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Code No. :16109 N (I)

VASAVI COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (Autonomous), HYDERABAD
B.E. (CBCS) VI-Semester Main Examinations, May-2019

English for Competitive Examinations

Time: 2 hours

Max. Marks: 50

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

Q.No.	Stem of the question	M	L	CO	PO
Part-A (5 × 2 = 10 Marks)					
1.	<p>Sentence Equivalence: (select exactly two words that best complete the sentence) That the people still look back to the Nehru era with a sense of _____ shows that even things which looked manageable in his days are now out of control.</p> <p>A.Nostalgia B.Acrimony C.Optimism D.Pessimism E.Reminiscence</p>	2	3	1,2	8,12
2.	<p>Text completion: The Galapagos Islands are (i) _____ with a wide variety of animal life; in fact, this reality, along with Darwin's incredible (ii) _____, allowed him to (iii) _____ a then novel theory that has continued to remain integral to man's understanding of the world around him.</p> <p>Blank (i)Blank (ii)Blank (iii) A. contractedD. perspicacityG. engender B. brimmingE. directionH. direct C. existingF. freedomI. Review</p>	2	3	1,2	8,12
3.	<p>Para jumbles :</p> <p>A. In the west, Allied Forces had fought their way through Southern Italy as far as Rome. B. In June 1944 Germany's military position in World War Two appeared hopeless C. In Britain, the task of amassing the men and materials for the liberation of northern Europe had been completed D. The Red Army was poised to drive the Nazis back through Poland. E. The situation on the eastern front was catastrophic.</p> <p>1. EDACB 2. BEDAC 3. BDECA 4. CEDAB</p>	2	3	1,2	8,12
4.	<p>Odd one out :</p> <p>A. Since birds are the modern descendants of dinosaurs, they are likely to have once had teeth instead of beaks. B. However, 100 million years ago a diverse range of non-avian dinosaurs spouted all manner of plumage, and like modern birds, doubtless made a great deal of use of them, even if they could not fly. C. This fact became known way back in 1861 when paleontologists discovered a bird fossil, about 150 million years old, now classified as Archaeopteryx, which had teeth. D. Researchers have now published details of how avian edentulism occurred in one common bird ancestor more than 100 million years ago.</p>	2	3	1,2	8,12

<p>5.</p>	<p>Summary of the Passage: Physically, inertia is a feeling that you just can't move; mentally, it is a sluggish mind. Even if you try to be sensitive, if your mind is sluggish, you, just don't feel anything intensely. You may even see a tragedy enacted in front of your eyes and not be able to respond meaningfully. You may see one person exploiting another, one group persecuting another, and not be able to get angry. Your energy is frozen. You are not deliberately refusing to act; you just don't have the capacity. A. Inertia makes your body and mind sluggish. They become insensitive to tragedies, exploitation, and persecution because it freezes your energy and decapitates it. B. When you have inertia you don't act although you see one person exploiting another or one group persecuting another. You don't get angry because you are incapable. C. Inertia is of two types -physical and mental. Physical inertia restricts bodily movements. Mental inertia prevents mental response to events enacted in front of your eyes. D. Physical inertia stops your body from moving; mental inertia freezes your energy, and stops your mind from responding meaningfully to events, even tragedies, in front of you.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Part-B (5 X 8 = 40 Marks)</i></p>	<p>2 3 1,2</p>
<p>6.a)</p>	<p>Aphantasia: A life without mental images Close your eyes and imagine walking along a sandy beach and then gazing over the horizon as the Sun rises. How clear is the image that springs to mind? Most people can readily conjure images inside their head - known as their mind's eye. But this year scientists have described a condition, aphantasia, in which some people are unable to visualise mental images. Niel Kenmuir, from Lancaster, has always had a blind mind's eye. He knew he was different even in childhood. "My stepfather, when I couldn't sleep, told me to count sheep, and he explained what he meant, I tried to do it and I couldn't," he says. "I couldn't see any sheep jumping over fences, there was nothing to count." Our memories are often tied up in images, think back to a wedding or first day at school. As a result, Niel admits, some aspects of his memory are "terrible", but he is very good at remembering facts. And, like others with aphantasia, he struggles to recognise faces. Yet he does not see aphantasia as a disability, but simply a different way of experiencing life. Mind's eye blind. Ironically, Niel now works in a bookshop, although he largely sticks to the non-fiction aisles. His condition begs the question what is going on inside his picture-less mind. I asked him what happens when he tries to picture his fiancée. "This is the hardest thing to describe, what happens in my head when I think about things," he says. "When I think about my fiancée there is no image, but I am definitely thinking about her, I know today she has her hair up at the back, she's brunette. But I'm not describing an image I am looking at, I'm remembering features about her, that's the strangest thing and maybe that is a source of some regret." The response from his mates is a very sympathetic: "You're weird." But while Niel is very relaxed about his inability to picture things, it is often a cause of distress for others. One person who took part in a study into aphantasia said he had started to feel "isolated" and "alone" after discovering that other people could see images in their heads. Being unable to reminisce about his mother years after her death led to him being "extremely distraught". The super-visualiser At the other end of the spectrum is children's book illustrator, Lauren Beard, whose work on the Fairytale Hairdresser series will be familiar to many six-year-olds. Her career relies on the vivid images that leap into her mind's eye when she reads text from her author. When I met her in her box-room studio in Manchester, she was working on a dramatic scene in the next book. The text describes a baby perilously climbing onto a chandelier.</p>	<p>4 2&3 1,2 8,12</p>

