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**Question Paper Code: 59L52**

B.E. / B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOV 2019

Open elective

Civil Engineering

15UEN952 – ENGLISH FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS

(Common to ALL branches)

(Regulation 2015)

Duration: Three hours

Maximum: 100 Marks

Answer ALL Questions

Part-A (10x1=10 Marks)

**I. Answer the following**

**Choose the word or group of words which is most similar in the meaning to the word given**

1. Terrible

- (a) Fantastic      (b) Awful      (c) Normally      (d) Absent

2. Whimsical

- (a) Refrain      (b) Silly      (c) Poisonous      (d) Fanciful

3. One who does not believe in the existence of God

- (a) Ascetic      (b) Atheist      (c) Agnostic      (d) Auditor

4. Divide this apple *among* Robert and David.

- (a) Between      (b) Off      (c) On      (d) For

5. The patient is now *free of* danger.

- (a) From      (b) In      (c) For      (d) Off

6. One who loves books.

- (a) Boulevard      (b) Bibliophile      (c) Claustrophobia      (d) Ambiguous

7. Far cry from

- (a) Very different from.                      (b) Feeling slightly ill  
(c) To go to bed                                      (d) Keep something away.

**Rewrite the following into meaningful sentences:**

8. love / of others / good manners / and / win the / respect  
9. when / best / they can / one is / be learnt / young  
10. saves us / turns away / soft answer / anger and / a / a pitfall / from many

PART – B (7 x 10= 70 Marks)

(Answer either of the following questions)

**II. Answer either of the following questions.**

11. (a) Write a report on the Workshop you attended or organized recently.                      (10)

Or

(b) Write a report on the Placement Training that you attended recently.                      (10)

12. Develop the following hints into a readable passage for about one page and give a suitable title.                      (10)

(a) Birbal - courtiers jealous of him - ask Akbar to let them test his wiseness - one courtier puts a question to him - How many crows in Agra - Birbal asks for a week to study the situation - everyday seen on the terrace looking at the crows ? after a week courtier asks him again - Birbal says as many crow as hairs in the courtier's head- Akbar laughs.

Or

(b) A sailor took his pet monkey with him to sea trip.....terrible storm overturned ship,.....a dolphin saved the monkey's life ... took monkey to an island....monkey said that he was a prince ..... Dolphin understood his lie.... left monkey alone in the island.

13. Read the following passage and answer the questions given at the end. (5 X 2 =10)

(a) There are wild dogs and pet dogs. Pet dogs are helpers and friends to people. There were no pet dogs 15,000 years ago. Men and women learned how to work with dogs. Dogs helped humans travel from Asia to North America 10,000 years ago by pulling sledges in the snow. People say dogs are “man’s best friend.” They help with farming. They help with hunting. They help with fishing. They can pull things for people. They can help find things. There are many colours of dogs. There are white dogs, grey dogs, black dogs, and brown dogs. A dog’s fur can be short or long. Dogs have curly hair or straight fur. There are very small dogs. They are only 6-8 inches tall. There are very big dogs. They are about 3 feet tall. Some dogs can see well. Some dogs do not see very well. All dogs can hear well. They can hear sounds that people cannot hear. They can hear high sounds and low sounds. They can hear the sound very far away. All dogs can smell very well. They can smell 40 times better than humans! Dogs live 5 to 13 years, but some dogs live much longer. One dog lived to be 24 years old!

1. **Dogs helped people go to America by...**

- (a) Pulling sledges in the snow                      (b) Helping with farming  
(c) Helping find things                                  (d) None of the above

2. **How tall are the smallest dogs?**

- (a) 3 inches                      (b) 5 inches                      (c) 6 inches                      (d) 13 inches

3. **How tall are the biggest dogs?**

- (a) 1 feet                      (b) 2 feet                      (c) 3 feet                      (d) 5 feet

4. **What can all dogs do well?**

- (a) See                      (b) Hear                      (c) Smell                      (d) Both (b) and (c)

5. **How old was the oldest dog?**

- (a) 5 years old                      (b) 10 years old                      (c) 13 years old                      (d) 24 years old

Or

(b) Plants need sunlight and water to make their own food. You can do an experiment to test if this is true. Place a bucket over a patch of green grass. After a few days, lift the bucket. You will see that the grass is not as green anymore. If you leave the bucket in place for a week, the grass will become very dull. This happens because the grass cannot make food in the dark. Remove the bucket. In a few days, the grass will start turning green again. (10)

**1) What do plants need?**

- (a) Buckets are bad                      (b) Plants need sunlight                      (c) Grass is not pretty

**2) What is the experiment?**

- (a) a way to grow grass                      (b) a way to test an idea                      (c) a way to use a bucket

**3) What happens after a few days?**

- (a) The grass turns brown    (b) The grass gets very dull    (c) The grass is not as green

**4) What is the opposite of dull?**

- (a) Bright                      (b) Brown                      (c) Sunlight

**5) According to the passage, how long does it take for the grass to become dull?**

- (a) a month                      (b) a week                      (c) a few days

14. Write a Precis on the following passage without deviating the vital points.                      (10)

(a) Men and women are of equal rank but they are not identical. They are peerless pair being supplementary to one another, each helps the other so that without one the existence of the other cannot be conceived and, therefore it follows as a necessary corollary from these facts that anything that will impair the status of either of them will involve the equal ruin of them both. In framing any scheme of women's education this cardinal truth must be constantly kept in mind. Man is supreme in the outward activities of a married air and therefore it is in the fitness of things that he should have a greater knowledge thereof. On the other hand, noise life is entirely the sphere of woman and, therefore in domestic affairs, in the upbringing and education of children, woman ought to have more knowledge. Not that knowledge should be divided into water tight compartment's or that so that some branches of knowledge should be closed to anyone, but unless courses of instruction are based on discriminating appreciation of these basic principles, the fullest life of man and woman cannot be developed. Among the manifold misfortunes that may befall humanity, the loss of health is one of the severest. All the joys which life can give cannot outweigh the sufferings of the sick. Among the manifold misfortunes that may befall humanity, the loss of health is one of the severest. All the joys which life can give cannot outweigh the sufferings of the sick.

