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**XCS-400**

**B. Tech. (Fourth Semester)**

**End Semester EXAMINATION, 2017**

**(All Branches)**

**CAREER SKILLS**

*Time : Three Hours ] [ Maximum Marks : 100*

**Note : Attempt all questions.**

**Read the passage and answer the questions that follow (Q1-Q5) (5 marks)**

The Galapagos Islands are in the Pacific Ocean, off the western coast of South America. They are a rocky, lonely spot, but they are also one of the most unusual places in the world. One reason is that they are the home of some of the last giant tortoises left on earth.

Weighing hundreds of pounds, these tortoises, or land turtles, wander slowly around the rocks and sand of the islands. Strangely, each of these islands has its own particular kinds of tortoises. There are seven different kinds of tortoises on the eight islands, each kind being slightly different from the other.

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Hundreds of years ago, thousands of tortoises wandered around these islands. However, all that changed when people started landing there. When people first arrived in 1535, their ships had no refrigerators. This meant that fresh food was always a problem for the sailors on board. The giant tortoises provided an easy solution to this problem.

Ships would anchor off the islands, and crews would row ashore and seize as many tortoises as they could. Once the animals were aboard the ship, the sailors would roll the tortoises onto their backs. The tortoises were completely helpless once on their backs, so they could only lie there until used for soups and stews. Almost 100,000 tortoises were carried off in this way. The tortoises faced other problems, too. Soon after the first ships, settlers arrived, bringing pigs, goats, donkeys, dogs and cats. All of these animals ruined life for the tortoises. Donkeys and goats ate all the plants that the tortoises usually fed on, while the pigs, dogs and cats consumed thousands of baby tortoises each year. Within a few years, it was hard to find any tortoise eggs- or even any baby tortoises.

By the early 1900s, people began to worry that the last of the tortoises would soon die out. No one, however, seemed to care enough to do anything about the problem. More and more tortoises disappeared, even though sailors no longer needed them for food.

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For another 50 years, this situation continued. Finally, in the 1950s, scientists decided that something must be done.

The first part of their plan was to remove as many cats, dogs and other animals as they could from the islands. Next, they tried to make sure that more baby tortoises would be born. To do this, they started looking for wild tortoise eggs. They gathered the eggs and put them in safe containers. When the eggs hatched, the scientists raised the tortoises in special pens. Both the eggs and tortoises were numbered so that the scientists knew exactly which kinds of tortoises they had and which island they came from. Once the tortoises were old enough and big enough to take care of themselves, the scientists took them back to their islands and set them loose. This slow, hard work continues today, and, thanks to it, the number of tortoises is now increasing every year. Perhaps these wonderful animals will not disappear after all.

1. What happened first ?

- (a) Sailors took tortoises aboard ships.
- (b) The tortoise meat was used for soups and stews.
- (c) Tortoises were put onto their backs.
- (d) Settlers brought other animals to the islands.
- (e) Pigs had been all the sailors had to eat.

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2. What happened soon after people brought animals to the islands ?
  - (a) Tortoise eggs were kept in safe containers.
  - (b) Scientists took away as many animals as they could.
  - (c) The animals ate the tortoises' food and eggs.
  - (d) The tortoises fought with the other animals.
  - (e) The tortoises continued to wander freely.
3. When did people start to do something to save the tortoises ?
  - (a) In the 1500s
  - (b) In the 1950s
  - (c) In the early 1900s
  - (d) In the 1960s
  - (e) In the 1400s
4. What happens right after the tortoise eggs hatch ?
  - (a) The scientists take the tortoises back to their islands.
  - (b) The scientists get rid of cats, dogs, and other animals.
  - (c) The sailors use the tortoises for food.
  - (d) The scientists raise the tortoises in special pens.
  - (e) The scientists encourage the villagers to help.

5. What happened last ?
  - (a) The tortoises began to disappear.
  - (b) The number of tortoises began to grow.
  - (c) Scientists took away other animals.
  - (d) Tortoises were taken back to their home islands.
  - (e) The number of tortoises began to decrease.

