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Code No. : 22016SS O2

VASAVI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Autonomous), HYDERABAD
B.E. II Year II-Semester Backlog Examinations, May-2017

Finishing School - II : Soft Skills

Time: 1 ½ hours

Max. Marks: 35

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

Part-A (5 × 2 = 10 Marks)

1. What are good topics for talking to strangers?
Complete the following conversation starters.
It looks _____ it's going to rain.
Great day to be outside, _____.
2. Read the passage and identify the structure. Give the passage an appropriate title.
Cats may seem like cute and cuddly companions, but to birds and other small mammals, cats are highly lethal killing machines. Even well fed cats may hunt and kill many small animals such as birds, mice, and reptiles. Small animals are most at risk when cats are introduced to areas that have not hosted them before. Since they are not used to living with the threatening cats, these small animals are naïve and vulnerable. If they do not have the defenses to survive, cats will hunt these animals until they are wiped out completely. Cats have played a leading role in the extinction of many small animals, including the Hawaiian Rail and at least 22 other species of bird. While other things may have led to the destruction of these species, cat attacks were a main factor.
3. Complete each of the following sentences that are commonly used to answer questions during a job interview:
 - a) "I was _____ (= lucky) to have worked with such a great group of people."
i) Fortunate ii) challenged iii) surprised
 - b) "I've been called an amazing problem _____."
i) Solver ii) solving iii) solution
 - c) "I'm very good at _____." (= working on several things at once)
i) delegating work ii) networking iii) multi-tasking
 - d) "I've always gotten _____ fine (= had a good relationship) with my co-workers."
i) Off ii) along iii) around
4. Your friend is unable to get a job because he is unable to speak in English. What are the two suggestions that you would give to motivate him to speak in English.
5. Read the following scenario and write an appropriate dialogue.
Your professor has not given you a grade for a paper you have submitted
Aggressive Reply- "I handed in that paper with everyone else. It's not my fault if you can't keep yourself organized,"
Assertive Reply - _____

Part-B (5 × 5 = 25 Marks)

6. a) Write 4-8 points for any *one* of the group discussion topics given below. [3]
 - i) Are digital payments secure enough for the Indian economy to go cashless?
 - ii) Ban 500, 1000 notes - Corruption Uprooted or just changing clothes!
- b) 'Engineers are Underemployed', Give your opinion in 50-75 words. [2]

Contd...2

9. a) "To get to the 'UNIQUE YOU' is a big battle. It is the battlement in which you don't need to take a gun, but 4 unique tools you must have in that battle: [3]
1. Set the Goal.
 2. Acquire the knowledge continuously
 3. Hard work with devotion
 4. Perseverance

If you have these four tools, definitely you will arrive at your destined place by becoming a unique you!"

Comment on the given passage in your own words (75 words)

- b) Read the story and write what you have learnt in two lines. [2]

A man's favorite donkey falls into a deep precipice. He can't pull it out no matter how hard he tries. He therefore decides to bury it alive. Soil is poured onto the donkey from above. The donkey feels the load, shakes it off, and steps on it. More soil is poured. It shakes it off and steps up. The more the load was poured, the higher it rose. By noon, the donkey was grazing in green pastures.

10. a) If parents and the school can help students develop a proper perspective on what they want to pursue in life, they will be better equipped to respond to exam stress, say experts. Do you agree with the experts? Give your opinion [3]

- b) Read the story and share your learning in about 50-75 words. [2]

World War II had created many heroes. One such hero was Lieutenant Butch O'Hare, a fighter pilot. One day his entire squadron was sent on a mission. After being airborne, he looked down at his fuel gauge and to his surprise realized that someone had forgotten to top off his fuel tank! As a result he would not have enough to complete his mission and get back to the ship. He was told by his commander to return to the ship immediately. He did so reluctantly and dropped out of formation. As he was returning he saw something that turned his blood cold; a Japanese squadron was speeding towards the American fleet. With the American fleet gone on a sortie the ship was defenseless. He had no time to bring back his squadron and he had no way of warning the fleet of approaching danger.

