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Code No. : 14121(A)

VASAVI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Autonomous), HYDERABAD
B.E. (CBCS) IV-Semester Main Examinations, December-2020

Skill Development Course-II –Communication Skills in English-II & Aptitude-I

(Communication Skills in English- II)


(Common to all branches)


Time: 1 hour

Max. Marks: 30

Note: Answer any **THREE** questions from **Part-A** and any **THREE** from **Part-B**

Part-A (3 × 2 = 6 Marks)


Q. No.	Stem of the question	M	L	CO	PO
1.	<p>With reference to the 6 Thinking Hats, which hat would you be wearing while making the following statements-</p> <p>1. Some of the directors say that the proposed building looks ugly and gloomy. They worry that people would find it an oppressive or uninspiring place to work.</p> <p>2. The amount of available office space in the city is dwindling, and calculating that, by the time a new office block would be completed, existing space will be in extremely short supply.</p>	2	2	1	12
2.	<p>You should stop smoking because studies show that almost 80% of smokers can develop lung cancer. Stopping a bad habit can help reduce the occurrence of its bad consequences. Life expectancy is lengthened if habits bad to one's health are stopped. Although it is not always the case that people who smoke will suffer from lung cancer, the risks are higher for those who smoke routinely.</p> <p>Identify the following from the above argument-</p> <p>1. Qualifier</p> <p>2. Warrant</p>	2	2	2	12
3.	 <p>State the key message the image is trying to convey in 2-3 sentences. (25- 30 words)</p>	2	2	3	12
4.	<p>Read the following statements and identify whether it is a Fact or Opinion.</p> <p>1. Oranges contain both vitamin C and calcium.</p> <p>2. <i>Lord of the Rings: Return of the King</i> has won eleven Oscars.</p>	2	3	4	12

5.	<p>Due to enormous profits involved in smuggling, hundreds of persons have been attracted towards this anti-national activity. Some of them became millionaires overnight. India has a vast coastline both on the Eastern and Western Coast. It has been a heaven for smugglers who have been carrying on their activities with great impunity. There is no doubt, that from time to time certain seizures were made by the enforcement authorities, during raids and ambush but even allowing these losses the smugglers made huge profits. The passage best supports the statement that-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Smuggling hampers the economic development of a nation. 2. Smuggling ought to be curbed. 3. Authorities are taking strict measures to curb smuggling. 4. Smuggling is fast increasing in our country owing to the quick profit it entails. <p>The prevention of accidents makes it necessary not only that safety devices be used to guard exposed machinery but also that mechanics be instructed in safety rules which they must follow for their own protection, and that lighting in the plant be adequate. The passage best supports the statement that industrial accidents –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. are always avoidable 2. may be due to ignorance 3. can be eliminated with the help of safety rules 4. usually result from inadequate machinery 	2 3 5 12
Part-B (3 × 8 = 24 Marks)		
6. a)	<p>Look at the image below and answer the question that follows-</p>  <p>Choose any 2 Hats from 6 Thinking Hats and write 2 statements under each hat with reference to this image.</p>	4 6 1 12
b)	<p>Use the BIKER B Model to build your arguemnets on the topic- The Startup Ecosystem is here to stay</p>	4 5 1 12
7. a)	<p>The Indian Government recently banned 175 Chinese Apps in 3 separate announcements. Give 1 argument under each of the 3 topics stating why you agree or disagree with the ban-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ethos 2. Pathos 3. Logos 	3 6 2 12

<p>b)</p>	<p>Construct an argument using the Toulmin's Model to support the following claim- The country needs to come up with a stronger set of laws to regulate the usage of narcotic substances</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>8. a)</p>	<p>Write an essay on the picture given below and give it an appropriate title. (200-250 words)</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>b)</p>	<p>You are a reporter in a leading newspaper. You are asked to write a report about the plight of street side vendors over the last 8-9 months. (120- 150 words) Remember to give a title to your newspaper report.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>9. a)</p>	<p>Read the passage and infer answers to the questions that follow-</p> <p>Work expands so as to fill the time available for its completion. The general recognition of this fact is shown in the proverbial phrase, 'It is the busiest man who has time to spare'. Thus, an elderly lady at leisure can spend the entire day writing a postcard to her niece. An hour will be spent in writing a postcard, another hunting for spectacles, half an hour to search for the address, an hour and a quarter in composition and twenty minutes in deciding whether or not to take an umbrella when going to the pillar box in the street. The total effort that could occupy a busy man for three minutes, all told may in this fashion leave another person completely exhausted after a day of doubt, anxiety, and toil.</p> <p>1. What happens when the time to be spent on some work increases? a) The work is done smoothly. b) The work is done leisurely. c) Work consumes all the time. d) The work needs additional time.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>12</p>

