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Question Paper Code : 90306

B.E./B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATIONS, NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

First Semester

Civil Engineering

HS8151 – COMMUNICATIVE ENGLISH

(Common to all Branches (Except Marine Engineering))

(Regulations 2017)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum : 100 Marks

Answer ALL questions

PART – A

(10×2=20 Marks)

1. Choose the correct meaning of the underlined words from the options given :

(4×½=2 Marks)

a) Many modern buildings have superfluous decoration.

i) good

ii) more than needed

iii) beautiful

iv) attractive

b) The player was at the pinnacle of his career when he died.

i) famous

ii) shining

iii) peak

iv) rich

c) The water in the pond is stagnant and so smells bad.

i) clear

ii) dirty

iii) not moving

iv) dark

d) The politician paid rich tributes on the death of his friend.

i) homage

ii) cry bitterly

iii) sacrifice

iv) praises

2. Frame suitable questions for the statements given :

(4×½=2 Marks)

a) Last summer we went to Ooty.

b) This summer we have planned to go to Manali.

c) Yes, we have booked the train tickets.

d) No, we'll be staying there for a week.

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3. Add suitable prefixes to the underlined words to form antonyms : **(4×½=2 Marks)**
Non, dis, ir, In
 a) complete
 b) stop
 c) comfort
 d) responsible.
4. Fill in the blanks with the correct preposition : **(4×½=2 Marks)**
 The thief broke _____ the house _____ night. He stole some jewellery _____ the cupboard and put them _____ a bag and ran away.
5. Complete the sentences using the given adjectives in the correct degree : **(4×½=2 Marks)**
 a) Hyderabad is/ warm/ Chennai.
 b) The mangoes from Salem are/ sweet/ the mangoes from other places.
 c) Vegetables in super market are/ costly/ the ones in the local markets.
 d) New Delhi is/ polluted/ the other cities in India.
6. Fill in the blanks using the correct tense form of the verb given in brackets : **(4×½=2 Marks)**
 My grandmother _____ (like) listening to carnatic music. She _____ (sing) in concerts when she _____ (be) young. Now she _____ (listen) to all her favourite songs.
7. Substitute a single word from the list for underlined words in the sentence : **(4×½=2 Marks)**
(malnourished, illiterate, irreparable, sculptures)
 a) The children in Somalia are all not given good food.
 b) One could find lots of art in stones in Mahabalipuram.
 c) The bag is old and cannot be repaired.
 d) The man does not know to read and write.
8. Rewrite the following into indirect questions : **(2×1=2 Marks)**
 Ravi : Where is the kids' toy shop ?
 The old woman : Where is the medical store ? Can you tell me ?
9. Choose the word that collocates with the given word and complete the sentence : **(4×½=2 Marks)**
 a) There was a _____ (big/major) breakthrough in the last over and the Indians won the match _____ (comfortably/fast).
 b) I cannot forget his _____ (timely/useful) help when we had _____ (run/ gone) out of money.

10. Complete the sentences using the correct modal verbs : (4×½=2 Marks)

- The boy _____ recite many poems. (can/may)
- My uncle _____ drive the car till he was 65. (can/could)
- _____ you water my plants when I'm away ? (May/Would)
- She looks tired. She _____ take some rest. (ought to/can)

PART – B

(5×16=80 Marks)

11. A) Read the following passage and answer the questions given below :

Deep in the jungles of Colombia there is a kind of flower that attracts bees with its unique perfume. The male bees store as much scent as possible from this particular flower on their hind legs. The male bees that collect the most scent attract the female bees to mate with them. In Venezuela there is a flower people collect for its large white or yellow petals. Few people ever find it, though, since it only blooms for a few days. There is a small pink and yellow flower that only grows in a very specific part of the state of Florida. It also only grows on trees and wind or birds may spread its seeds. These flowers are some of the most rare and delicate species in all of nature. They are all types of orchids.

For hundreds of years orchids have been prized discoveries of collectors and adventures hoping to find new and exotic breeds of the flower. In her book *The Orchid Thief*, author Susan Orlean tells how in the 1800s orchids became popular in Europe, which made them very valuable. Many "orchid hunters" set out to find and bring back new types of orchids to sell. However, many of the men who went looking for the mysterious orchids met with tragedy instead. Orlean relates that "dozens of hunters were killed by fever or accidents or malaria or foul play. Others became trophies for headhunters or prey for horrible creatures" Sometimes orchid hunters even were injured or killed by other people.