"Straightaway I can visualise this grand glass chandelier in some sort of French kind of ballroom, and the little baby just swinging off it and really heavy thick curtains," she says. "I think I have a strong imagination, so I can create the world and then keep adding to it so it gets sort of bigger and bigger in my mind and the characters too they sort of evolve. I couldn't really imagine what it's like to not imagine, I think it must be a bit of a shame really."

Not many people have mental imagery as vibrant as Lauren or as blank as Niel. They are the two extremes of visualisation. Adam Zeman, a professor of cognitive and behavioural neurology, wants to compare the lives and experiences of people with aphantasia and its polar-opposite hyperphantasia. His team, based at the University of Exeter, coined the term aphantasia this year in a study in the journal Cortex.

Prof Zeman tells the BBC: "People who have contacted us say they are really delighted that this has been recognised and has been given a name, because they have been trying to explain to people for years that there is this oddity that they find hard to convey to others." How we imagine is clearly very subjective - one person's vivid scene could be another's grainy picture. But Prof Zeman is certain that aphantasia is real. People often report being able to dream in pictures, and there have been reported cases of people losing the ability to think in images after a brain injury.

He is adamant that aphantasia is "not a disorder" and says it may affect up to one in 50 people. But he adds: "I think it makes quite an important difference to their experience of life because many of us spend our lives with imagery hovering somewhere in the mind's eye which we inspect from time to time, it's a variability of human experience."

Do the following statements agree with the information in the reading text?

TRUE if the statement agrees with the information

FALSE if the statement contradicts the information

NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

1. Aphantasia is a condition, which describes people, for whom it is hard to visualise mental images.
2. Niel Kenmuir was unable to count sheep in his head
3. People with aphantasia struggle to remember personal traits and clothes of different people
4. Niel regrets that he cannot portray an image of his fiancée in his mind

b) **The Creators of Grammar**

No student of a foreign language needs to be told that grammar is complex. By changing word sequences and by adding a range of auxiliary verbs and suffixes, we are able to communicate tiny variations in meaning. We can turn a statement into a question, state whether an action has taken place or is soon to take place, and perform many other word tricks to convey subtle differences in meaning. Nor is this complexity inherent to the English language. All languages, even those of so-called 'primitive' tribes have clever grammatical components. The Cherokee pronoun system, for example, can distinguish between 'you and I', 'several other people and I' and 'you, another person and I'. In English, all these meanings are summed up in the one, crude pronoun 'we'. Grammar is universal and plays a part in every language, no matter how widespread it is. So the question which has baffled many linguists is - who created grammar?

At first, it would appear that this question is impossible to answer. To find out how grammar is created, someone needs to be present at the time of a language's creation, documenting its emergence. Many historical linguists are able to trace modern complex languages back to earlier languages, but in order to answer the question of how complex languages are actually formed, the researcher needs to observe how languages are started from scratch. Amazingly, however, this is possible.

Some of the most recent languages evolved due to the Atlantic slave trade. At that time, slaves from a number of different ethnicities were forced to work together under

4 2&3 1,2 8,12

colonizer's rule. Since they had no opportunity to learn each other's languages, they developed a make-shift language called a pidgin. Pidgins are strings of words copied from the language of the landowner. They have little in the way of grammar, and in many cases it is difficult for a listener to deduce when an event happened, and who did what to whom. [A] Speakers need to use circumlocution in order to make their meaning understood. [B] Interestingly, however, all it takes for a pidgin to become a complex language is for a group of children to be exposed to it at the time when they learn their mother tongue. [C] Slave children did not simply copy the strings of words uttered by their elders, they adapted their words to create a new, expressive language. [D] Complex grammar systems which emerge from pidgins are termed creoles, and they are invented by children.