<p>b)</p>	<p>2. Explain the sentence: work expands so as to fill the time available for its completion’.</p> <p>a) The more work there is to be done, the more time needed.</p> <p>b) Whatever time is available for a given amount of work, all of it will be used.</p> <p>c) If you have more time you can do some work?</p> <p>d) If you have some important work to do, you should always have some additional time.</p> <p>3. Who is the person likely to take more time to do work?</p> <p>a) A busy man.</p> <p>b) A man of leisure.</p> <p>c) An elderly person.</p> <p>d) An exhausted person.</p> <p>4. What is the total time spent by the elderly lady in writing a postcard?</p> <p>a) Three minutes.</p> <p>b) four hours and five minutes.</p> <p>c) half day</p> <p>d) The entire day.</p> <p>Marco got a letter from his Uncle Ben, the airplane pilot. Uncle Ben has traveled all over the world.</p> <p>Dear Marco,</p> <p>This is my third time visiting Paris, and I think it is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Paris, as I’m sure you know, is the capital of France. Today I walked along the Avenue des Champs-Elysees, which is the most famous street in Paris. I think it may be the most famous street in the world. It is lined with beautiful trees, fountains, and flowers. There are shops, theaters, and restaurants, and many sidewalk cafes. I had a wonderful lunch at one of the sidewalk cafes. The pastry I had for dessert was especially delicious. Paris is known for its fine French cooking. I noticed on the café menu that they serve one of the most popular French dishes, which is escargot. Snails, in other words! I don’t think I’ll be trying that while I am here, though. When you think of Paris, you probably think of the Eiffel Tower. Anyone visiting Paris has to see the Eiffel Tower. You can see the top of the Eiffel Tower from anywhere in the city. It is almost 1000 feet tall. When it was built, it was the tallest building in the world. You can walk up the stairs to the top, or you can take an elevator. From the top you can look out across all of Paris. It is an amazing sight! Tomorrow I am going to the Louvre Museum. It is one of the largest museums in the world. Once it was the French King’s palace. Now, it is home to some of the most famous artworks in the world. I look forward to seeing the “Mona Lisa” painting. Have you seen pictures of it? It was painted over 500 years ago! There have been many poems and songs written about this painting. The woman in the painting has a little half-smile. To me, that makes it seem like she has a secret that she isn’t going to tell.</p> <p>Yours truly, Uncle Ben.</p> <p>Identify 2 statements that showcase facts and 2 that showcase opinion.</p>	<p>4 5 4 12</p>
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<p>10. a)</p>	<p>One of our most difficult problems is what we call discipline and it is really very complex. You see, society feels that it must control or discipline the citizen, shape his mind according to certain religious, social, moral and economic patterns.</p> <p>Now, is discipline necessary at all? Please listen carefully. Don't immediately say YES or NO. Most of us feel, especially while we are young, that there should be no discipline, that we should be allowed to do whatever we like and we think that is freedom. But merely to say that we should be free and so on has very little meaning without understanding the whole problem of discipline.</p> <p>The keen athlete is disciplining himself the whole time, isn't he? His joy in playing games and the very necessity to keep fit makes him go to bed early, refrain from smoking, eat the right food and generally observe the rules of good health. His discipline and punctuality is not an imposition but a natural outcome of his enjoyment of athletics.</p> <p>Summarize the passage in 50- 60 words.</p>	<p>4 4 5 12</p>
<p>b)</p>	<p>Choose the correct meaning of the underlined word-</p> <p>1. Our baseball team's pitcher has a few <u>eccentric</u> habits, such as throwing exactly thirteen warm-up pitches and never wearing socks.</p> <p>a. normal b. strange c. messy</p> <p>2. After the heavy rains, the stream became <u>murky</u>; in fact, the water was so cloudy you couldn't see the bottom.</p> <p>a. cloudy b. bottomless c. clear</p> <p>3. The <u>debris</u> on the stadium floor included numerous paper cups, ticket stubs, and cigarette butts.</p> <p>a. products b. papers c. trash</p> <p>4. The coach takes every opportunity to <u>censure</u> his players, yet he ignores every opportunity to praise them.</p> <p>a. approve of b. criticize c. choose</p>	<p>4 3 5 12</p>
<p>11. a)</p>	<p>Read the following statements and identify which hat each statement belongs to-</p> <p>1. There is no data to support it, but my gut says customers are afraid we'll cut legacy support down the road.</p> <p>2. Pushing into a new market segment would open up a lot of room for growth.</p> <p>3. This is a difficult position. Let's brainstorm for some potential solutions to address the potential problems.</p> <p>4. Let's set aside emotional responses for the moment; we'll come to it later.</p>	<p>4 4 1 12</p>