On one trip to find orchids in 1901, eight hunters ventured to the Philippines, which is a group of islands in the Pacific Ocean. A tiger ate one hunter, another was badly burned and five more completely disappeared. The trip's only survivor brought back 7,000 orchids. Even modern-day orchid hunters, like Tom Hart Dyke, still face incredible dangers to collect the flowers. He and his partner, Paul Winder, were held as prisoners for over nine months after they were captured on an orchid hunt in Central America.

While the plants have long been valued for their beauty, they may be even more important to science and our understanding of co-evolution. Unlike plants that can self-pollinate, orchids need very specific insects or birds to



spread their pollen. The process by which insects, the wind or birds spread the pollen of different flowers is called pollination. Pollen is a powder produced by plants that contains their genetic material. In order for the plants to reproduce, the pollen must be physically moved to the flower's stigma, which contains an egg. Now the fertilized egg can become a seed, Birds and insects can pollinate plants by touching many different flowers and spreading the pollen around.

Orchids evolved to attract insects and birds. Because there are many different species of orchid, there are also many different way the orchids attract their pollinators. Orlean explains that "many species look so much like their favorite insects that the insect mistakes them for kin (other insects) and when it lands on the flower to visit, pollen sticks to its body Another orchid imitates the shape of something that a pollinating insect likes to kill ... Other species look like the mate of their pollinator, so the bug tries to mate with one orchid and then another.... and spreads pollen from flower to flower each hopeless time."

Other orchids don't use their shape at all, but rather produce specialized scents to attract specific insects, such as bees, beetles or flies. Some orchids smell like cake, some like chocolate and some like rotting meat. All these smells may seem weird or gross, but they exist to lure creatures to their pollen and help the orchids survive. The strategies to attract insects and spread their flowers' pollen go on and on. Each family of orchids has a unique kind of insect or bird that visits their flowers, as well as its own way of attracting them. It has worked, too. According to NOVA, a science television series on PBS, "Orchid species number more than 25,000 worldwide." That is more kinds of species than any other flower on the planet and new ones are still being found.

Orchids and the insects that pollinate them are one of the most amazing examples of evolution. Though their degree of co-dependence varies, as it is apparent that at least some orchids are more reliant on their pollinators than the pollinators are on the orchids, the degree of evolutionary specialization is still very impressive. Research by Harvard scientists suggest that certain species of orchid evolved specifically to attract orchid bees, which collect a wide variety of scents from various plants in preparation for mating. In another case, an orchid mimics a female's smell and appearance and the male pollinator gets nothing out of the bargain whatsoever. By tricking the insects that collect its pollen, the orchid has survived since the time of the dinosaurs.

- 1) What is an orchid ? (10×1=10 Marks)
- A) an insect that spreads pollen
 - B) a scent from a flower that attracts insects
 - C) a hunter in the Philippines
 - D) a rare and valuable flower



- 2) What does this passage describe ?
- A) This passage describes the Europeans who collected orchids in the 1800s.
 - B) This passage describes what being a prisoner in Central America is like.
 - C) This passage describes the life of Susan Orlean.
 - D) This passage describes orchids and orchid hunting.
- 3) Read the following sentence : "Unlike plants that can self-pollinate, orchids need very specific insects or birds to spread their pollen." What evidence from the passage supports this statement ?
- A) In Venezuela there is a flower people collect for its large white or yellow petals.
 - B) There are more than 25,000 species of orchids worldwide.
 - C) Many orchids use their scent to lure insects to their pollen.
 - D) Many people who went looking for orchids met with tragedy instead.
- 4) Why might orchid hunters be willing to face dangerous challengers in order to get orchids ?
- A) Orchids are worth a lot of money.
 - B) Some orchids use their scent to attract insects.
 - C) Some orchids look like insects.
 - D) The orchid has survived since the time of the dinosaurs.
- 5) What is this passage mainly about ?
- A) The Philippines and the dangers of hunting orchids there
 - B) Orchids, orchid hunting and orchid pollination
 - C) An orchid hunt that Tom Hart Dyke and Paul Winder went on
 - D) A species of orchids that lives deep in the jungles of Colombia
- 6) Orchids have been popular for
- A) More than 100 years
 - B) More than two centuries
 - C) In the 21st century
 - D) Very recently
- 7) Orchid hunters face terrible dangers. All the statements EXCEPT one talk of it. Identify that statement.
- A) They are held as prisoners
 - B) They are killed by hunters
 - C) They are caught in hand mines
 - D) They are killed by animals
- 8) According to the passage, which is NOT the way by which orchids attract the insects ?
- A) Appearance
 - B) Shape
 - C) Scent
 - D) Honey



