Attracted by the candle in his hand, a little girl came running to him, "It is light. You are holding light, uncle."

By then all the villagers had gathered. They watched as the pilgrim handed the candle to the child." Let there be light in the heart, child," he said softly.

The elders hung their heads in shame. The three men who had tricked the pilgrim fell at his feet begging for forgiveness.

The child broke into smile as she shouted, "Light! Light at last!"

Then there was dazzling light. The whole village was lit by the blazing sun. Villagers sank to ground, raising

their hands in salutation to the sun. "Darkness gone. Light is here," whispered an old woman.

The pilgrim meanwhile had disappeared. But Diwali had come to that village, which is now called Divagaon, the village of lamps.

- (i) Why did the village host warn the pilgrim against entering the village named Jhootgav? (2)
- (ii) What were the three men after and did they get it from the pilgrim? (2)
- (iii) Why couldn't the villagers of Jhootgav plant crops or do any work? (2)
- (iv) Had the villagers of Andhergav realized their mistake? (2)
- (v) Why did the pilgrim disappear at the end of the story? (2)

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

- (i) It _____ (raining/rained) heavily yesterday afternoon.
- (ii) Who _____ (had/has) the key to this cupboard?
- (iii) Rohit will be _____ (travelled/travelling) to his home town in a few days.
- (iv) Greater effort _____ (is/was) needed from the students to clear the forthcoming entrance exam.
- (v) I _____ (was/will) be sharing my experiences as a Public Relations head in tomorrow's seminar.
- (vi) What _____ (are/is) the reasons for students to quit drama practise?
- (vii) The students _____ (had left/were leaving) before the event was over.
- (viii) In India, doctors are not _____ (allow/allowed) to test the baby's gender.

(ix) Payal _____ (studied/was studying) when I went to her house.

(x) Who _____ (eat/ate) the donuts lying on the table?

3. Form questions for the statements given below :

(10)

Example: The train will arrive at 2 o'clock. When will the train arrive?

(i) She will be travelling to the hills with her family for the summer break.

(ii) The dog was crushed under heavy traffic.

(iii) She wrote the poem while travelling by the metro.

(iv) The exam lasted for three hours.

(v) The meteor shower will take place tonight.

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 :

(10)

P.T.O.

Nearby, Travel, Resident, noticed, lockdown

Hello Pooja, are you a in _____ this building?

Yes, I shifted to this building after the first _____.

How long does it take you to _____ to college from here?

I am thinking of asking my parents to shift _____ so that we can travel together.

I have often _____ you taking your dog for a walk in the morning.

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

Location: it is a popular tourist destination in the Western Ghats mountains in the Nilgiri Hills in Tamil Nadu.

Altitude : it has an elevation of 2,240 meters.

Area : 36 sq, Kms.

Languages : Tamil, Badaga, Paniya, Irula, Kurumba, Malayalam, Kannada, English.

Climate : Summer from April to June (Hottest Climate), Monsoon from July to October (Raining season) and Winter from November to February (Coldest Climate). Day time is cool and night is cold.

Main attractions : Ooty lake, Government Botanical Garden, St. Stephen's Church, Mudumalai National Park.

Famous items : tea, chocolate, English vegetables and fruits like carrot, potatoes, peaches, plums, strawberry.

Connectivity: It is well connected with road, railways (railway station at Udthagamandalam) and nearest airport in Coimbatore 96 km away.

Part B

Attempt 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:

A long time ago, a wealthy king had three beautiful daughters. They had everything they wanted offered to them on a platter of gold. However, only one thing was lacking in their life, none of them had a husband, nor did they have a suitor. This made the king very unhappy. He had food, but he could not eat. What shall we do now?

He asked his wife. I want my children to be happily married, but they think that no one is good enough for them.

The king's daughters' were however not bothered. "I want to marry the richest man alive," said the oldest sister. "I want to marry the most handsome man," the younger sister said arrogantly. As for the youngest sister, "I want to marry a king like my father. Only he will be richer and more powerful. Oh! What a life I shall live being the queen of a great empire." Their mother the queen added, "Whoever marries my daughters will be a lucky man, seeing how beautiful they all are. Oh no! My daughters will only marry the best men in the whole land."