**Fill the gaps with the correct tenses. (Q6-Q11)**

(5 marks)

6. I (learn) ..... English for seven years now.
7. But last year I (not/work) ..... hard enough for English, that's why my marks (not/be) ..... really that good then.
8. As I (pass/want) ..... my English exam successfully next year, I (study) ..... harder this term.
9. During my last summer holidays, my parents (send) ..... me on a language course to London.
10. It (be) ..... great and I (think) ..... I (learn) ..... a lot.
11. At the moment I (revise) ..... English grammar.

**Reading Comprehension (Q12-Q16)** (5 marks)

What needs to be set right is our approach to work. It is a common sight in our country of employees reporting for duty on time and at the same time doing

little work. If an assessment is made of time they spent in gossiping, drinking tea, eating "pan" and smoking cigarettes, it will be shocking to know that the time devoted to actual work is negligible. The problem is the standard which the leadership in administration sets for the staff. Forget the ministers because they mix politics and administration. What do top bureaucrats do ? What do the below down officials do ? The administration set up remains weak mainly because the employees do not have the right example to follow and they are more concerned about being in the good books of the bosses than doing work.

12. The employees in our country :

- (a) are quite punctual but not duty conscious
- (b) are not punctual, but somehow manage to complete their work
- (c) are somewhat lazy but good natured
- (d) are not very highly qualified

13. According to the writer, the administration in India :

- (a) is by and large effective
- (b) is very strict and firm
- (c) is affected by red tape
- (d) is more or less ineffective

14. The word 'assessment' means :

- (a) enquiry
- (b) report
- (c) evaluation
- (d) summary

15. The leadership in administration :

- (a) sets a fine example to the employees
- (b) is of a reasonably high standard
- (c) is composed of idealists
- (d) is of a very poor standard

16. The central idea of passage could be best expressed by the following :

- (a) The employee outlook towards work is justified
- (b) The employee must change their outlook towards work
- (c) The employees would never change their work culture
- (d) The employer-employee relationship is far from healthy

**In each question, an incomplete statement followed by fillers is given. Pick out the best one which can complete incomplete stem correctly and meaningfully. (Q17-Q20) (4 marks)**

17. With great efforts his son succeeded in convincing him not to donate his entire wealth to an orphanage .....

- (a) and lead the life of a wealthy merchant

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- (b) but to a home for the forsaken children
  - (c) and make an orphan of himself
  - (d) as the orphanage needed a lot of donations
  - (e) as the orphanage had been set up by him
18. He always stammers in public meetings, but his today's speech ..... .
- (a) was fairly audible to everyone present in the hall
  - (b) was not received satisfactorily
  - (c) could not be understood properly
  - (d) was not liked by the audience
  - (e) was free from that defect
19. Even though it is very large house ..... .
- (a) there is a lot of space available in it for children
  - (b) there is hardly any space available for children
  - (c) there is no dearth of space for children
  - (d) the servants take a long time to clean it
  - (e) the municipal taxes on it are very happy

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20. In order to help the company attain its goal of enhancing profit, all the employees ..... .
- (a) urged the management to grant paid leave
  - (b) appealed the management to implement new welfare schemes
  - (c) voluntarily offered to work overtime with lucrative compensation
  - (d) voluntarily offered to render additional services in lieu of nothing
  - (e) decided to enhance production at the cost of quality of the product

**Answer the following questions : (Q21-Q24)**

- 21. Tips for powerful presentation. 5
- 22. How to become a good reader ? 5
- 23. What are the areas to be concentrated while preparing for a GD ? Explain ? 6
- 24. What is GOOD LEADERSHIP in GD and how to show it ? 6

**In the following passage some of the words (Q25 to Q34) have been left out. First read the passage over and try to understand what it is about. Then fill in the blanks with the help of the alternatives given. (Q25-Q34) (10 marks)**

His talk used to be full of wit and humor. He liked reading. He was a .....25..... reader and would pour over books .....26..... a wide range of interests as .....27..... he got them. He had .....28..... a standing

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order to two book shops .....29..... Bombay to mail him catalogues .....30..... all the latest titles. Books would .....31..... come to him in crates .....32..... to the amazement of his friends. He .....33..... To set apart a portion .....34..... His salary every month for meeting the cost of these books.

