

Reg. No. :

**Question Paper Code : 21478**

B.E./B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATION, MAY/JUNE 2013.

First Semester

Civil Engineering

HS 2111/HS 11/080020001 — TECHNICAL ENGLISH — I

(Common to all branches)

(Regulation 2008)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 100 marks

Answer ALL questions.

PART A — (10 × 2 = 20 marks)

1. Fill in with appropriate suffixes or prefixes according to the meaning given : (4 ×  $\frac{1}{2}$  = 2)
  - (a) Flaw \_\_\_\_\_ : immaculate
  - (b) Micro \_\_\_\_\_ : integrated computer circuit
  - (c) \_\_\_\_\_ tension : abnormal blood pressure
  - (d) \_\_\_\_\_ national : above national limits
  
2. Match the words in column A with column B : (4 ×  $\frac{1}{2}$  = 2)

A	B
(a) Innovative	(i) objective
(b) Stagnant	(ii) unfit to eat
(c) Inedible	(iii) not moving
(d) Target	(iv) having the quality of introducing new things
  
3. Define the following terms : (2 × 1 = 2)
  - (a) Transformer
  - (b) Rheostat
  
4. Change the following sentences into passive form : (2 × 1 = 2)
  - (a) Scientists have discovered traces of ice on the surface of mars.
  - (b) Sometimes people do not appreciate our efforts.

5. Check whether the following sentences have subject verb agreement and rewrite them correctly : (2 × 1 = 2)  
 (a) Society are knit together by some commonly held beliefs.  
 (b) Each of the girls have won a prize.
6. Expand the following compound nouns : (4 ×  $\frac{1}{2}$  = 2)  
 (a) friction losses  
 (b) butt weld  
 (c) steel bar  
 (d) power cable
7. Rewrite the following sentences using a gerund : (2 × 1 = 2)  
 (a) To work in these conditions is a pleasure.  
 (b) It is easier to read French than to speak it.
8. Complete the following conditional sentences : (2 × 1 = 2)  
 (a) If I were you \_\_\_\_\_  
 (b) If I would not have gone there \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Fill in the blanks with appropriate derivative : (4 ×  $\frac{1}{2}$  = 2)
- |            |         |             |              |
|------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Noun       | Verb    | Adjective   | Adverb       |
| Diminished | _____   | Diminishing | _____        |
| _____      | Reflect | _____       | reflectivity |
10. Fill in the blanks using appropriate cause and effect expressions : (2 × 1 = 2)  
 (a) Coal based thermal plant emits sulphurous gases \_\_\_\_\_ acid rain.  
 (b) The people of Kochi petitioned the Government \_\_\_\_\_ the elephant killed four people.

## PART B — (5 × 16 = 80 marks)

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

Some people always look at the negative side. Who is a pessimist? Pessimists are unhappy, when they have no troubles to speak of, feel bad when they feel good, for fear they will feel worse when they feel better. They spend most of their life at complaint counters, always turn out the lights to see how dark it is and are always looking for cracks in the mirror of life. They stop sleeping in bed, when they hear that more people die in bed than anywhere else, cannot enjoy their health because they think they may be sick tomorrow, not only expect the worst but make the worst of whatever happens and don't see the doughnut, only the hole. Pessimists believe that the sun shines only to cast shadows, forget their blessings, count their troubles and know that hard work never hurts anyone but believe "why take a chance?"

Be an optimist. How can one be an optimist? It is well described by the following :

Be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind. Look at the sunny side of everything. Think only of the best, work only for the best, and expect only the best. Spend so much time improving yourself that you have no time left to criticize others. Be too big for worry and too noble for anger.

