

3 (Sem-1) ENG (Sc)

Bijni College Library
P.O.-Bijni, Dist.-Chirang
(B.T.A.D) Assam

2012

ENGLISH
(Science)

(Functional English—I)

Full Marks : 40

Time : 2 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

1. (a) Write the meanings of the underlined abbreviations :

7

(i) I heard my name called out on the PA system.

(ii) May I introduce Sheila, who is Ms. Brown's PA.

(iii) If you are filling in a form, put N/A if the question doesn't apply to you.

(iv) Encl. CV and photo.

(v) Ask them to reply asap.

(2)

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Or

(b) Write a sentence each to explain the difference in meaning between each of the following pairs of words : 2+2=4

(i) Experience
Experiment

(ii) Stationary
Stationery

AND

(c) Use a suitable prefix or suffix to form the opposite of each of the adjectives below (any *three*) : 3

(i) Logical

(ii) Mature

(iii) Obedient

(iv) Patient

(v) Decisive

2. (a) Rewrite the following paragraph in simpler, shorter and clearer sentences : 5

The reason why language provides such a fascinating object of study is perhaps because of its unique role in capturing the breadth of human thought and

endeavour : looking around us we are awed by the variety of several thousand languages and dialects, expressing a multiplicity of world views, literatures and ways of life, looking back at the thoughts of our predecessors we find we can see only as far as language lets us see, looking forward in time, we find we can plan only through language, and looking outward in space we send symbols of communication along with our spacecraft, to explain who we are, in case there is anyone there who wants to know.

(b) Number the following topics in the same order that they're dealt with in the following article :

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- why coalmine tunnels have to be supported
- conventional tunneling
- cost of building channel tunnel
- techniques of boring oil wells
- plasticity of the Earth

The Channel Tunnel, it is claimed, will cost nearly \$5 billion by the time it is finished, so you can be pretty sure the final bill will be nearer \$10 billion and all for a hole.

Much of the expense comes from the very simple-minded way in which engineers make holes : they smash up the material which constitutes the interior of the hole, and cart it bodily away, piece by piece. Daedalus now proposes a much neater method. He points out the rapid fate of coalmine tunnels. Unless adequately supported, the roof of such a tunnel slowly subsides while its floor, freed of the previous overburden, rises : the tunnel is soon squashed flat.

So, says Daedalus, a tunnel could most easily be made simply by reversing this consequence of the Earth's plasticity. His scheme is to adapt standard oil-well techniques to horizontal drilling, and bore the Channel Tunnel initially as a narrow pilot tube a few inches wide. This should be quite a cheap and rapid process. He will then apply an internal pressure, and simply pump the tunnel up to the required diameter.

3. (a) Complete the following text with the correct punctuation : 5

A Nightmare on Elm Street made one experienced journalist scream with terror at the preview screening I went to. The noise frightened me more than the film itself written and directed by Wes Craven and ex-professor of humanities.

Its all very spooky but not at all bloody says Wes of this teen-oriented horror film which has a ghostly and ghostly murderer attacking the children of Elm Street not in their waking hours but in their dreams.

John Saxon and Ronee Blakely dont believe all this and he a policeman, goes looking for a real madman.

- (b) Write a brief thank you letter to some people you stayed with for a few days. 5

4. (a) Correct the mistakes in the following sentences by rewriting the sentences correctly : 4

(i) How nice to see you again! I didn't see you for ages.

(ii) It's six years since their eldest son has been born.

(iii) We are usually having lunch out on Sundays.

(iv) Who is this recipe book that's lying on the table belonging to?

(b) Fill in the gaps in the following sentences with 'after', 'back' or 'up' : 4

(i) As it was so difficult he gave — trying.

(ii) Please give me — my book.

(iii) She takes — her mother.

(iv) He's decided to take — golf.

5. Answer any one of the following questions :

(a) Say whether the following utterances are Very formal; Formal; Neutral; Informal; Familiar : 5

(i) I owe you a deep debt of gratitude.

(ii) Bye for now. Thanks a lot.

(iii) Bye bye.

(iv) It was a pleasure to meet you.

(v) Goodbye.

(b) Decide which of the given phrases you would use—

(i) in a face-to-face conversation with a friend;

(ii) in a formal letter or essay : 5

1. Thanks very much for talking to us
2. A considerable amount of difficulty is likely to be experienced
3. A special tool is required to remove the retaining catch
4. Guess what! I bumped into whatshername the other day
5. I found it amazing that he should suggest such an idea

(c) Group the following expressions into the categories given below : 5

Agree ; Don't agree or Partly agree.
(Avoid giving an opinion)

- (i) I see what you are getting at, but ...
- (ii) With all due respect, I'd say that
- (iii) That's true, because ...
- (iv) Do you think so?
- (v) I think it all depends.

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