25. (a) voracious  
(b) fervent  
(c) anxious  
(d) enthusiastic
26. (a) covering  
(b) barring  
(c) including  
(d) containing
27. (a) firmly  
(b) quickly  
(c) soon  
(d) urgently
28. (a) offered  
(b) proclaimed  
(c) intimated  
(d) given
29. (a) at  
(b) in  
(c) within  
(d) inside

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30. (a) of  
(b) about  
(c) for  
(d) from
31. (a) rarely  
(b) occasional  
(c) sometimes  
(d) often
32. (a) most  
(b) much  
(c) least  
(d) more
33. (a) tried  
(b) liked  
(c) used  
(d) wanted
34. (a) of  
(b) from  
(c) in  
(d) with

**Make sentences with the following prepositional phrases so as to bring out the meaning clearly. (Q35-Q38) (4 marks)**

35. put-up  
36. put-out  
37. put-off  
38. take down

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Find the error in the sentences, if any and re-write the correct sentence. If there is no error then write 'no error' as your answer. (Ignore the errors of punctuation, if any). (Q39-Q42) (4 marks)

39. Geography is the study of the location, extent, distribution, frequency, and interaction of all significant elements of the human and physical environment on or near the Earth's surface.
40. A couple of tourists approached him, asked a few questions, and will snap a souvenir photo.
41. Wood apple is a natural source of sugar, pectin, gum, and fibre.
42. Every Sunday, Vinay plays basketball while, his brother Vinod is going swimming.

Find the correct answer (Q43-Q47) (5 marks)

43. At present, the rate of economic growth is very satisfactory, but ..... when foreign competition makes itself felt, this will not be the case.
- (a) enthusiastically
- (b) eventually
- (c) considerably
- (d) effectively
- (e) preferably
44. The study of the situation covers a great deal of relevant material, but does not tackle the real issues ..... enough.
- (a) disturbingly

- (b) outrageously
- (c) vaguely
- (d) currently
- (e) adequately
45. As the new field worker will be working in close ..... with several others, make sure you select someone with agreeable personality.
- (a) productivity
- (b) discretion
- (c) collaboration
- (d) suspicion
- (e) uniformity
46. Serbian ..... in Bosnia has been strongly condemned by the civilized world, but little serious action has been taken against it
- (a) settlement
- (b) conduct
- (c) treaty
- (d) investment
- (e) compliment
47. Many of the pictures sent from outer space are presently on ..... in the public library.
- (a) account
- (b) duty
- (c) exchange
- (d) reinforcement
- (e) display

Choose the correct form of the verb that agrees with the subject (Q48-Q53) (6 marks)

48. (Is, Are) the tweezers in this drawer ?  
49. Your pants (is, are) at the cleaner's.  
50. The committee (debates, debate) these questions carefully.  
51. The committee (leads, lead) very different lives in private.  
52. The Prime Minister, together with his wife, (greet, greets) the press cordially.  
53. All of the CDs, even the scratched one, (is, are) in this case.

