

Reg. No. :

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U.G. (CBCS) DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2025.

Third Semester

English

Non Major Elective — ENGLISH FOR COMPETITIVE
EXAMINATIONS

(For those who joined in July 2021 & 2022 only)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 75 marks

PART A — (10 × 1 = 10 marks)

Answer ALL questions.

Choose the correct answer :

1. Find the One Word Substitution for the given sentence: **One who loves mankind**
 - (a) Philanthropist
 - (b) Misanthropist
 - (c) Mercenary
 - (d) Neurotic

2. What does the idiom 'the lion's share' mean?
(a) the minor portion
(b) the major portion
(c) official formalities
(d) share of the boss
3. Choose the synonym for the word given in bold:
He is **notorious** for his dishonesty.
(a) dreaded (b) loathed
(c) investigated (d) infamous
4. Choose the antonym for the word given in bold:
Microscope is used to **magnify** things.
(a) disperse (b) argument
(c) minimize (d) dilate
5. Give meaning for the given word: **Futile**
(a) unpleasant (b) encouraging
(c) helpful (d) useless
6. Give opposite for the given word: **Condemn**
(a) give up (b) hate
(c) like (d) approve

7. Find the suitable word to complete the sentence:
I prefer seeing the film _____ reading.
(a) than (b) to
(c) over (d) as
8. Find the part of the sentence that has an error in the following sentence:
She insists (A) / you sta (B) / until her brother (C) / comes home. (D)
(a) A (b) B
(c) C (d) D
9. Choose the synonym for the word given: **Dodge**
(a) avoid (b) thwart
(c) frustrate (d) confuse
10. Choose the synonym for the word given: **Wrath**
(a) Jealousy (b) Hatred
(c) Anger (d) Violence

PART B — (5 × 5 = 25 marks)

Answer ALL questions, choosing either (a) or (b).

11. (a) Choose the best meaning of the phrases in Bold:
- (i) The boy **turned a deaf ear** to the pleadings of his well-wishers.
- (1) Listened carefully
 - (2) Was deadly opposed
 - (3) Posed indifference
 - (4) Did not pay attention
- (ii) This place affords a **bird's eye view** of the green valley below.
- (1) beautiful view
 - (2) general view
 - (3) narrow view
 - (4) ugly view

- (iii) I am ambitious and never want to **rest on my laurels**.
- (1) be dissatisfied
 - (2) be satisfied
 - (3) be complement
 - (4) be good
- (iv) He is at **loggerheads** with his assistants about the management of the concern
- (1) differing strongly
 - (2) in agreement
 - (3) in confusion
 - (4) undecided
- (v) French restaurants are known for their excellent **cuisine**
- (1) Style of cooking
 - (2) Style of roasting
 - (3) Cushion
 - (4) Boys

Or

(b) Choose the correct One Word suitable for the given sentences:

(i) A person who does not believe in the existence of God

- (1) hypocrite
- (2) scoundrel
- (3) atheist
- (4) non-spiritual

(ii) A person who always looks at the darker side of things

- (1) cynic
- (2) pessimist
- (3) optimist
- (4) crook

(iii) A person who looks at the brighter side of life

- (1) spiritual
- (2) pessimist
- (3) optimist
- (4) crook

(iv) A person who abstains from taking alcoholic drinks

- (1) Vegetarian
- (2) Teetotaler
- (3) Spiritual
- (4) Hypocrite

(v) One who always runs away from danger

- (1) timid
- (2) coward
- (3) weak
- (4) escapist

12. (a) Choose the synonym for the word given in bold:

(i) **Adversity** is the real test of friendship.

- (1) Misfortune
- (2) Happiness
- (3) Fear
- (4) Relief

(ii) Mahatma Gandhi is **revered** by the whole country.

- (1) detested
- (2) hated
- (3) respected
- (4) trusted

(iii) The sick child spoke in a **feeble** voice.

- (1) humble
- (2) noisy
- (3) weak
- (4) irksome

(iv) She is **reluctant** to get married.

- (1) interested
- (2) hesitant
- (3) careless
- (4) indifferent

(v) He earns enough to satisfy his **wants**.

- (1) desires
- (2) aims
- (3) pleasures
- (4) needs

Or

(b) Choose the antonym for the word given in bold:

(i) He is a very **timid** person.

