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**Question Paper Code: 59052**

B.E. / B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOV 2018

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 (10 x 1=10 Marks)

**I. Answer the following**

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

1. Pleasantly

(a) extremely (b) delightfully (c) charming (d) friendly (e) coolly

2. Wailing

(a) Crying (b) complaining (c) shouting (d) Tears (e) Grumbling

3. To Make something appropriately

(a) Suitable (b) Legally (c) Accurately (d) Straight (e) Immediately

4. Spot the error in the sentence given below.

(i) I go to school on bus

(a) bus (b) off the bus (c) to the bus (d) by bus (e) no error

5. *Everyone of the barrels are full.*

(a) is (b) the (c) a (d) no error

6. A style in which a writer makes a display of his knowledge

(a) Pedantic (b) Verbose (c) Pompous (d) Ornate

7. To keeps one's temper

(a) To become hungry

(b) To be in good mood

(c) To preserve ones energy

(d) None of these

Rewrite the following into meaningful sentences

8. the airport/him/will/at/Linda/meet/noon/at

9. 'sunny and warm'/for/the forecast/tomorrow/is

10. bring/to/will/the birthday cake/I/the party

PART – B (7 x 10= 70Marks)

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

11.( a) Write a report on the symposium or a cultural program you attended or organized recently. (10)

Or

(b) Write a report on the Internship that you attended recently.

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

(a) A rich farmer - lot of land - cattle and servants - two sons - happy life - After some years younger son unhappy - asked for his share of the property - wouldn't listen to father's advice - got his share - sold them all - went away to another country - fell into bad ways - soon all money gone - poor - no one to help him - understood his mistake.

Or

(b) Tenali Raman – offends King – King gets angry sentences Raman to death – but allows Raman to choose type of death – wise Raman – promptly says – want natural death – of old age – King amazed – pardons Raman. (10)

13. Read the following passage and answer the questions given at the end 5x2=10

(a) A life of action and danger moderates the dread of death. It not only gives us fortitude to bear pain, but teaches us at every step the precarious tenure on which we hold our present being. Sedentary and studious men are the most apprehensive on this score. Dr. Johnson was an instance in point. A few years seemed to him soon over, compared with those sweeping contemplations on time and infinity with which he had been used to pose himself. In the still life of a man of letters there was no obvious reason for a change. He might sit in an arm chair and pour out cups of tea to all eternity would it had been possible for him to do so. The most rational cure after all for the inordinate fear of death is to set a just value on life. If we mere wish to continue on the scene to indulge our headstrong humour and tormenting passions, we had better be gone at once,; and if we only cherish a fondness for existence according to the good we desire from it, the pang we feel at parting which it will not be very server.

Questions:

1. Suggest a suitable title for the passage.
2. What type of people are afraid of death and why?
3. How can we get rid of the fear of death?
4. What idea do you form about Dr. Johnson from this passage?
5. Explain the meanings of the words written in bold types.

(or)

(b) It is physically impossible for a well-educated, intellectual, or brave man to make money . The chief object of his thoughts just as it is for him to make his dinner, the principal object of them. All healthy people like their dinners, but their dinner is not the main object of their lives. So all healthy minded people like making money ought to like it and enjoy the sensation of winning it; it is something better than money. A good soldier, for instance, mainly wishes to do his fighting well. He is glad of his pay—very properly so and justly grumbles when you keep him ten years without it—till, his main mission of life is to win battles, not to be paid for winning them. So of clergymen. The clergyman's object is essentially baptize and preach not to be paid for preaching. So of doctors. They like fees no doubt—ought to like them; yet if they are brave and well-educated the entire object to their lives is not fees. They on the whole, desire to cure the sick; and if they are good doctors and the choice were fairly to them, would rather cure their patient and lose their fee than kill him and get it. And so with all the other brave and rightly trained men: their work is first, their fee second—very important always; but still second. 5x2=10

Questions:

1. Suggest a suitable title for the passage.
2. What is the commitment of a clergyman?
3. Who is capable of making money?
4. What is being said in this passage about doctors?
5. Explain the meanings of the words written in bold types

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

(a) Teaching is the noblest of professions. A teacher has a sacred duty to perform. It is he on whom rests the responsibility of moulding the character of young children. Apart from developing their intellect, he can inculcate in them qualities of good citizenship, remaining neat and clean, talking decently and sitting properly. These virtues are not easy to be imbibed. Only he who himself leads a life of simplicity, purity and rigid discipline can successfully cultivate these habits in his pupils. Besides a teacher always remain young. He may grow old in age, but not in spite. Perpetual contact with budding youths keeps him happy and cheerful. There are moments when domestic worries weigh heavily on his mind, but the delightful company of innocent children makes him overcome his transient moods of despair.

