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**Question Paper Code: 11001**

B.E. / B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATION, MAY 2014.

First Semester

Civil Engineering

01UEN101 - TECHNICAL ENGLISH - I

(Common to all branches)

(Regulation 2013)

Duration: Three hours

Maximum: 100 Marks

Answer ALL Questions.

PART A - (10 x 2 = 20 Marks)

- Fill in with appropriate suffixes or prefixes according to the meaning given (4 x 1/2 = 2)
  - Flaw \_\_\_\_\_: immaculate
  - Micro\_\_\_\_\_: integrated computer circuit
  - \_\_\_\_\_ tension: abnormal blood pressure
  - \_\_\_\_\_ national: above national limits.
- Give the synonyms of the following words: (4 x 1/2 = 2)
  - possible
  - unavoidable
  - mandatory
  - stridently.
- Change the following sentences into impersonal passive voice: (2 x 1 = 2)
  - The workers are repairing the bridge
  - We can cast this metal into many complicated types
- Punctuate the following passage:

After the engineering system has been designed the electrical jobs of creating assembly drawings parts lists tapes for controlling numerically controlled machines etc are done by a post processing program
- Check whether the following sentences have subject verb agreement and rewrite them:
  - The number of failures are high.
  - Even five thousand rupees were a lot of money in the 1950's. (2 x 1 = 2)

6. Write the American equivalent of the following words. (2 x 1 = 2)  
(a) Flat (b) Torch
7. Write two 'homophones' with their meanings.
8. Make sentences using the following idioms and phrases: (2 x 1 = 2)  
(a) By leaps and bounds (b) figure out.
9. Give the English equivalent of the following foreign expressions: (4 x 1/2 = 2)  
(a) in - toto (b) status - quo (c) de - facto (d) modus - operandi
10. Give one word substitutes for the following: (2 x 1 = 2)  
(a) A process in which two or more lighter nuclei combine to form a heavier nucleus.  
(b) A branch of science that studies the exploitation of living organisms through technologies.

PART - B (5 x 16 = 80 Marks)

11. Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions given at the end of it:

After inventing dynamite, Swedish-born Alfred Nobel became a very rich man. However, he foresaw its universally destructive powers too late. Nobel preferred not to be remembered as the inventor of dynamite, so in 1895 just two weeks before his death, he created a fund to be used for awarding prizes to people who had made worthwhile contributions to humanity. Originally, there were five awards: literature, physics, chemistry, medicine, and peace. Economics was added in 1968, just sixty seven years after the first awards ceremony. Nobel's original legacy of nine million dollars was invested, and the interest on this sum is used for the awards which vary from \$30,000 to \$1, 25,000.

During December 10<sup>th</sup> of every year (the anniversary of Nobel's death) the awards (gold medal, illuminated diploma and money) are presented to the winners. Sometimes politics plays an important role in the judges' decisions. Americans have won numerous science awards, but relatively few literature prizes. No awards were presented from 1940 to 1942 at the beginning of World War II. Some people have won two prizes, but this is rare; others have shared their prizes.

- A. Choose the best answer: (5 x 1 = 5 Marks)
- 1) The word 'foresaw' in sentence 2 is nearest in meaning to  
(a) prevailed (b) postponed (c) prevented (d) predicted
  - 2) The Nobel Prize was established in order to  
(a) recognize worthwhile contributions to the humanity  
(b) resolve political differences

- (c) honour the inventor of dynamite
- (d) spend money
- 3) In which area have Americans received the most awards?
  - (a) Literature (b) Peace (c) Economics (d) Science
- 4) All of the following statements are true except
  - (a) Awards vary in monetary value
  - (b) Ceremonies are held on December 10 to commemorate Noble's invention
  - (c) Politics plays an important role in selecting the winners
  - (d) a few individuals have won 2 awards
- 5) It is implied that Nobel's profession was in
  - (a) Economics (b) Medicine (c) Literature (d) Science.

B. Answer the following questions (4 x 1 = 4 Marks)

- (1) What does the word 'worthwhile' mean?
- (2) How much money did Nobel leave for the prizes?
- (3) What is the main idea of this passage?
- (4) Give a suitable title to the passage.

C. Give the contextual meanings of the following words (4 x 1 = 4 Marks)

- (1) legacy (2) universally (3) destructive (4) Contributions

D. State whether the following sentences are true or false (3 x 1 = 3 Marks)

- (1) Alfred Nobel foresaw dynamite's universally destructive powers early.
- (2) Americans have won many prizes for literature.
- (3) Awards were presented continuously.

12. (a) Read the following passage carefully and make notes:

Research has shown that the human mind can process words at the rate of about 500 per minute, whereas a speaker speaks at the rate of about 150 words a minute. The difference between the two, at 350 is quite large. So a speaker must make every effort to retain the attention of the audience, and the listener should also be careful not to let his mind wander. Good communication calls for good listening skills. A good speaker must necessarily be a good listener.

Listening starts with hearing but goes beyond. Hearing in other words is necessary but is not a sufficient condition for listening. Listening involves hearing with attention. Listening is a process that calls for concentration. While listening, one should also be observant. In other words, listening has to do with the ears, as well as the eyes and the mind. Listening is to be understood as the total process that involves hearing with attention, being observant and making interpretations. Listening skills are particularly relevant in oral communication, as well as non - verbal communication, audio-visual communication and other type of

non - written communication. Good communication is essentially an interactive process. It calls for participation and involvement. It is quite often a dialog rather than a monologue. It is necessary to be interesting and also show or make it abundantly that one is interested in knowing what the other person has to say. The listener can and should help the speaker in establishing a wave length through which communication traverses smoothly. (16)

Or

(b) Fill in the blanks choosing the appropriate tense forms:

Zericho's Minister for economic planning ----- (shoot) dead in a shop doorway in Zuai this afternoon. His assassin, delivered to be a youth, ----- (shoot) him twice in the chest. He escaped in his car as the Minister fell. Police ---- (say) tonight that they ---- (try) to find two men who ----- (speak) to 38- year- old before he ----- (go) into a chemist's shop. Mrs. Sam whose husband ----- (run) the shop said with tears streaming down her face: 'I ----- (know) him for years'. I suddenly----- (see) him slump backwards and I heard these shots- I said to him, Tom, Tom, what ----- (be) wrong?" He ----- (not answer), but just slumped against the wall. (16)

13. (a) Write a letter to The Personnel Manager, Satyam Softwares, 28, Greenways Road, Chennai -600028, requesting permission for an industrial visit to their company. (16)

Or

(b) Write a letter to the Editor of 'The Hindu' about frequent power cuts in your locality. (16)

14. (a) Write a review of a book which you have read recently. (16)

Or

(b) Imagine that you are the Maintenance Engineer of Sharp tools Pvt. Ltd., 15, Park Street, Chennai-28 and there was a fire accident in your company. Write a report to the General Manager of the company about the fire accident. (16)

15. (a) Describe the process involved in withdrawing money through ATM. (16)

Or

(b) Write eight instructions to maintain a car. (16)