Further evidence of this can be seen in studying sign languages for the deaf. Sign languages are not simply a series of gestures; they utilise the same grammatical machinery that is found in spoken languages. Moreover, there are many different languages used worldwide. The creation of one such language was documented quite recently in Nicaragua. Previously, all deaf people were isolated from each other, but in 1979 a new government introduced schools for the deaf. Although children were taught speech and lip reading in the classroom, in the playgrounds they began to invent their own sign system, using the gestures that they used at home. It was basically a pidgin. Each child used the signs differently, and there was no consistent grammar. However, children who joined the school later, when this inventive sign system was already around, developed a quite different sign language. Although it was based on the signs of the older children, the younger children's language was more fluid and compact, and it utilised a large range of grammatical devices to clarify meaning. What is more, all the children used the signs in the same way. A new creole was born.

Some linguists believe that many of the world's most established languages were creoles at first. The English past tense -ed ending may have evolved from the verb 'do'. 'It ended' may once have been 'It end-did'. Therefore it would appear that even the most widespread languages were partly created by children. Children appear to have innate grammatical machinery in their brains, which springs to life when they are first trying to make sense of the world around them. Their minds can serve

1) why does the writer include information about the Cherokee language?

- A. To show how simple, traditional cultures can have complicated grammar structures
- B To show how English grammar differs from Cherokee grammar
- C To prove that complex grammar structures were invented by the Cherokees.
- D To demonstrate how difficult it is to learn the Cherokee language

2) What can be inferred about the slaves' pidgin language?

- A It contained complex grammar.
- B It was based on many different languages.
- C It was difficult to understand, even among slaves.
- D It was created by the land-owners.

3) All the following sentences about Nicaraguan sign language are true EXCEPT:

- A. The language has been created since 1979.
- B. The language is based on speech and lip reading.
- C. The language incorporates signs which children used at home.
- D. The language was perfected by younger children.

4) 'From scratch' in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:

- A from the very beginning
- B in simple cultures
- C by copying something else
- D by using written information

7.a)	<p>In which sentence does the author mention that there are no exceptions to tragedies?</p> <p>Bad things do happen to good people. Each of us experiences situations where we feel robbed, slandered, misunderstood, cheated, or simply jerked around in life. The end result may be the loss of a job, a friend, a love interest, a business deal, or the creation of a rift between family members. The pain we feel is very real, very deep, and very private. Often it's impossible for people around us to understand the scope, or the depth of the pain we carry as a result of the emotional wounding we've experienced. What then, do we do when life really hurts?</p>	4 2&3 1,2 8,12
b)	<p>Which sentence implies that we were earlier closer to nature than we are now?</p> <p>Over the past several years there has been a drive for us all to become healthier, eat better more natural food, exercise more and even improve the way we rest. Consumers have been demanding more natural goods, and we are witnessing a swing of "back to nature" in many retail fields. It is with no surprise then that we are seeing companies supplying healthier goods to meet with customers' demands. The world of bedding and linens has not been exempt from this trend and one can now find many natural fibers replacing the more conventional synthetic beddings. Coverings such as polyester and other synthetically made linens are not as sympathetic to our bodies needs as natural products are. Down, wool, cotton and silk are all examples of natural products seeing resurgence in the bedding market. As manufacturing techniques become increasingly sophisticated the prices of production decreases, making once prohibitively expensive bedding products more accessible to a mass market.</p>	4 2&3 1,2 8,12
8.a)	<p>Scientists have long recognised the incredible diversity within a species. But they thought it reflected evolutionary changes that unfolded imperceptibly, over millions of years. That divergence between populations within a species was enforced, according to Ernst Mayr, the great evolutionary biologist of the 1940s, when a population was separated from the rest of the species by a mountain range or a desert, preventing breeding across the divide over geologic scales of time. Without the separation, gene flow was relentless. But as the separation persisted, the isolated population grew apart and speciation occurred. In the mid-1960s, the biologist Paul Ehrlich - author of The Population Bomb (1968) - and his Stanford University colleague Peter Raven challenged Mayr's ideas about speciation. They had studied checkerspot butterflies living in the Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve in California, and it soon became clear that they were not examining a single population. Through years of capturing, marking and then recapturing the butterflies, they were able to prove that within the population, spread over just 50 acres of suitable checkerspot habitat, there were three groups that rarely interacted despite their very close proximity. Among other ideas, Ehrlich and Raven argued in a now classic paper from 1969 that gene flow was not as predictable and ubiquitous as Mayr and his cohort maintained, and thus evolutionary divergence between neighbouring groups in a population was probably common. They also asserted that isolation and gene flow were less important to evolutionary divergence than natural selection (when factors such as mate choice, weather, disease or predation cause better-adapted individuals to survive and pass on their successful genetic traits). For example, Ehrlich and Raven suggested that, without the force of natural selection, an isolated population would remain unchanged and that, in other scenarios, natural selection could be strong enough to overpower gene flow...</p>	4 2&3 1,2 8,12

