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Code No. : 13109 O

**VASAVI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Autonomous), HYDERABAD**  
**B.E. II Year 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Backlog (Old) Examinations, December-2017**

**Finishing School-I: Soft Skills**

(Common to all branches)

Time: 1 ½ hours

Max. Marks: 35

*Note: Answer ALL questions in Part-A and any FIVE questions from Part-B*

**Part-A (5 × 2 = 10 Marks)**

1. It is 07.00 o'clock in the morning. We say . . .  
i. A) Good evening B) Good morning C) Good afternoon  
I go home from college at 12.30 p.m. I say . . . to my Professor  
ii. A) Good afternoon B) Good evening C) Good night
2. Choose the correct structure and give the passage an appropriate title.  
Most mobile phones sold today have an operating system that was either designed by Apple or Google. Apple makes the iOS operating system powering their iPhones and iPads. Google makes the Android operating system that can be found on many different mobile phones and tablets. Both of these operating systems allow users to connect to app stores and download applications. To launch these applications, users press small square buttons that appear on their home screens. One major difference between these two operating systems is that Apple makes all of its own hardware. That is to say, the iOS operating system only appears on products created by Apple. On the other hand, many different manufacturers like Samsung, Sony, and LG use the Android operating system. Which one do you like better: Android or iOS?  
i) Cause and Effect ii) Sequence/process iii) Chronological iv) Descriptive  
v) Compare and Contrast
3. The following paragraph has errors in subject-verb agreement. **List** the errors you find and **correct** the incorrect verbs.  
My wife get up earlier in the morning than I do. 2. She hate to get up in the morning. 3. I don't usually mind getting up. 4. She have to get dressed quickly to catch an early bus to work. 5. I goes to work later, and I drive my car. 6. She doesn't have much time for breakfast, so she just have a cup of coffee when she get to work. 7. I has to time to have a bowl of cereal and fruit before I goes to work. 8. I understands why my wife doesn't like mornings!
4. Choose the correct option:  
i) Before you seal and send your letter, make sure to (a) indent (b) justify (c) Proof read it.  
ii) You will be notified as soon as your registered letter reaches the (a) sender (b) recipient  
c) enclosure and is signed for.
5. Correct this Letter  
Dear mam,  
Today I wake up at 5.30 AM. Afterthat I was cleaned the house. I was cleaned the dishes. I go to the milk shop. I had a tiffen and tea. After that I was washed clothes. I spend some time with my neighbours. I prepared the rice and curry. I had lunch with my mother. I slept at 1.00 Pm and I woke up at 3.00pm. I prepared a tea. I was cleaned the dishes and house. I heat the water for bathing. I prepared idly better.

**Part-B (5 × 5 = 25 Marks)**

6. a) Read the following conversation and answers the questions. [3]  
 A) Look at the long line! Do you think we'll get in?  
 B) I think so. Some of these people already have tickets.  
 A) How much are the tickets? B) Only nine dollars for the first show. I'll pay.  
 A) Thanks. I'll buy the popcorn.  
 i) Where are these people? ii) What are they talking about? iii) Who are these people?
- b) **Directions:** Read each statement and then circle whether it is a fact or opinion. Explain your answer. [2]  
 i) Popular music today is not as good as it was in the past.  
 Fact or Opinion Explain:  
 ii) It is illegal to yell out "Fire" in a crowded movie theater.  
 Fact or Opinion Explain:
7. a) **Read the passage and answer the questions given below.** [3]

**Wild Children**

The early history of the city of Rome involves Romulus and Remus, two orphan boys who, legend says, were raised by a she-wolf. The boys' mother had been murdered by an evil king and the two babies tossed into the river Tiber. When the wolf found them they had washed up on the shore. She perhaps took pity on the crying of the babies and, gently picking them up in her teeth, she carried them back to her cave and fed them on her milk. The boys grew bigger and stronger and, eventually, were found by a herdsman who took them home. He and his wife raised the boys like their own children. When they reached manhood they sought revenge on the king who had killed their mother and driven them from their home.

They decided to build a city. Unfortunately, they argued over the appropriate site and Romulus killed his brother Remus. Romulus ruled this city -- called Roma -- for thirty-seven years.

The city of Rome is one of the most popular tourist attractions in the world. If you travel there you can see a statue of the two baby boys feeding from their mother - the wolf.

