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**Question Paper Code : 51283**

B.E./B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATIONS, APRIL/MAY 2024.

Second Semester

Civil Engineering

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HS 3251 — PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH – II

(Common to All Branches (Except Marine Engineering))

(Regulations 2021)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 100 marks

Answer ALL questions.

PART A — (10 × 2 = 20 marks)

1. Fill in the blanks with suitable tense forms: (4 × ½ = 2)
  - (a) They \_\_\_\_\_ (build) a new hotel in the center of the town.
  - (b) Jin and I \_\_\_\_\_ (play) basketball after school today. Do you want to play too?
  - (c) It \_\_\_\_\_ (is) raining since morning.
  - (d) She \_\_\_\_\_ (complete) her assignment last week itself.
2. Choose the correct prepositional phrase and fill in the blanks: (4 × ½ = 2)
  - (a) \_\_\_\_\_ my fellow employees, I would like to thank management for all they have done to improve our situation. (In behalf of / To behalf of / On behalf of / From behalf of)
  - (b) You will have to remember that, \_\_\_\_\_ John, no one wants to work on this problem. (apart to / apart from / apart / apart of)
  - (c) My friend didn't allow her illness to discourage her \_\_\_\_\_ she began to work twice as hard. (By the contrary / On the contrary / In the contrary)
  - (d) \_\_\_\_\_, all of us are impressed with the new student's dance performance. (By general / On general / In general)

3. Change the Voice in the following sentences and rewrite them (2 × 1 = 2)
- (a) Many times people do not appreciate our efforts.
  - (b) They will complete the project by Tuesday.
4. Fill each space with either the gerund or the infinitive form of the verb that is given in brackets: (4 × ½ = 2)
- (a) I advised David \_\_\_\_\_(go) to the doctor.
  - (b) Jennifer practiced \_\_\_\_\_ (pronounce) the word until she sounded just like a native speaker.
  - (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (walk) is a good exercise.
  - (d) My father avoids \_\_\_\_\_ (use) fertilizers on the vegetables he grows.
5. Complete the conditional sentences: (2 × 1 = 2)
- (a) If I were you, \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) If I came to London, \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Expand the following compound nouns appropriately: (4 × ½ = 2)
- (a) Satellite Communication
  - (b) Software engineer.
  - (c) Placement officer.
  - (d) Space travel.
7. Fill in the blanks with appropriate conjunctions to complete the sentences: (4 × ½ = 2)
- (a) I like reading books, \_\_\_\_\_ my sister likes playing video games.
  - (b) \_\_\_\_\_ Ryan \_\_\_\_\_ Susan have disappointed me. They did not come for my birthday party.
  - (c) I wanted to go to the rock concert \_\_\_\_\_ all the tickets were already sold.
8. Rewrite the following sentences into indirect speech: (2 × 1 = 2)
- (a) He said, "I did this exercise last night."
  - (b) The inspector said, "I am glad to be with you today."

9. Choose the correct meaning for the idiomatic expressions that are underlined in each sentence: (4 × ½ = 2)

(a) As a newspaper reporter she always wanted to get information at first hand.

- (i) quickly
- (ii) easily
- (iii) slowly
- (iv) directly

(b) He is the man who owns all the land and is the big fish around here.

- (i) the fat man
- (ii) the important man
- (iii) the huge man
- (iv) the enormous man

(c) My friend was on cloud nine when she heard she got first rank.

- (i) Being very happy
- (ii) Being very nervous
- (iii) Being doubtful
- (iv) Being scared

(d) I could not go to conference as I was feeling a bit under the weather.

- (i) Very cloudy
- (ii) Dark and cold
- (iii) Feeling ill
- (iv) Feeling stressful

10. Rewrite the following in the correct form of numerical adjective. (4 × ½ = 2)

- (a) A journey of 50 miles.
- (b) An expedition lasting for 5 days.
- (c) A storage tank with the capacity of 25 litres
- (d) Copper wire of six metres length

## PART B — (5 × 16 = 80 marks)

11. Read the following passages carefully and answer the questions given at the end of it : (16)

## MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Many people would like to learn how to play a musical instrument, but they are put off by one big problem: what to play? Here are a few questions to help you decide. Many instruments are versatile, but some are more suited to certain types of music. Although there is some classical repertoire for the saxophone, for example, people associate it more with jazz, and it is not a permanent feature of many orchestras. Some instruments may lend themselves better than others to the music you like, so consider this before you start. Think about your long-term future as a musician. If you want to play with other people, what sort of instrument would be most practical? The initial attraction of playing a dazzling solo instrument like trumpet, violin, flute and lead guitar might fade when you realise how many other people are competing with you to get the main part with the same instrument! If you want to play rock music, there will always be a demand for bass players or drummers, and if you fancy being part of an orchestra, the bassoon is a great bet to make sure you are always needed.