Or

(b) Several times in the history of the world particular countries and cities or even small groups of people have attained a high degree of civilization. Yet none of these civilizations, important they were, have lasted and one of the reasons why they did not least was that they were confined to a very few people. They were like little oasis of civilization on deserts of barbarism. Now it is no good being civilized if everybody round about you is barbarous, or rather it is some good but it is very risky. For the barbarians are always liable to break in on you, and with their greater numbers and rude vigor scatter your civilization to the winds. Over and over again in history comparatively civilized people dwelling in cities have been conquered in this way by barbarians coming down from the hills and burning and killing and destroying whatever they found in the plains.

15. In the following passage there are blanks ,each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each five words are suggested ,one of which fills the blanks appropriately. Find out the appropriate word in each case. (10)

(a) All Writers are narcissistic, egoistic or we can say in a very real sense, the writer writes in order to teach himself, to understand himself, to satisfy himself and at the very \_\_\_ 1\_\_\_ of their motives there lies an element of mystery. Writing a book is taxing and an exhausting struggle, like a long \_\_\_2\_\_\_ of some painful illness. One would never undertake such a thing if one was not \_\_\_3\_\_\_ by some demon whom one can neither \_\_\_4\_\_\_ nor understand. For all one knows that demon is simply the same \_\_\_5\_\_\_ that makes a baby squall for attention.

- |                  |              |              |                  |                |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1. a) mention    | b) bottom    | c) place     | d) condideration | e) stop        |
| 2.a) bout        | b) feeling   | c) source    | d) condition     | e) origin      |
| 3.a) driving but | b) drive for | c) driven on | d) driven at     | e) driven at   |
| 4.a) help        | b) resist    | c) like      | d) tolerate      | e) allow       |
| 5.a) loss        | b) sense     | c) desire    | d) innate        | e) aspirations |

Or

(b) One day my son called me after his exams. I could make out from his voice that he was (1) \_\_\_. “The exam did not go so well. It was not that know but I made a careless mistake.” I tried to (2) \_\_\_ him saying, “Don’t worry, you will do better next time.” He was not pleased to hear my words. “You don’t realize how competitive it is here and how difficult It is to (3) \_\_\_ anything.”A few later I got another call from him. “A (4) \_\_\_ thing happened”, he said. “When I got my paper I saw that I had (5) \_\_\_ marks for the question I

had answered incorrectly. My friends (6) \_\_\_ me to keep quiet as the Professor must have made a mistake. But you taught me the value of honesty so I emailed him saying I did not (7) \_\_\_ the marks.” His reply was more surprising. “It was (8) \_\_\_ ,” he said. “My interaction with you throughout the year (9) \_\_\_ me that you knew how to solve the problem. That is the reason I gave you those marks.” I was happier about my son’s \_\_\_ than his marks. **5x2=10**

- |                |            |               |             |               |
|----------------|------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. A) bother   | b) unwell  | c) unwell     | d) distress | e) confused   |
| 2. A) pity     | b) forgive | c) console    | d) cheer    | e) sympathise |
| 3. A) Strive   | b) triumph | c) succeed    | d) want     | e) achieve    |
| 4. A) thrilled | b) routine | c) disastrous | d) funny    | e) different  |
| 5. A) assigned | b) awarded | c) obtain     | d) received | e) given      |

**16.** Arrange the following jumbled sentences in a way so as to make a meaningful paragraph. Mention the alphabets marked against each sentence in order as answer.

**(5x2=10)**

1. Whatever the reasons may be, the effects are disastrous leading to both physical and mental ailments like insomnia, hypertension and nervous breakdown etc.
2. According to psychologists it is the result of fear due to inexperience, deprivation, isolation and feeling of inferiority among them.
3. It is a matter of grave concern that ‘stress’ or ‘mental pressure’ has emerged as a deadly and silent killer for teenagers of the day.
4. In order to prevent these catastrophic diseases, children need to be taught to ‘de-stress themselves’ through meditation or cultural activities and this will inculcate feelings of self confidence in them and inspire them to face the realities of life in a better way.
5. If they are observed closely, this all owes to undue pressure on their mind due to unhealthy competitions and sky rocketing expectations of their parents and teachers from them.

Or

1. With the passage of time, vices become more apparent and virtues become objects of jealousy and envy, thereby causing contempt and hatred in the hearts of each other.
2. They become familiar with not only strengths but also weaknesses of each other’s characters.

3. Generally people think that familiarity should breed love, mutual understanding and tolerance.

4. They expect that coming together of two persons should bring them closer and forge the bond of kinship between them.

5. But when two persons come closer, they come to know not only strengths but also weaknesses of each other's character.

7.(a) Write meaningful sentences for the following idioms: (5x2=10)

1. Break a leg'
2. See eye to eye
3. Cloud nine
4. Jump the gun
5. Driving me nuts

Or

(b) Use the following idioms in sentences of your own. (5 x 2=10)

1. A cup of joe
2. Missed the boat
3. Pull yourself together
4. Stop ironing my board
5. Mustard after lunch

Part-C (1x 20= 20 Marks)

**III. Attempt an essay on any one of the given topics below.**

1. Discuss the Proverb Time and Tide Wait for None.
2. Write an essay on the Contribution of Technology in Education.
3. Describe that Students should not be allowed to play PUBG.