- (1) dashing
- (2) outgoing
- (3) bold
- (4) chivalrous

(ii) Many people try to **resist** reforms in the society.

- (1) repel
- (2) welcome
- (3) accept
- (4) fight

(iii) It used to be said that travel **broadens** one's outlook.

- (1) restricts
- (2) shrinks
- (3) contracts
- (4) narrows

(iv) He **urges** to learn everything.

- (1) desires
- (2) denies
- (3) dislikes
- (4) recommends

(v) They **abandoned** their relatives.

- (1) supported
- (2) saved
- (3) pleased
- (4) encouraged.

13. (a) Give Synonym for the following words:

(i) Cease

- (1) Begin
- (2) Stop
- (3) Create
- (4) Dull

(ii) Synopsis

- (1) Discussion
- (2) Report
- (3) Preview
- (4) Summary

(iii) Fragile

- (1) Strong
- (2) Grave
- (3) Weak
- (4) Showy

- (iv) Cache
- (1) Lock
 - (2) Tie
 - (3) Hiding place
 - (4) Automobile

- (v) Eager
- (1) Clever
 - (2) Enthusiastic
 - (3) Devoted
 - (4) Curious.

Or

(b) Give Antonym for the following words:

- (i) Comic
- (1) Painful
 - (2) Fearful
 - (3) Tragic
 - (4) Emotional

- (ii) Retain
- (1) Reject
 - (2) Renounce
 - (3) Spare
 - (4) Eject

- (iii) Terrible
- (1) Hothble
 - (2) Awesome
 - (3) Delightful
 - (4) Hideous

- (iv) Loyal
- (1) Rebellious
 - (2) Courageous
 - (3) Faithful
 - (4) Friendly

- (v) Evacuate
- (1) Admit
 - (2) Emerge
 - (3) Abandon
 - (4) Invade

14. (a) Pick out the most effective word from the given words to fill in the blanks and make a meaningful sentences.

(i) The two brothers look so _____ that it is difficult differentiation them

- (1) same
- (2) similar
- (3) identical
- (4) alike

(ii) My friend has good _____ over English and Hindi

- (1) authority
- (2) command
- (3) expertise
- (4) hold

(iii) Every week, in the office, one hour is _____ to games and sports

- (1) conferred
- (2) dedicated
- (3) conceded
- (4) devoted

(iv) His interest in the study of Forensic pathology is indeed very _____

- (1) strong
- (2) large
- (3) deep
- (4) vast

(v) The bus met with an accident and was _____ the traffic, so he had a hard time driving through the downtown

- (1) obstructing
- (2) obviating
- (3) hiding
- (4) disturbing

Or

(b) Read the following sentences and identify and correct the errors.

(i) Many peoples attended the funeral of the great man.

(ii) The shepherd took the cattles to the field.

- (iii) Sita could not understand what the teacher was saying.
- (iv) Do you know the importance for clean water?
- (v) Laugh is the best medicine.

15. (a) Read the following passage and answer the questions given below:

Napoleon studied in the army school in a school French town. There was a fruit shop near the school. A poor old lady was the owner of the shop. Napoleon used to buy fruits from her. One day he bought apples and promised to pay when he would become an officer in the army. Many years later Napoleon became the Emperor. He visited the old lady of the fruit shop and paid his debt. The old lady looked at his face and her joy knew no bounds.

Choose the correct answer :

- (i) There was _____ near the school
 - (1) a wine shop
 - (2) a fruit shop
 - (3) a hotel
 - (4) a temple

- (ii) Who was the owner of the shop?
 - (1) Napoleon
 - (2) a young man
 - (3) an old lady
 - (4) Napoleon's father

- (iii) One day Napoleon bought _____
 - (1) apples
 - (2) oranges
 - (3) grapes
 - (4) mangoes

- (iv) Napoleon promised to pay when he would become _____
 - (1) rich
 - (2) the emperor
 - (3) an officer in the army
 - (4) the teacher

- (v) Napoleon became _____
 - (1) the Emperor
 - (2) very rich
 - (3) very poor
 - (4) policeman

Or

- (b) Read the following passage and answer the questions given below:

Newspapers are the cheapest medium of information today. They are easily available to everyday. Newspapers are an important means of educating people. Those who read newspapers become well — informed about current affairs. The editorial page discusses important questions and problems of national and international importance. Letters to the editors give us the views of the readers on various subjects. The sports page gives interesting information about games and sports. Newspapers also contain advertisements. These advertisements are very useful for businessmen and those who are in search of jobs. The matrimonial column helps people in finding the right kind of husband or wife. Thus newspapers are useful for almost everyone.