Or

(b) English education and English language have done immense goods to India, inspite of their glaring drawbacks. The notions of democracy and self-government are the born of English education. Those who fought and died for mother India's freedom were nursed in the cradle of English thought and culture. The West has made contribution to the East. The history of Europe has fired the hearts of our leaders. Our struggle for freedom has been inspired by the struggles for freedom in England, America and France. If our leaders were ignorant of English and if they had not studied this language, how could they have been inspired by these heroic struggles for freedom in other lands? English, therefore, did us great good in the past and if properly studied will do immense good in future.

English is spoken throughout the world. For international contact our commerce and trade, for the development of our practical ideas, for the scientific studies, English-is indispensable "English is very rich in literature," our own literature has been made richer by this foreign language. It will really be a fatal day if we altogether forget Shakespeare, Milton, Keats and Shaw. (10)

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.

(5x2=10)

(a) With Rahane batting (1) at the other end, Kohli gradually regained his (2). By the time Johnson returned for his next spell, the India vice-captain had scored his third century of the tour. He and Rahane were well on their way to post the first-ever fourth-wicket double-hundred stand at the historic MCG. Johnson was welcomed to the crease with three (3) pull shots, each more (4) than the next. It was Johnson who was (5) now. Two balls later, Kohli did what he had been doing for the rest of the day. He covered the line of a full delivery and punched the ball down the ground. Kohli and Rahane ran three.

- 11) a) immodestly    b) imperiously    c) arrogantly    d) snobbishly    e) quietly  
12) a) mien    b) arousal    c) excitement    d) composure    e) agitation  
13) a) spanking    b) clobbering    c) chastising    d) thumping    e) lashing  
14) a) irritating    b) vexing    c) scraping    d) grinding    e) rasping  
15) a) shattered    b) rattled    c) clattered    d) vibrated    e) gabbled

Or

(b) The Ordinance to raise the foreign capital cap in insurance from 26% to 49% is not the best way to do it, as it (1) the parliament (2). Presumably, however, US President Barack Obama's visit explains the government's tearing hurry. New Delhi wants to show that it is resolute in (3) reform. However, it would be naive to expect that foreign investors will rush to raise their (4) in India joint ventures and infuse more funds in the sector that needs lots of capital to grow. Investors want certainty in law. Foreign partners will (5) and watch to see how things pan out as an Ordinance is a stopgap arrangement. Eventually, Parliament must approve the law. (5x2=10)

- 1) a) encourages    b) circumvents    c) hoodwinks    d) evades    e) helps  
2) a) method    b) procedure    c) inaction    d) process    e) growth  
3) a) presuming    b) aggressive    c) pushing    d) hasty    e) effective  
4) a) stakes    b) goals    c) roles    d) risks    e) profits  
5) a) halt    b) stay    c) stop    d) think    e) wait

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)

- (a) But sometimes, the persons of opposite nature also come closer fall in each other's company by accident, chance or out of ignorance vitiating the above statement to some extent.
- (b) If a man moves in the company of good, gentle and noble people, he is usually adjudged to be a gentleman.
- (c) It is usual for a man to see company of those who possess tastes, tendencies and temperaments like his own.
- (d) On the other side, if he keeps company with evil persons and bad characters, he is considered to be a man of bad character.
- (e) Generally, the character and conduct of a person is gauged by the kinds of people he mixes and moves with.

Or

- (a) He cannot achieve wealth and fortune unless he works hard and unless he has a powerful will.
- (b) It follows from it that he is the builder of his own fortune.
- (c) A person must be persevering and must exert himself if he wants to shape out his destiny.
- (d) He can also bring misery and sufferings upon himself if he has not the wish to labour.
- (e) He can make his fortune if he wishes to do so by being industrious and persevering.

17. Write meaningful sentences for the following idioms .

5x2=10

- a) **Let the cat out of the bag**
- b) **Once in a blue moon**
- c) **Beat around the bush**
- d) keeps one's temper
- e) **To add insult to injury**

Or

- a) **To cost an arm and a leg**
- b) **A piece of cake**
- c) Blessings in disguise
- d) **To feel under the weather**
- e) To make clean breast of

Part-C (1x 20= 20 Marks)

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

5x2=10

1. Discuss the word **Success** in your own words.
  2. Describe in detail how you felt closer to nature in your recent road trips.
  3. Current political scenario in Tamil Nadu.
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