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Question Paper Code: 51101

B.E. / B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOV 2016

First Semester

Civil Engineering

15UEN101 - TECHNICAL ENGLISH - I

(Common to ALL Branches)

(Regulation 2015)

Duration: Three hours

Maximum: 100 Marks

Answer ALL Questions.

PART A - (10 x 1 = 10 Marks)

1. Complete the Idiom with a word:

To live in a fool's _____

- (a) laughter (b) paradise (c) sorrow (d) none of these

2. Write the correct derivative of the word:

Pollution is an _____ hazard in this industry.

- (a) unoccupied (b) occupational (c) occasional (d) none of these

3. Choose the suitable prepositional combination:

She could not _____ the workload

- (a) cope with (b) cope up with (c) cope (d) none of these

4. Select the correct synonym for intrinsic:

- (a) belonging naturally (b) undesirable
(c) desirable (d) none of these

5. Choose the appropriate word to fill the blank:

We use rice, cereal and vegetables as the _____ diet.

- (a) staple (b) stable (c) normal (d) none of these

6. Fill in the blank with correct form of verb given in bracket:

If you had left early, you _____ (reach) home by now.

- (a) would have reached (b) would reach
(c) have been reached (d) none of these

7. Pick out the suitable one word substitution:

That which cannot be believed _____

- (a) inexpressible (b) incredible (c) amazing (d) none of these

8. Choose the correct tense for the following:
They _____ in this house since 2000.
- (a) have been living (b) have lived
(c) had been living (d) none of these

9. Select the appropriate question word:
_____ about your ability to communicate?
- (a) What (b) Which (c) Where (d) How

10. Fill in the blank with suitable prefix with the meaning given against:
_____ sonic: having a pitch above the upper limit of human hearing.
- (a) Ultra (b) Super (c) Hyper (d) None of these

PART - B (5 x 2 = 10 Marks)

11. Brief the views of Dr. Karan singh on Nation's strength.
12. "I believe that India got its first vision of this in 1857". What is Dr.Kalam referring to?
13. Which author says, "Even when the path is normally open, when there is nothing to prevent a woman from being a doctor, a lawyer, a civil servant , there are many phantoms and obstacles, as I believe, looming in her way".
14. Brief the views of Peter Laurie on computers.
15. What are the two pillars of cultural value systems according to Narayana Murthy?

PART - C (5 x 16 = 80 Marks)

16. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below, based on the text in the passage:

Wikipedia is a multilingual, web – based, free content encyclopedia project. Wikipedia is written collaboratively by volunteers; the vast majority of its articles can be edited by anyone with access to the internet. Wikipedia’s name is a portmanteau of the words wiki (a type of collaborative websites) and encyclopedia. Its main servers are in Tamba, Florida with additional servers in Amsterdam and Seoul.

Wikipedia’s English edition was launched on January 15, 2001, as a complement to Nupedia, an expert written and now defunct encyclopedia. The project is currently operated by the Wikimedia Foundation, a non – profit organisation created by Jimmy Wales, the co – founder of Wikipedia. Wikipedia has approximately 7.5 million articles in 253 languages, 1.8 million of which are in the English edition. It has steadily risen in popularity since its inception and currently ranks among the top ten most visited web sites worldwide. Traffic to Wikipedia’s 72 servers on any given day exceeds 80 million hits.

Wikipedia was co – founded by Jimmy Wale, who believed in creating an open encyclopedia that anyone can contribute to. The project also adapted a rule: every time someone edits an article, a new version is created and stored. All contributions are kept for posterity and identified as such.

Due to its open nature, critics have questioned Wikipedia's reliability and accuracy. The site has also been criticized for its susceptibility to vandalism and the addition of false or unverified information, uneven quality, systemic bias and inconsistencies and for favoring consensus over credentials in its editorial process. Wikipedia's content policies and sub projects set up by contributors seek to address these concerns. Two scholarly studies have concluded that vandalism is generally short-lived and that Wikipedia is generally as accurate as other encyclopedias.

Some studies suggest that Wikipedia provides a good starting point for research, but sometimes suffers from significant omissions and inaccuracies. On the other hand, an investigation by Nature comparing Wikipedia to the Encyclopedia Britannica suggested a near similar level of accuracy in terms of its natural science articles. Encyclopedia Britannica Inc. disagreed and described this study as "fatally flawed", to which Nature later responded, stating that its study was perfectly neutral. Other studies have concluded that Wikipedia's coverage of history is significantly broader and deeper than that of Encarta, while being just as accurate and that obvious vandalism is usually reverted quickly.

(i) Give one word from the above text for the following statements. (5 x 1 = 5)

- (a) A website which functions in many languages
- (b) Something which does not exist anymore
- (c) Being prone to something / someone
- (d) Something which is a group effort
- (e) A part of a computer network which does a particular task

(ii) Complete the following sentences (6 x 1 = 6)

- (a) Wikipedia is _____
- (b) Wikipedia is written by _____
- (c) In its database, Wikipedia has _____
- (d) Wikipedia has been criticised for _____
- (e) When compared to Encyclopedia Britannica, Wikipedia provides information which is _____
- (f) The person who believed in creating an open encyclopedia is _____

(iii) The words given in the box below are the antonyms of those found in the text above. Use them to fill in the blanks. (5 x 1 = 5)

Neutrality	formerly	praised	unreliability	individual
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- (a) A book writing is never an _____ but a collaborative effort
- (b) We rejected the report owing to its _____
- (c) The committee was dissolved because of its lack of _____
- (d) The website has been _____ for being a valuable source of information
- (e) The project was _____ funded by the UNO

17. (a) Draft a letter to the editor of a leading newspaper of your town on the problem of chain snatching in your area. (16)

Or

- (b) Write a letter to your principal asking for permission to visit a company related to your branch of study as a part of your educational programme. (16)
18. (a) (i) Write a set of eight instructions for operating a computer. (8)
- (ii) Imagine that you are the Cultural Secretary of your college. Prepare a checklist of eight most important activities that you have to do for the smooth conduct of the Cultural Festival. (8)

Or

- (b) (i) Write a set of eight instructions for using your ATM card. (8)
- (ii) Write a checklist of eight items, which you can think of, when you are organizing a National Conference in your college. (8)
19. (a) The table given below describes the favourite sport group of the first year ABC Engineering College students. Write a paragraph in about 100 words explaining the information given in the table. Also give your comments and the importance of sports in about 100 words. (16)

Cricket	50%
Football	5%
Tennis	7%
Volley ball	8%
Athletics	12%
Other	18%

Or

- (b) Read the following passage and make notes on it.
- What are the ways in which a student can acquire information? Firstly, he will acquire information from his tutors, in three main ways – by lecture, by tutorial and by hand outs which the tutor may give him. Secondly, he may acquire information from ‘other experts’ outside his college; principally by reading but also perhaps by listening to the NPTEL videos, reading in library or watching educational TV programmes. Thirdly, he will get information from his fellow students: perhaps in student LCD seminars perhaps in the contributions of other students in tutorial, perhaps just in informal conversations. Lastly, he can acquire information from himself. By thinking about his subject and linking together what he has heard and seen, he may come up with new ideas which are his alone. (16)
20. (a) Narayana Murthy feels that a few changes in our value system will enable India to become a greater nation. What are these changes? (16)

Or

- (b) Summarize the prose “My Visions for India” reference to Dr.A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. (16)