	<p>b) John is the most active student in the kindergarten class. He tends to be very disruptive when the faculty advisor is teaching the class, and even more so when you are teaching. This student challenges everything that you ask of him. When you acknowledge a student for a behavior that you like, John will do the exact opposite of that behavior. He seems to have absolutely no respect for his fellow students or for you. You really would like to focus on John throughout this course because you feel that you need to learn different strategies to work with him and other students like him. What will you do?</p> <p>You can use 6 Thinking Hats or Toulmin's Model.</p> <p>Points to be considered-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Past Behaviour• Performance• Value John Adds• Values	4 6 2 12
12.	<p>Answer any <i>two</i> of the following:</p> <p>a) You are the owner of a flouring packaged food business that manufactures homely pickles, spice mixes and chutneys. Your workforce comprises of homemakers who excel at the products you manufacture. However, owing to the current scenario sales have dipped considerably. You have been approached by an investor who wants you to highlight the growth potential your business holds. How will you convince the investor?</p> <p>Points to be considered-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promotions• Visibility• New Products• Digital Marketing	4 5 3 12
	<p>b)</p>  <p>Write down your inferences from the picture and give it an appropriate title.</p>	4 5 4 12

c)	<p>Give the article an appropriate title-</p> <p>Did you know that the origin of the term “nepotism” comes from Catholic bishops who would bequeath wealth, property, and priesthood to their “nephews”? The nephews were usually their illegitimate offspring, and it served as a way for church clergy to both own property and to retain power in their families.</p> <p>Today, we use nepotism to refer to the hiring or promotion of a family member (including in-laws), and it smacks of favoritism. Indeed, the hiring of relatives in some companies is forbidden by company policy. However, in family-owned businesses, nepotism is often viewed as natural and expected. So, the big question is whether nepotism in business is a good or a bad thing? Unfortunately, there is no simple answer.</p> <p>Nepotism can have advantages and disadvantages. For example, hiring relatives is easy and can lead to greater trust (what we call “swift trust”) if the relations get along and share a common purpose. Where nepotism becomes problematic is when non-relative employees feel that there is unfair favoritism, and when relatives are hired over more competent non-relatives. Unfortunately, there has been very little research on nepotism in the workplace.</p> <p>Our research program is among the first investigating people’s perceptions of nepotistic practices in the workplace. For example, we have found that there are individual differences in perceptions of nepotism, with some people being accepting of nepotistic practices—thinking it is perfectly fine to have preferential treatment of relatives (“well, she is the boss’s daughter...”), and others completely rejecting of any sort of favoritism.</p> <p>What we are finding, however, is that people tend to believe that there is favoritism whenever a relative is hired, regardless of whether they tolerate nepotism or not. Even when a relative is the most qualified person for the job, coworkers tend to believe that it was their family relationship, rather than their qualifications, that got the person the job.</p>	4	4	5	12
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M: Marks; L: Bloom’s Taxonomy Level; CO: Course Outcome; PO: Programme Outcome

S. No.	Criteria for questions	Percentage
1	Fundamental knowledge (Level-1 & 2)	42%
2	Knowledge on application and analysis (Level-3 & 4)	50%
3	*Critical thinking and ability to design (Level-5 & 6) (*wherever applicable)	8%