- (i) Answer the following questions : (6 × 1 = 6)
- (1) Who is a pessimist?
  - (2) Who is an optimist?
  - (3) State the necessity of being an optimist.
  - (4) What an optimist should do?
  - (5) What is the central idea of the passage?
  - (6) Who do not have time to criticize others and who expects the worst?
- (ii) Fill in the blanks : (4 × 1 = 4)
- (1) Pessimists forget their \_\_\_\_\_ and count their \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (2) One must be \_\_\_\_\_ so that nothing \_\_\_\_\_ them.
- (iii) Say true or false : (3 × 1 = 3)
- (1) Optimists always spend most of their life at complaint counters.
  - (2) To lead a happy life one has to be too big for worry and too noble for anger.
  - (3) Sun shines only to cast shadows.
- (iv) Give the Contextual meanings of the following words : (3 × 1 = 3)
- (1) cracks
  - (2) doughnut
  - (3) criticise

Or

- (b) Describe the appearance, utility and function of a 'Video Camera'. (16)
12. (a) Read the following paragraph and draw a bar chart : (16)

It is possible that if safe, convenient and attractive bicycle track were available then some users of cars, buses, three and two wheelers who make trips of less than 5 km would shift to bicycles. The percentages of trips for less than 5 km in Delhi have been calculated. 30% of bus trips, 30% of car trips, 44% of scooter/motor cycle trips and 60% of all three wheeler trips are less than 5 km. This means that more than two million trips have some potential to be converted to bicycling.

Or

- (b) Make a flowchart from the following paragraph :

Paddy husk or rice husk is derived from paddy grains by thrashing them. This rice husk, generally considered to be a waste product and also to be difficult to dispose of can be put to commercial use to produce a type of cement known as rice husk cement. To obtain this commercial product, lime sludge, which is the waste lime obtained from sugar and other industries is used along with rice husk. The process of producing rice husk cement from rice husk and lime sludge involves various steps. At first, rice husk and lime sludge in equal weights are mixed thoroughly in order to produce cakes. Thereafter, the cakes so prepared are initially dried in sunlight and then burnt in the open until they leave a residue. This process subsequently leaves a residue in the form of ash that is collected. Finally, the ash residue in crude form is ground to a fine powder, which is nothing but the rice husk cement.

13. (a) Rearrange the following jumbled sentences.
- (i) If the latter are reluctant, start with the former.
  - (ii) Mix the quick ones with the slow ones.
  - (iii) Call for reports after few minutes of discussion.
  - (iv) The quick learners, spread over the class, can guide this discussion.
  - (v) Then gradually move to the latter, drawing them out of their shells.
  - (vi) The discussion can be in pairs or in groups.
  - (vii) The discussion provides a meaningful context to use English to communicate Orally.
  - (viii) Please encourage discussion among your learners especially the weak ones.

Or

- (b) Write any eight instructions to conserve electricity. (16)
14. (a) Imagine that you are the secretary of computer association in your college. Write a letter to Mr. Agarwal, General Manager, Satyam Softwares, Anna Salai, Chennai-25 inviting him to inaugurate a two day seminar on 'Current trends in IT industry'.

Or

- (b) Write a letter to the editor of 'THE HINDU' about the frequent thefts in your locality due to powercuts. (16)
15. (a) Compare and contrast 'Laptop Computer' and 'Personal Computer'. (16)

Or

- (b) Fill in the blanks choosing the right word from the given words : (16)
- Germany's offer to Indian students :

Invitation	discussion	exchanges	extended	expenses	assistance
Learning	destinations	immigration	spectrum	throughout	
fellowships	organize	attended	foreign	help	

DAAD, the German agency for promoting academic \_\_\_\_\_ (i) between Germany and other countries, today sought to \_\_\_\_\_ (ii) the visit of the German Chancellor, Mr. Gerhard Schroeder, to invite Indian students and scientists to Germany for higher \_\_\_\_\_ (iii).

At a panel \_\_\_\_\_ (iv) organized by the agency and \_\_\_\_\_ (v) by a large number of students drawn from the IITs and other universities, Mr. Schroeder himself \_\_\_\_\_ (vi) an open \_\_\_\_\_ (vii) to Indian students to choose Germany from various foreign \_\_\_\_\_ (viii) for pursuing higher studies.

The chancellor, who was present \_\_\_\_\_ (ix) the hour-long \_\_\_\_\_ (x) particularly pointed out that Germany had some of the best institutions in the world, which offered courses covering a vast \_\_\_\_\_ (xi) of subjects and observed that \_\_\_\_\_ (xii) laws of the country were being relaxed to enable \_\_\_\_\_ (xiii) students to work there at the end their period of study. He also noted that there were several institutions in Germany which offered scholarships and \_\_\_\_\_ (xiv) and other \_\_\_\_\_ (xv) to foreign students to meet their \_\_\_\_\_ (xvi).