- i) What is the gist (the main idea) that this piece of writing conveys?  
 A) Wolves like to take care of human children.  
 B) The city of Rome had many wolves in the old days.  
 C) The city of Rome was founded by a wolf.  
 D) Romulus established the city of Rome.
- ii) What is a herdsman?  
 A) someone who builds cities B) someone who cares for children  
 C) someone who cares for domestic animals D) someone who can hear very well
- iii) "...they sought revenge on the king who had killed their mother..." means...  
 A) They attacked the king who had harmed their mother and made them orphans.  
 B) They went to court to sue the king for his crime against their mother.  
 C) They hired some gangsters to take care of their problem with the king.  
 D) They went to talk to the king about his crime against their mother.
- b) **Read the passage and answer the questions given below.** [2]

**Traffic Accidents**

Much of the blood on the street flows essentially from uncivil behavior of drivers who refuse to respect the legal and moral rights of others. So the massacre on the road may be regarded as a social problem. Safety standards for vehicle have been raised both at the point of manufacture and through periodic road-worthiness inspections. In addition, speed limits have been lowered. Due to these measures, the accident rate has decreased. But the accident experts still worry because there has been little or no improvement in the way drivers behave.

- i) According to the passage, traffic accidents may be regarded as a social problem since ----.
- The motor vehicle is a very dangerous invention
  - The accidents have more to do with hazardous conditions than hazardous drivers
  - Most of the accidents are caused by drivers who don't pay attention to the traffic rules
  - The irresponsibility that accounts for much of the problem is not confined to drivers
  - Traffic accidents can cause serious economic damage
- ii) According to the passage, the number of accidents has fallen because ----.
- Significant advances have been made towards safer driving
  - Many people now know that driving is a skilled task requiring constant care and concentration
  - Drivers are warned to take extra care on the roads
  - Drivers have finally learned how to behave
  - There has been improvement in the way drivers behave
8. a) He saw nothing, he had no knife or sharp instrument, the grating of the window was of iron and he had too often assured himself of its solidity. His furniture consisted of a bed, a chair, a table, a pail, and a jug. The bed had iron clamps, but they were screwed to the wall and it would have required a screwdriver to take them off. Dante had but one resource which was to break the jug and with one of the sharp fragments attack the wall. He left the jug fall on the floor and it broke in pieces. He concealed two or three of the sharpest fragments in his bed, leaving the rest on the floor. The breaking of the jug was too natural an accident to excite suspicion, and next morning jailor went grumblingly to fetch another, without giving himself the trouble to remove the fragments. Dante heard joyfully the key grate in the lock as guard departed. [3]
- i) Dante was in
- a hostel
  - a dining room
  - an army barracks
  - a prison
- ii) Dante heard the key grate in the lock when the?
- cell door was shut
  - cell door was opened
  - storeroom was opened
  - storeroom was shut
- iii) The guard left the fragments because he?
- didn't notice them
  - wished to punish Dante
  - was too lazy to bother
  - wanted Dante to clear up
- iv) *Use the correct tense of the word in brackets to fill in the blanks.*  
He (hide)\_\_\_\_\_two or three of the sharpest fragments in his bed
- v) *Use the correct tense of the word in brackets to fill in the blanks.*  
Dante had too often (convince) \_\_\_\_\_himself of its solidity.
- vi) *Use the correct form of the word in brackets to fill in the blanks.*  
He concealed two or three of the sharpest (piece)\_\_\_\_\_ in his bed.
- b) Read the paragraphs carefully and answer the question given below it. [2]
- i) 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.
- Are always avoidable.
  - May be due to ignorance.
  - Cannot be entirely overcome.
  - Can be eliminated with the help of safety rules.
- ii) Though the waste of time or the expenditure on fashions is very large, yet fashions have come to stay. They will not go, come what may. However, what is now required is that strong efforts should be made to displace the excessive craze for fashion from the minds of these youngsters.
- Fashion is the need of the day.
  - The excessive craze for fashion is detrimental to one's personality.
  - The hoard for fashion should be done away with so as not to let down the constructive development.
  - Work and other activities should be valued more than the outward appearance.

9. a) *Read the instructions given below and write an email in a clear concise manner.* [3]

**Directions:**

- i) Use all the phrases given – If all the phrases are used
- ii) Minimum words should be 50 otherwise your email cannot be validated
- iii) Addressing and signing should be done as in the question given.
- iv) Common grammatical rules, punctuation should be according to Standard English.
- v) *You can use your own phrases along with the phrases given.*

As a member of your residential society, write an email to inspector of local Police station, Mr. Sharma, informing him about miscreants who ride their bikes rashly every evening outside your society. Sign the email as William.