Choose the Correct Answer

- (i) _____ is the cheapest medium of information today.

- (1) Television
- (2) Internet
- (3) Newspaper
- (4) Bulletin Hoard

- (ii) Newspapers are an important means of _____

- (1) Educating people
- (2) Communication
- (3) Transportation
- (4) Exploration

- (iii) 'Letters to editors' contain _____

- (1) problems of national importance
- (2) entertainment
- (3) views of the readers of various subjects
- (4) problems of international problems

- (iv) Advertisements are helpful to _____

- (1) Electricians
- (2) Tailor
- (3) Trader
- (4) Businessmen

- (v) The passage is about _____
- (1) Various selection in newspaper
 - (2) Reading newspaper
 - (3) The way newspaper is helpful to the people
 - (4) Advantages and disadvantages of reading newspaper.

PART C — (5 × 8 = 40 marks)

Answer ALL questions, choosing either (a) or (b).

16. (a) Choose the correct One word Substitute for the given sentences:
- (i) A person who renounces the world and practices self-discipline in order to attain salvation:
 - (1) Skeptic
 - (2) Ascetic
 - (3) Devotee
 - (4) Antiquarian

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- (ii) One who abandons his religious faith:
 - (1) Apostate
 - (2) Prostate
 - (3) Profane
 - (4) Agnostic
- (iii) A hater of knowledge and learning:
 - (1) Bibliophile
 - (2) Philologist
 - (3) Misogynist
 - (4) Misologist
- (iv) Commencement of words with the same letter:
 - (1) Fun
 - (2) Alliteration
 - (3) Transferred Epithet
 - (4) Oxymoron

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(v) Person who does not believe in the existence of God:

- (1) Theist
- (2) Heretic
- (3) Atheist
- (4) Fantic

(vi) A lady's umbrella is:

- (1) Parasol
- (2) Granary
- (3) Epitaph
- (4) Aviary

(vii) Story of old time gods of hereos is:

- (1) Lyric
- (2) Epic
- (3) Legend
- (4) Romance

(viii) One who believes in the power of fate:

- (1) Fatalist
- (2) Optimist
- (3) Pessimist
- (4) Parsimonious

Or

(b) Choose the best meaning of the phrases in BOLD:

(i) The new economic policy is likely to **run into rough weather**.

- (1) make things difficult
- (2) Confuse matters
- (3) Encounter difficulties
- (4) Create problems

(ii) The representatives of the two states tried to enforce a treaty which was a **dead letter**.

- (1) Not well-thought out
- (2) No longer in force
- (3) No longer relevant
- (4) Not in keeping with the changing times.

(iii) Alice is very good at quant. but when she was watching a teacher's video she was **taking it with grain of salt.**

- (1) She was enjoying with full attention.
- (2) To listen to something with considerable doubt
- (3) She was listening with full attention.
- (4) She was not listening with full attention.

(iv) With the existing management the future of the company is in **doldrums.**

- (1) Dull
- (2) Bright
- (3) Uncertain
- (4) Secure

(v) After reading the story time and again we are finally **reading between the lines.**

- (1) Reading to entertain others
- (2) Understanding the hidden meaning
- (3) Reading only to show someone else about your style of reading
- (4) Reading to clear the exam

(vi) Though he has a lot of money, yet all his plans are **built upon sand.**

- (1) Based on inexperience
- (2) Resting on immature ideas
- (3) Resting on cheap material
- (4) Established on insecure foundations.

(vii) The meeting ended in **fiasco**.

- (1) Succeeded
- (2) In confusion
- (3) In complete failure
- (4) In acrimonious debate

(viii) Her fame **spread far and wide** because

she was a talented singer.