1. Which of the following best sums up Ehrlich and Raven's argument in their classic 1969 paper?

- A) Ernst Mayr was wrong in identifying physical separation as the cause of species diversity
- B) Checkerspot butterflies in the 50-acre Jasper Ridge Preserve formed three groups that rarely interacted with each other
- C) While a factor, isolation was not as important to speciation as natural selection
- D) Gene flow is less common and more erratic than Mayr and his colleagues claimed.

2. All of the following statements are true according to the passage EXCEPT

- A) Gene flow contributes to evolutionary divergence.
- B) The Population Bomb questioned dominant ideas about species diversity
- C) Evolutionary changes unfold imperceptibly over time.
- D) Checkerspot butterflies are known to exhibit speciation while living in close proximity

3. The author discusses Mayr, Ehrlich and Raven to demonstrate that

- A) evolution is a sensitive and controversial topic
- B) Ehrlich and Raven's ideas about evolutionary divergence are widely accepted by scientists.
- C) the causes of speciation are debated by scientists
- D) checkerspot butterflies offer the best example of Ehrlich and Raven's ideas about speciation

- b) A remarkable aspect of art of the present century is the range of concepts and ideologies which it embodies. It is almost tempting to see a pattern emerging within the art field – or alternatively imposed upon it a posteriori – similar to that which exists under the umbrella of science where the general term covers a whole range of separate, though interconnecting, and activities. Any parallelism is however – in this instance at least – misleading. A scientific discipline develops systematically once its bare tenets have been established, named and categorized as conventions. Many of the concepts of modern art, by contrast, have resulted from the almost accidental meetings of groups of talented individuals at certain times and certain places. The ideas generated by these chance meetings had twofold consequences. Firstly, a corpus of work would be produced which, in great part, remains as a concrete record of the events. Secondly, the ideas would themselves be disseminated through many different channels of communication – seeds that often bore fruit in contexts far removed from their generation. Not all movements were exclusively concerned with innovation. Surrealism, for instance, claimed to embody a kind of insight which can be present in the art of nay period. This claim has been generally accepted so that a sixteenth century painting by Spranger or a mysterious photograph by Atget can legitimately be discussed in surrealist terms. Briefly, then, the concepts of modern art are of many different (often fundamentally different) kinds and resulted from the exposures of painters, sculptors and thinkers to the more complex phenomena of the twentieth century, including our ever increasing knowledge of the thought and products of earlier centuries. Different groups of artists would collaborate in trying to make sense of a rapidly changing world of visual and spiritual experience. We should hardly be surprised if no one group succeeded completely, but achievements, though relative, have been considerable. Landmarks have been established – concrete statements of position which give a pattern to a situation which could easily have degenerated into total chaos. Beyond this, new language tools have been created for those who follow-semantic systems which can provide a springboard for further explorations. The codifying of art is often criticized. Certainly one can understand that artists are wary of being pigeon-holed since they are apt to think of themselves as individuals –

4 2&3 1,2 8,1

sometimes with good reason. The notion of self-expression, however, no longer carries quite the weight it once did; objectivity has its defenders. There is good reason to accept the ideas codified by artists and critics, over the past sixty years or so, as having attained the status of independent existence – an independence which is not without its own value. The time factor is important here. As an art movement slops into temporal perspective, it ceases to be a living organism – becoming, rather, a fossil. This is not to say that it becomes useless or uninteresting. Just as a scientist can reconstruct the life of a prehistoric environment from the messages codified into the structure of a fossil, so can an artist decipher whole webs of intellectual and creative possibility from the recorded structure of a ‘dead’ art movement. The artist can match the creative possibility from the recorded structure of a ‘dead’ art movement. The artist can match the creative patterns crystallized into this structure against the potentials and possibilities of his own time. As T.S. Eliot observed, no one starts anything from scratch; however consciously you may try to live in the present, you are still involved with a nexus of behaviour patterns bequeathed from the past. The original and creative person is not someone who ignores these patterns, but someone who is able to translate and develop them so that they conform move exactly to his – and our – present needs.

