

63101

**First Semester B.Com./B.B.A. Degree Examination,
November/December 2019**

(CBCS Scheme – Freshers / Repeaters 2019-20)

General English

Paper I – LANGUAGE ENGLISH

Time : 3 Hours]

(Max. Marks : 70)

Instructions to Candidates :

- 1) Answer ALL the Sections.
- 2) Write the correct question numbers.



SECTION – A

(PROSE AND POETRY – 40 marks)

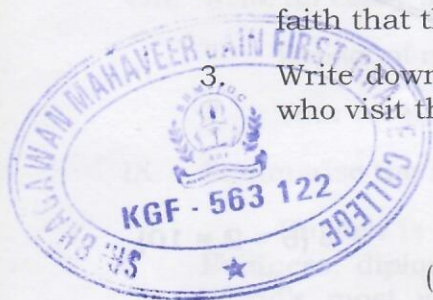
- I. Answer any **FIVE** of the following in 1 or 2 sentences : (5 × 2 = 10)
1. The 'little lady' mentioned by the doctor refers to _____.
 2. The python's weakness as perceived by the grandfather was
 - (a) Umbrella
 - (b) Reflection
 - (c) Juicy chicken.
 3. The person who plants a tree plants cool shade and tender rain. (True/False)
 4. How did Suresh defend himself when Sohrab asked him about the unfair distribution of property?
 5. What has one always been told about work?
 6. Which day, according to Helen Keller, was the most important day of her life?
 7. In the lesson 'Bookshop Memories' what sort of books do women usually read?
 8. Name any one poem the reader mentions and praises in the lesson 'A Conversation with a Reader'.
- II. Answer any **FOUR** of the following in about 1 page each : (4 × 5 = 20)
1. What was Behrman's masterpiece according to Sue? Why?
 2. Describe Aunt Mabel's reaction to the presence of the python in grandfather's house.

63101

3. Deepa's brothers were only an extension of their father's mindset. Explain.
4. The tree conveys the loyalty of the man who plants it. Comment.
5. Discuss the circumstances when the narrator felt repentance and sorrow in the lesson 'My Teacher'.
6. According to George Orwell, why are short stories not so popular.
7. What were the author's thoughts and reflections when he saw his book in the hands of the fellow traveller?

III. Answer any **ONE** of the following in about 2 pages each : (1 × 10 = 10)

1. 'In the Ploughman' what would be the effect if one dislikes the work he does? Elaborate.
2. Anne Sullivan provides Helen with the hope for a successful future and faith that the World would recognize her and love her. Elucidate.
3. Write down the narrator's experiences about the books and the customers who visit the bookshop.



SECTION - B

(GRAMMAR AND COMPOSITION - 30 marks)

IV. Read the following passage and answer the questions set on it :

An elderly carpenter was ready to retire. He told his employer of his plans to leave the house building business and live a more leisurely life with his family. The employer was sorry to see his good worker go and he asked him if he could build just one more house as a personal favour. The carpenter said 'yes', but this time, it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work. He resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior material. It was an unfortunate way to end his career. When the carpenter finished his work, his employer handed over the key of the house to the carpenter and said 'This is your house, my gift to you'

What a shock! What a shame! If he had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently. Now he had to live in a poorly built house. So it is with us. We build our lives, a day at a time, often putting less than our best into the building. Then with a shock, we realize we have to live in the house we have built. If we could do it over, we would do it much differently. But you cannot go back ; you are the carpenter and everyday you hammer a nail, place a board, or erect a wall. Someone once said, "Our attitude and the choices we make today, help build the house we will live in tomorrow. Therefore build wisely."

1. The carpenter told his employer _____ . (1)
2. What favour did his employer ask from the carpenter? (1)
3. Which word in the first paragraph means the same as art of skill of a workman? (1)
4. What surprise did the employers have for the carpenter? (1)
5. Provide the message of the passage in one sentence. (1)

v. (a) Choose the correct homophone to complete the sentence : (2)

1. What is the taxi _____ from your home to your office? (fair/fare)
2. It takes three _____ to fly from Delhi to Chennai. (ours/hours)

(b) Choose the correct synonym for the underlined word : (2)

1. Do not get disheartened by the challenges along the way.

- (i) satisfied
- (ii) excited
- (iii) discouraged
- (iv) happy

2. Kajol felt drowsy under the influence of medicine.

- (i) active
- (ii) sleepy
- (iii) healthy
- (iv) pleasant.

(c) Choose the correct form of the verbs given in the brackets : (1)

Do you still _____ to the Tennis club? (belong/belongs)

VI. (a) Do as directed :

1. What enquiry would you make in the following situation?
You want to know the arrival time of Prasanthi Express. (1)
2. How do you introduce your English teacher to your mother? (1)

(b) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate articles/prepositions : (3)

Suraj came to _____ party on _____ rainy day _____ his parents.

(c) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate tense form of the verb given in the brackets : (3)

1. A good player _____ everyday. (practice)
2. John _____ his friend yesterday. (meet)
3. I _____ the Taj Mahal last month. (visit)

VII. Develop a short story by using the hints given below and suggest a suitable title for the same : (4)

A hard-working farmer _____ always happy _____ singing at work _____ boys gathering round him _____ playing with them _____ his landlord unhappy and morose _____ suffering from sleeplessness _____ asks the farmer for remedy _____ farmer's reply : 'Hard work, sound sleep'.

VIII. Write an essay any **ONE** of the topics given below in about a page : (4)

1. Impact of mobile phones on students.
2. Your favourite author.

IX. Summarise the following passage : (4)

English is the world's lingua franca, the language of Science, Technology, Business, diplomacy and popular culture that probably explains why it is the World's most widely spoken language. It probably also explains why native English speakers are so reluctant to learn a second language it's not worth the effort.

In 2005, the European commission carried out a survey of the European Union's 25 member states. The two with the lowest rates of bilingualism – defined as being able to hold a conversation in more than one language were the UK and Ireland. About two-thirds of people in these countries speak only in English. It's a similar story wherever English is spoken as the mother tongue. Only about 25 percent of US citizens can converse in other languages. In Australia, the rates are even lower.

Compare that with Europe where multi lingualism is the rule rather than the exception. More than half of EU citizens are bilingual and not just because they live in a country like Luxembourg with multiple official languages. Even in France, which has only one official language and is immensely proud of its linguistic heritage most people speak a second language.

Again that is largely due to the dominance of English. Across Europe, English is by far the most commonly learned language. High levels of bilingualism are not driven by a general desire to learn languages by a specific need to learn English.