There was only one thing he could do and that was to divert them from the fleet. Not taking into account his own personal safety he dove into the formation of Japanese planes with his wing mounted guns blazing as he surprised one enemy plane after another. When his ammunition ran out he dove at enemy planes with the hope of clipping a wing and sending them in a downward spiral. Finally, the surprised and frustrated Japanese squadron took off in another direction.

Butch O'Hare and his battered fighter limped back to the carrier. Once he landed he told of his adventure. The film from the gun-camera mounted on this plane told the entire tale and showed the extent of Butch's heroism. He had destroyed five enemy aircraft. Because of his actions he became the Navy's first Ace of World War II and the first Naval Aviator to win the Congressional Medal of Honor. A year later at age 29 Butch was killed in aerial combat.

His hometown would not allow his memory to fade and today the O'Hare Airport in Chicago is named after his bravery.

11. a) What's the conversation about? [2]

Mr Bean meets Mrs Jones, one of his students from college, and her husband in the street.

Using the 9 words below fill in the blanks.

| | | | | |
|---------|---------|-------------|-----------------|---------|
| London | Pleased | Manchester | English Teacher | Goodbye |
| Morning | Thanks | Not too bad | | Mr Bean |

7. a) Write an essay on **one** of the following topics. (200 -250 words) [2]
 i) Computer games have a negative effect on individuals
 ii) Diets don't help to lose weight
- b) Directions: read the description, determine the author's purpose, and then explain your answer. [3]
 i) A letter to a teen girl from her imprisoned father giving reasons why she should go to college
 Author's Purpose: (to inform, persuade, or entertain)
 How do you know? Write a sentence explaining your answer.
 ii) The documentation and instructions for a new touch-screen tablet PC
 Author's Purpose: (to inform, persuade, or entertain)
 How do you know? Write a sentence explaining your answer.
 iii) The story of a teacher who helps some of her troubled students get to college
 Author's Purpose: (to inform, persuade, or entertain)
 How do you know? Write a sentence explaining your answer.
8. a) Read the story and identify the meaning of the Phrasal Verbs [3]
 My cousin Charlie has taken up photography. He took some photos for a new local magazine which they are going to bring out next month. The editor arranged a meeting for May, but they suddenly brought it forward to last week. At the meeting the editor brought up the subject of the cover of the first issue. They needed a good photo, something striking. Charlie went off to his car and brought back a selection of photos of local people. There was one Headmistress of the local secondary school. Charlie thought this would be an excellent choice because it would bring back memories for the readers. The editor agreed that it would bring back memories, but not necessarily good ones. Then there was a portrait of the local bank manager. He had been brought in to solve some problems. The problems had been brought about by the last manager having an affair with the cashier. Finally there was a picture of a really beautiful woman. "This will be a great story" Charlie explained "She lives in this town, and has a respectable job, but I have discovered that in fact she isn't a she but a he. She is a man! And he was born in Los Angeles and brought up by Pamela Anderson. At this point the editor fainted, it was a picture of his fiancée. Charlie finally brought him round with a glass of brandy.
 What is the meaning of these phrasal verbs?
 i) **Bring out** an issue of a magazine
 ii) **Bring a meeting forward**
 iii) **Bring up** a matter in a meeting
 iv) **Bring back** something from somewhere
 v) **Bring back** memories
 vi) **Bring in** someone from outside to help
- b) The following paragraph has errors in subject-verb agreement. Cross out any errors you find and correct the incorrect verbs. [2]
 i) My wife get up earlier in the morning than I do. ii) She hate to get up in the morning.
 iii) I don't usually mind getting up. iv) She have to get dressed quickly to catch an early bus to work. v) I goes to work later, and I drive my car. vi) She doesn't have much time for breakfast, so she just have a cup of coffee when she get to work. vii) I has to time to have a bowl of cereal and fruit before I goes to work. viii) I understands why my wife doesn't like mornings!