Residential area - ride - rashly - children - play - elderly - walk - grocery shop - across the road - dangerous - accidents - nuisance - action - immediately.

b) *Choose the best response for each one.* [2]

I'm writing \_\_\_\_\_ your advertisement in the Times of India.  
in response to, to respond at, in respond to

I have a \_\_\_\_\_ deal (= a lot) of experience in (sales, web development, making folk-art, etc.)

Big, large, great

10. a) *Match the phrasal verbs on the left with their meanings on the right. You may need to match one definition with two phrasal verbs or vice versa. Then fill in the blanks in the given sentences.* [3]

- i) call off \_\_\_\_\_ A) need in order to survive ii) depend on \_\_\_\_\_ B) cancel
- iii) get on \_\_\_\_\_ C) destroy iv) pull down \_\_\_\_\_ D) trust
- v) rely on \_\_\_\_\_ E) have a relationship

b) i) This woman is at work, so why did she take the call? [2]

[take a call = \_\_\_\_\_]

ii) What kind of problem is she taking care of?

[take care of (a problem) = \_\_\_\_\_]

iii) Whose advice did she take?

[take someone's advice = \_\_\_\_\_]

iv) Will she take interest in anyone's offer?

[take interest in = \_\_\_\_\_]



11. a) *From the options A, B, C and D, choose the form that best fits the function state, to complete the dialogue below. (3 marks)* [3]

**You** Hey ! \_\_\_\_\_ **1** \_\_\_\_\_ (to check)

**Rally** Yes and you ... Wait a minute, you're Karl. Oh! How are you?

**You** I'm fine. Where are you off to?

**Rally** I'm going to a friend's house. How are your parents?

**You** \_\_\_\_\_ **2** \_\_\_\_\_ (To reply) Are you back in the US for good?

**Rally** No, I still have another two years to go before I finish my studies.

**You** \_\_\_\_\_ **3** \_\_\_\_\_ (To enquire) I heard that it is very different.

1. **To check**

- A) Rally, my friend, how are you? B) I'm Karl C) You're Rally aren't you?
- D) I know you. You were my classmate.

2. **To reply**

- A) Oh! They are fine. B) Why are you so concerned?
- C) They would love to meet you. D) Maybe, they are fine.

3. **To enquire**

- A) Will you be staying long? B) How is life over there?  
 C) Life must be very difficult there. D) Was it very cold over there?

b) *Complete the conversations below with the best answer:* [2]

You go to the cinema to buy two tickets for Ice Age 3. You say: \_\_\_\_\_

- A) I need 2 tickets for the cinema at today.  
 B) Can I have the tickets for the movie now?  
 C) I would like 2 tickets for Ice Age 3.  
 D) Do you have popcorn and 2 tickets?

My sister asks me the way to the supermarket. I say: \_\_\_\_\_

- A) Let us have a look at it.  
 B) Yes, I can find that for you.  
 C) It's far away. You should take a taxi.  
 D) I go to the supermarket every Sunday.

12. Answer any *two* of the following:

a) Read each passage and ask yourself, "What is the author doing in this paragraph?" Write your answer in the summary box and then think of an appropriate title for the passage based on the main idea of the passage. [2 ½]

*Automation* is the use of machines to reduce the need for human labor. In other words automation is when jobs done by people become jobs done by robots. Automation can be a good thing. Because of automation, clothing, cars, and other manufactured products are available at good prices and in large supply. But automation can also be a bad thing. Because of automation, there are over 700,000 robots in America alone that do jobs once performed by humans. The way of automation may not be best for humanity, but it is the course we are taking.

Summarize this paragraph in one sentence. **Be specific and clearly explain the main idea.**

An appropriate title: \_\_\_\_\_

b) The term "text structure" refers to how information is organized in a passage. What structure are these texts written in? [2 ½]

Linux and Windows are both operating systems. Computers use them to run programs. Linux is totally free and open source, so users can improve or otherwise modify the source code. Windows is proprietary, so it costs money to use and users are prohibited from altering the source code.

Thousands of people die each year in car accidents involving drugs or alcohol. Lives could be saved if our town adopts a free public taxi service. By providing such a service, we could prevent intoxicated drivers from endangering themselves or others.

c) Fill in the blanks with a suitable word or phrase [2 ½]

A \_\_\_\_\_ is a methodology used by an organization to gauge whether the candidate has certain personality traits and/or skills that it desires in its members.

- A) Debate B) Meeting C) Guest lecture D) Group Discussion

In this methodology, \_\_\_\_\_ is given a topic or a situation, given a few minutes to think about the same, and then asked to discuss the topic among themselves for 15-20 minutes.

- A) the group of candidates B) Students C) Employees D) Lecturers