- (1) Her fame grew
- (2) Her fame lessened
- (3) Her fame ended
- (4) Her fame began

17. (a) Choose the correct Synonym for the given word:

(i) Affable

- (1) Helpful
- (2) Neutral
- (3) Friendly
- (4) Cheerful

(ii) Berserk

- (1) Clever
- (2) Morose
- (3) Cheerful
- (4) Wild

(iii) Conciseness

- (1) Correctness
- (2) Frankness
- (3) Brevity
- (4) Refinements

(iv) Delegate

- (1) Officer
- (2) Participant
- (3) Member
- (4) Representative

(v) Indolence

- (1) Leniency
- (2) Relaxation
- (3) Laziness
- (4) Stagnation

(vi) Hallowed

- (1) Holy
- (2) Reverend
- (3) Sacred
- (4) Respected

(vii) Impediment

- (1) Passage
- (2) Obstruction
- (3) Fateful
- (4) Destruction

(viii) Grandiloquent

- (1) Generous
- (2) Domineering
- (3) Pompous
- (4) Genuine

Or

(b) Choose the correct Synonym for the given word:

(i) Appease

- (1) Sympathize
- (2) Irritate
- (3) Peaceful
- (4) Apart

(ii) Benevolence

- (1) Contempt
- (2) Decision
- (3) Hatred
- (4) Malevolence

(iii) Crafty

- (1) Simple
- (2) Artless
- (3) Ingenuous
- (4) Improper

(iv) Ethereal

- (1) Earthly
- (2) Heavenly
- (3) Lifelike
- (4) Affectionate

(v) Gorgeous

- (1) Desperate
- (2) Plain
- (3) Fashionable
- (4) Sumptuous

(vi) Factitious

- (1) Ridiculous
- (2) Genuine
- (3) Engineered
- (4) Magnificent

(vii) Meticulous

- (1) Slovenly
- (2) Meretricious
- (3) Shaggy
- (4) Mutual

(viii) Juxtapositions

- (1) Unity
- (2) Opposition
- (3) Separation
- (4) Difference

18. (a) Pick out the most effective Synonym from the given words:

(i) Turbid

- (1) Provoked
- (2) Muddy
- (3) Worried
- (4) Cloudy

(ii) Rampant

- (1) Unchecked
- (2) Bored
- (3) Sharp
- (4) Wild

(iii) Auspicious

- (1) Favourable
- (2) Beautiful
- (3) Trustful
- (4) Promising

(iv) Stringent

- (1) Long drawn out
- (2) Strict
- (3) Burdensome
- (4) Rigorous

(v) Ominous

- (1) Sad
- (2) Threatening
- (3) All-inclusive
- (4) Foreboding

(vi) Indefeasible

- (1) Incapable of being carried out
- (2) Unbelievable
- (3) Incapable of being made void
- (4) Irrevocable

(vii) Lucrative

- (1) Happy
- (2) Highly profitable
- (3) Amusing
- (4) Rewarding

(viii) Furtive

- (1) Intense
- (2) Absurd
- (3) Stealthy
- (4) Secretive

Or

(b) Pick out the most effective Antonym from the given words:

(i) Zestful

- (1) Exciting
- (2) Delightful
- (3) Enjoyable
- (4) Unexciting

(ii) Uproar

- (1) Tranquility
- (2) Commotion
- (3) Clamour
- (4) Turmoil

(iii) Temerity

- (1) Foolhardiness
- (2) Prudence
- (3) Audacity
- (4) indiscretion

(iv) Prevail

- (1) Flop
- (2) Overcome
- (3) Dominate
- (4) Succeed

(v) Pernicious

- (1) Destructive
- (2) Detrimental
- (3) Benign
- (4) Noxious

(vi) Miserable

- (1) Heartsick
- (2) Comfortable
- (3) Despondent
- (4) Wretched

(vii) Acme

- (1) Pinnacle
- (2) Nadir
- (3) Crest
- (4) Apogee

(viii) Blasphemy

- (1) Reverence
- (2) Profanity
- (3) Sacrilege
- (4) Irreverence

19. (a) Pick out the most effective word from the given words to fill in the blanks the sentence meaningfully complete:

- (i) George Barnard Shaw said that the contemporary social values could be flipped and _____ at some times.
- (1) Important
 - (2) Profound
 - (3) Inane
 - (4) Riverting
 - (5) Absurd

(ii) The strike will not end because both the management and the workers are _____

- (1) Insipid
- (2) Intransigent
- (3) Intricate
- (4) Inexplicable
- (5) Saddened

(iii) Book lovers who think of *Gone With the Wind* as Southern romance miss its underlying _____ importance.