- 9) Read the following sentence : "Other orchids don't use their shape at all, but rather **produce** specialized scents to attract specific insects, such as bees, beetles or flies."

What does the word **produce** mean in the sentence above ?

- A) Remove
- B) Deliver
- C) Change
- D) Make

- 10) Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

Many orchids attract insects with smells, _____ cake, chocolate and rotting meat.

- A) Such as
- B) Although
- C) Meanwhile
- D) For example

- B) Choose the synonym of the underlined word from the options given :

(6×1=6 Marks)

- 1) The orchid hunters met with tragedy.

- A) adventure
- B) sad incident
- C) luck
- D) money

- 2) Orchids follow some strategies to attract insects.

- A) methods
- B) tests
- C) smell
- D) all of the above

- 3) Orchids evolve specifically to attract insects.

- A) grow
- B) develop gradually
- C) produce
- D) accumulate

- 4) The men meet incredible dangers.

- A) believable
- B) tremendous
- C) fantastic
- D) unavoidable

- 5) Orchids lure insects to their pollen

- A) attract
- B) entice
- C) imitate
- D) pull

- 6) An orchid mimics a female's smell

- A) copy
- B) replicates
- C) follows
- D) imitates

12. a) Write a letter to your friend about the Sports Activities in your college. Tell him/her about your participation.

(OR)

- b) Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper about the water crisis in your area. Suggest methods to overcome it.

13. a) Arrange **any one** of the following jumbled sentences in order.

a) Similarly, the microbiome needs environments provided by the human body in order to survive.

b) Scientists are studying how these microorganisms work in our bodies.

c) Humans need a microbiome to stay healthy.

d) Their studies have led them to produce anti-bacterial chemicals.

e) They live on our bodies and are adapted to these environmental conditions.

f) Then over the past six million years, humans and microbes have coevolved to form complex relationships.

g) Microbes first appeared over 3.5 billion years ago, making them the oldest form of life on earth.

h) They are also learning about the balance among different bacterial communities.

(OR)

- b) a) Prior to the 19th century, artists were most often commissioned to make artwork by wealthy patrons or institutions like the church.
- b) As a result new forms of transportation, including the railroad, the steam engine and the subway changed the way people lived, worked and traveled.
- c) But during the 19th century, many artists started to make art about people, places or ideas that interested them and of which they had direct experience.
- d) It was a period in which rapid changes in manufacturing, transportation and technology were made.
- e) These changes profoundly affected the social, economic and cultural conditions of life in Western Europe, North America and eventually the world.
- f) Even in art, the changes were felt as new ideas came into effect.
- g) Much of this art depicted religious or mythological scenes that told stories and were intended to instruct the viewer.
- h) The birth of modernism and modern art can be traced back to the Industrial Revolution, a period that lasted from the 18th to the 19th century.

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14. Complete any one of the following dialogues adding eight exchanges :

- a) Complete the Telephone conversation between Kumar and a travel agent.
Kumar wants to book a hotel room at Delhi for two days.

Kumar : Hello, I'm Kumar from Chennai.

Travel Agent : Hello, How can I help you Sir ?

Kumar : I'm working for TCS and I want to book a room in Delhi.

(Add eight more exchanges)

(OR)

- b) Complete the conversation between two friends A and B about a movie that they had watched recently.

A : Hi, good to see you after many days. How 're you ?

B : Fine, What a surprise !

A : _____

B : _____

(Write eight more exchanges)

15. Write an essay on any of the following topics in 250 words :

- a) Narrate any interesting experience you had recently. Develop into a narrative essay. Give a suitable title.

(OR)

- b) Write an essay comparing your life in school with that of the experiences in college. Are they similar or different ? In what way ?