Many people live in flats and practising the drums, for example, will drive your neighbours crazy. Think about where and when you are going to practise, as well as the patience of the people you live with or near. Electric versions of instruments like the piano, drums, guitar and even violin give you the option of playing into the night using headphones, while your housemates sleep in peace. Alternatively, you may need to consider going to a school or a community centre to practise. This is quite a big factor. A lot of instruments can be purchased in different price ranges, for example, guitars. But this doesn't alter the fact that many, such as the piano, are always pretty expensive. If you can't afford your chosen instrument, will you be able to borrow someone else's or hire one?

If you're small and don't like lifting heavy objects, you won't want to carry around a double bass. Apart from that, use your common sense, and don't let your perceived physical shortcomings put you off. Who says small skinny people can't play the tuba? It's true that some wind instruments require a lot of lung power but with the right coaching, everyone can develop the right technique. Talk to people you know who already play instruments. They might even let you try theirs. It's also a good idea to find an experienced music teacher, preferably one who plays a few different instruments, who can give you some advice and push you in the right direction.

If you find an instrument you love and that suits your needs, you'll find the time spent choosing was well worth it. Good luck with making your choice!

- (a) Choose the best option to complete these sentences. (8 × 1 = 8)
- (i) Many people think about learning a musical instrument but don't because
- (1) they haven't got enough time to practice
  - (2) they don't know which instrument to choose
  - (3) they can't afford a musical instrument
  - (4) they think it will be too difficult
- (ii) If you play the saxophone,...
- (1) you can't play classical music
  - (2) there might be fewer opportunities to play classical music
  - (3) you can easily play in an orchestra
  - (4) you should only play jazz
- (iii) Playing a popular solo instrument
- (1) is the best way to get into a band
  - (2) is only for people who are really confident
  - (3) means you will always perform on your own
  - (4) can be a drawback if you want to play with others
- (iv) Electric instruments
- (1) are too noisy if you live too close to other people
  - (2) can't be played at night
  - (3) are best for public performances
  - (4) are a good idea to avoid disturbing other people
- (v) Guitars
- (1) are normally relatively cheap
  - (2) are only for buyers with big budgets
  - (3) start quite cheap and go up to very expensive
  - (4) are worth paying more money for
- (vi) Before choosing an instrument you should
- (1) consider the size and weight of the instrument
  - (2) avoid wind instruments if you are small and slim
  - (3) reflect on your physical limitations
  - (4) make sure you have the correct technique

- (vii) An experienced music teacher can \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) tell you if you have the ability to learn a particular instrument
  - (2) lend you their instruments to try
  - (3) give you valuable guidance
  - (4) demonstrate the different instruments for you
- (viii) The best summary of the authors attitude is
- (1) don't worry, just go for it!
  - (2) playing an instrument is not for everyone
  - (3) you can always change your mind
  - (4) considering your choice of instrument will pay off in the future

- (b) Complete the gaps with phrases from the box. (8 × 1 = 8)

can't afford	a good bet	the right coaching	lends itself to
dazzling	physical shortcomings	put off by	drive

- (i) Many people are \_\_\_\_\_not knowing which instrument to learn.
- (ii) The saxophone \_\_\_\_\_ jazz.
- (iii) The initial attraction of playing a \_\_\_\_\_solo instrument might fade when you realize how many other people play it as well.
- (iv) Playing the drums is \_\_\_\_\_if you want to play in a band.
- (v) Practicing a loud instrument late at night will \_\_\_\_\_ your neighbors crazy.
- (vi) You can borrow or hire an instrument if you \_\_\_\_\_ one.
- (vii) Even small, slim people can play the tuba, so don't let your perceived \_\_\_\_\_ put you off.
- (viii) Everyone can develop the right technique with \_\_\_\_\_

12. (a) Assume that you are the Sales Manager of Prem Electronics, 14 Sastri Street. Tirunelveli. You have received a letter of complaint from a customer about the defect in the TV that was purchased from your shop. Respond to the complaint letter by inventing necessary details. (16)

Or

- (b) Write an email to M/s. Oxford Publishing house, Consumer Complaint Division, London, complaining the receipt of wrong set of books, invent necessary details. (16)

13. (a) Write a check list containing at least eight items to avert fire accidents in public functions. (16)

Or

- (b) Write a list of eight recommendations to save electricity in your college. (16)

14. (a) Write an essay on "The importance of communication skills to be a successful professional" in about 200 words. (16)

Or

- (b) Write an essay on "Impact of social media on youngsters and its consequences" in about 200 words. (16)

15. (a) Write a job application letter to Birla Cements, Anna Salai, Chennai, enclosing a Resume for the vacancy of Junior Engineer. The candidate must be a graduate in Civil Engineering with good leadership qualities. (16)

Or

- (b) Write a letter to the Managing Director of Engineering Solutions, Bangalore 41 requesting an opportunity for Internship in your final year. Enclose your resume with your job application letter. (16)

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