- (1) Democratic
- (2) Novelistic
- (3) Thematic
- (4) Exceptional
- (5) Argumentative

(iv) The law cannot and should not pardon such _____ act of violence.

- (1) A flagrant
- (2) A lavish
- (3) A cautious
- (4) A dull
- (5) Condemn

(v) There are too many _____ and not enough serious students.

- (1) Dilettantes
- (2) Hunky dory
- (3) Lay-men
- (4) Novices
- (5) Nascent

(vi) The reviews of his latest literary work were enjoyed by many of his readers, but the subjects dreaded his comments; he was scathing, bitter, irritating and never _____

- (1) Logical
- (2) Constructive
- (3) Uncharitable
- (4) Controversial
- (5) Acidic

(vii) In poor and under developed countries, trucks are the only means of getting about town, the public transportation being virtually _____

- (1) Indecipherable
- (2) Ubiquitous
- (3) Inadequate
- (4) Nonexistent
- (5) Negligent

(viii) Given the _____ state of published evidence, we cannot conclude here that exposure to low-level microwave energy is either hazardous or safe.

- (1) Inconclusive
- (2) Indulging
- (3) Descriptive
- (4) Immaculate
- (5) Descriptive

Or

(b) Spot out the errors in the following sentences:

- (i) We congratulated him for his success.
- (ii) Please attend your lesson.
- (iii) I have no pencil to write.
- (iv) His right arm has been operated.
- (v) You will have to regret for the delay.
- (vi) Rajesh married with Babita.
- (vii) I am not accustomed with this type of work.
- (viii) This glass is full with water.

20. (a) Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow:

Jerusalem

And did those fact in ancient time

Walk upon England's mountains green?

And was the holy Lamb of God

On England's pleasant pastures seen?

And did the Countenance Divine

Shine forth upon our clouded hills?

And was Jerusalem builded here

Among these dark Satanic mills?
Bring me my bow of burning gold;
Bring me my arrows of desire;
Bring me my spear; O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!
I will not cease from mental fight,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
Till we have built Jerusalem
In England's green and pleasant land.

-(William Blake)

Answer the following questions:

- (i) Whose feet does the poet refer to?
- (ii) What does the poet mean by 'the holy Lamb of God'?
- (iii) What does the poet mean by 'the Countenance Divine'?
- (iv) What does the poet mean by 'these dark Satanic hills'?

- (v) What will the poet do?
- (vi) What does he want?
- (vii) What picture of England do you get here?
- (viii) What is the poet's attitude to mills?

Or

- (b) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

Smoke started coming out of a block of flats. Within minutes the first two floors were burning. Then women and children ran out of their flats. There was a lot of noise. A woman started screaming. 'My baby is in the house'. She ran forward. She wanted to get into the house. But before she could do so a man caught hold of her and dragged her away. Just then the firemen came. They had brought with them their dog Hero. They had trained their dog. Weeping loudly the woman told the fireman 'My baby is in the flat'. 'Don't worry', they told her. Then they told Hero, 'Go and bring the baby'. Hero ran into the smoke-filled entrance. They heard him

barking, a few times, but could not see him. Suddenly the crowd cheered loudly. Hero was coming out of the house. He was half-carrying and half-dragging a bundle. The mother ran forward and picked up the bundle. The boy was in it. He was smiling. The mother hugged the baby and started crying. "Well done, Hero" the firemen patted Hero and said everything was alright. But Hero kept barking and wanted to enter the block of flats again. The firemen thought there might be another baby inside. So they let Hero enter the flat once more. A few minutes later Hero came running out. He was dragging another bundle. The crowd cheered and ran forward to look at the bundle. 'Look', said a woman, 'he has saved another baby'. They opened the bundle and burst out laughing. Hero had rescued a big doll!

Answer the following Questions:

- (i) Why did the people run out of the flats?
- (ii) What did the woman scream?

- (iii) Did she want to get into the house,
 - (iv) Who stopped her?
 - (v) What was the name of the dog?
 - (vi) What was in the first bundle?
 - (vii) What was in the second bundle?
 - (viii) Pick out the word from the passage which means 'save'.
-