The king's heart was very troubled. He told his wife, "I'm finding my daughters men who will love and care for them. I will not watch them grow old without husbands and children."

Do whatever you want, said the queen, but my daughters will only marry anyone who can tell their names. That way, I will be sure they are marrying the wisest man in the entire land.

It was announced throughout the land, that the king wanted the wisest man to marry his children. Whoever could tell their names would be given their hands in marriage. The rich and famous went with gifts to the palace to try but they couldn't guess the princesses' names. No one ever called them by their real names. Everyone called them "the princesses".

Soon, every available man in the land had gone to ask for the princesses' hands in marriage, but no one could tell their names. So, the tortoise, a very wise animal decided he would give it a try. But before he went to the palace, he observed the princesses, following them everywhere without their knowledge. Just when the tortoise started to think there was no

hope for him, luck smiled on him one day. The princesses went apple picking on the outskirts of the town. They hadn't gone very far when the youngest princess saw a bike. Now, a bike was a very uncommon sight in those days. The youngest princess was so excited that she started singing. As she sang she called her older sister by her real name. The sister rushed over, and she did the same, calling their oldest sister. They ended up singing together, dancing around the bike and calling each other's name. That was how the tortoise knew all their names.

But alas, the tortoise remembered all the princesses' names. He went to the palace and told the king. The whole town gathered, and the tortoise said the name of each princess. Everyone was shocked. The king had no choice but to give all his daughters to the tortoise as his wives. The princesses and the queen were extremely sad. But there was nothing anyone could do. And so, the tortoise started to take the princesses home as his wives. On their way to the tortoise's home, the princesses thought about their lives. Should they run away rather than become the tortoise's wives? Should they stay with the tortoise?

No one knows what happened; since that day, no one ever saw any of the princesses again.

(i) What troubled the king who had everything?
(2)

(ii) Why were the king's daughters still unmarried?
(2)

(iii) What was the queen's demand for her daughters' suitors?
(3)

(iv) Why did the suitors fail to marry the princesses?
(2)

(v) How did the tortoise learn the names of the princesses?
(3)

(vi) What do you think happened to the princesses and the tortoise?
(3)

7. Put the verbs given in brackets into the correct forms.
(5×3)

(i) I _____ (see) Rani in town yesterday but she _____ (not/see) me. She _____ (look) the other way.

(ii) I _____ (meet) Rajesh and Veena at the station a few weeks ago. They _____ (go) to Nagpur and I _____ (go) to Dehradun.

(iii) I _____ (not/see) Amit for ages. When I last _____ (see) him, he _____ (try) to find a job in Kolkata.

(iv) Divya _____ (be) in Delhi at the moment. She _____ (stay) at the Park Hotel. She _____ (always/stay) there when she is in Delhi.

(v) My parents _____ (live) in Lucknow. They were born there and _____ (always/live) there. Where _____ (your parents/live)?

8. For each situation given below, ask a question and give a suitable response. (5×3)

(i) After lunch you go to see a friend at her house. She asks you if you want to eat something. What does she say and how do you respond?

(ii) You are 10 minutes late for your class. You ask your teacher if you can come in. What do you say and what is your teacher's response?

(iii) Amit wants to go for a movie with his friends. His father refuses to give him permission.

(iv) Your friend Rina is celebrating her birthday next week. She invites you for her party. You have already made some other plan. What does she say and how do you respond?

(v) You are talking to your English teacher about your performance in the last test, but you want to end the conversation because you are getting late for the next class. What will you say and how would your teacher respond?

9. Imagine that you have won Rs. 5000 as cash prize at a drawing competition. Write a paragraph in around 150 words about how you feel and what you plan to do with the prize-money.

(15)

10. 'Cornerstone India Foundation', a non-profit organization, located at E-12, Sector 14, Dwarka, New Delhi is looking for volunteers to teach English Conversation to primary school children at their learning centre. Write a letter to the Director showing your interest and give reasons why you are suitable for the task.

(15)