1. Many of the concepts of modern art have been the product of

- a. ideas generated from planned deliberations between artists, painters and thinkers.
- b. the dissemination of ideas through the state and its organizations.
- c. accidental interactions among people blessed with creative muse.
- d. patronage by the rich and powerful that supported art.
- e. systematic investigation, codification and conventions.

2. In the passage, the word ‘fossil’ can be interpreted as

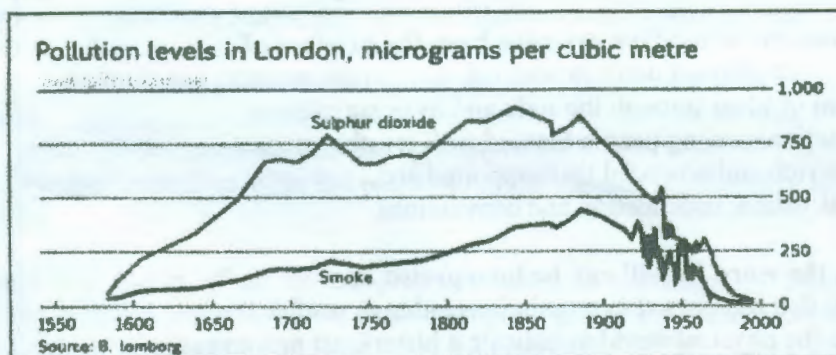
- a. an art movement that has ceased to remain interesting or useful.
- b. an analogy from the physical world to indicate a historic art movement.
- c. an analogy from the physical world to indicate the barrenness of artistic creations in the past.
- d. an embedded codification of pre-historic life.
- e. an analogy from the physical world to indicate the passing of an era associated with an art movement.

3. In the passage, which of the following similarities between science and art may lead to erroneous conclusions?

- a. Both, in general, include a gamut of distinct but interconnecting activities.
- b. Both have movements not necessarily concerned with innovation.
- c. Both depend on collaborations between talented individuals.
- d. Both involve abstract thought and dissemination of ideas.
- e. Both reflect complex priorities of the modern world.

9.a)	To what extent do you agree or disagree. Some people say that feeling of competition should be encouraged in children others say they should be taught to become cooperative. What is your opinion?	4	5&6	1,2	8,12
b)	Some people say that E- books and modern technology will totally replace traditional newspaper and magazines to what extent do you agree or disagree.	4	5&6	1,2	8,12

- 10.a) **Build Essays based on the following issues:**
"We learn through direct experience; to accept a theory without experiencing it is to learn nothing at all." 4 5&6 1,2 8,12
- b) **Build Essays based on the following issue"**
The study of an academic discipline alters the way we perceive the world. After studying the discipline, we see the same world as before, but with different eyes. 4 5&6 1,2 8,12
- 11.a) **Express your opinion, idea, or reason based the topic given.**
"Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Grades encourage students to learn. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion." 4 5&6 1,2 8,12
- b) **Express your opinion, idea, or reason based the topic given.**
How do movies or television influence people's behavior? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer. 4 5&6 1,2 8,12
- 12.a) The graph below shows the pollution levels in London between 1600 and 2000. summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant. 4 5&6 1,2 8,12



- b) The table below gives information about languages with the most native speakers. Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant. 4 5&6 1,2 8,12

Languages with the most native speakers

Language	Number of native speakers	Number of speakers as an additional language	Total number of speakers
Mandarin Chinese	900 million	190 million	1,090 million
Hindi	370 million	120 million	490 million
Spanish	350 million	70 million	420 million
English	339 million	603 million	942 million
Arabic	206 million	24 million	230 million
Portuguese	203 million	10 million	213 million

M: Marks; L: Bloom's Taxonomy Level

S. No.	Criteria for questions	Percentage
1	Fundamental knowledge (Level-1 & 2)	60
2	Knowledge on application and analysis (Level-3 & 4)	40
3	*Critical thinking and ability to design (Level-5 & 6) (*wherever applicable)	-