Choose the appropriate options to complete the sentences. (Q54-Q57) (4 marks)

54. The beginning of the monsoon ..... any day now, and so, for the last few days, the farmers ..... their fields.  
(a) has been expected / were preparing  
(b) will be expected / prepare  
(c) is expected I have been preparing  
(d) is being expected / are preparing  
(e) was expected / have prepared
55. Clive was selling his old laptop at a very low price; I ..... it, but I was completely broke at the time.  
(a) must have bought

- (b) have to buy  
(c) will buy  
(d) could buy  
(e) would have bought
56. My bicycle was ..... by now, but I see it ..... there in the shop, still broken.  
(a) to repair / having sat  
(b) repaired / sit  
(c) to be repaired / to have sat  
(d) repairing / to sit  
(e) to have been repaired / sitting
57. Sorry I'm late, but if I had known you lived ..... away, I would have left home .....  
(a) so far / earlier  
(b) too far / as early  
(c) the furthest / the earliest  
(d) as far / so early  
(e) such a far / too early

Directions : Rewrite each sentence, moving the misplaced modifier to its correct position (Q58-Q62) (5 marks)

58. Making only minimum wage, I nearly earned \$2,000 last summer.  
59. A fish was found in the Pacific Ocean that had been considered extinct.



60. The contractors needed all kinds of artists to paint the mural badly.
61. Left alone in the house, the thunderstorm terrified the two small children.
62. The bus station was located by a river which was made of red brick.

**Choose the word, which is most similar in meaning to the word printed in bold. (Q63-Q64) (2 marks)**

63. EMERGE :

- (a) Drawn
- (b) Evolve
- (c) Shine
- (d) Grow
- (e) Submerge

64. CONSCIOUS :

- (a) Desirable
- (b) Deliberate
- (c) Planned
- (d) Unconscious
- (e) Wanted

**Rewrite the following sentences after making the necessary corrections. (Q65-Q68) (4 marks)**

65. Between you and I, the secretary is not a gentleman.
66. You, he and I are in the wrong.
67. Only you and him can do this work fast.
68. The team after taking its bath, have gone for practice of cricket.

**A sentence is given in four different forms. Only one of them is correct grammatically. Mark the of the correct one as the answer. (Q69-Q72) (4 marks)**

69. (a) I shall meet few people if they come.  
 (b) I shall meet a few people if they come.  
 (c) I shall meet a few people when they will come.  
 (d) I shall meet a few people if they will come.
70. (a) There were lesser children in the class than expected.  
 (b) There were fewer children in the class than expected.  
 (c) There were little children in the class than expected.  
 (d) There were a small children in the class than expected.
71. (a) He always comes to class lately.  
 (b) He always came to class lately.  
 (c) He will always come to class late.  
 (d) He always comes late to class
72. (a) The little boy is standing beside his mother.  
 (b) The little boy is standing besides his mother.  
 (c) A little boy is standing besides his mother.  
 (d) The little boy there is standing besides his mother.

Some proverbs/idioms are given below together with their meanings. Choose the correct meaning of proverb/idiom. If there is no correct meaning given, E (i.e.) 'None of these' will be the answer. (Q73-Q74) (2 marks)

73. To smell a rat

- (a) To see signs of plague epidemic
- (b) To get bad smell of a bad dead rat
- (c) To suspect foul dealings
- (d) To be in a bad mood
- (e) None of these

74. To hit the nail right on the head

- (a) To do the right thing
- (b) To destroy one's reputation
- (c) To announce one's fixed views
- (d) To teach someone a lesson
- (e) None of these

Pick out the most effective word(s) from the given words to fill in the blank to make the sentence meaningfully complete. (Q75-Q77) (3 marks)

75. He is the person who is ..... to blame.

- (a) mostly
- (b) sure
- (c) most
- (d) bound

76. The waiter hasn't brought the coffee ..... I've been here an hour already.

- (a) till
- (b) up
- (c) yet
- (d) still

77. I have read one novel by Premchand. I want to read ..... novel by him.

- (a) other
- (b) another
- (c) all
- (d) few

Complete the following sentences using appropriate articles. In some cases, no articles are needed. (Q78-Q80). (3 marks)

78. .... man is mortal.

79. This book has won ..... Booker prize.

80. He works at ..... factory.

Select the correct word/words from the choices that complete the given sentence as your answer. Please note that more than once choice may fit in to make syntactically correct sentence but select the choice that is logical in the context of the sentence. (Q81-Q83). (3 marks)

81. Success .....

- (a) is something which can be achieved overnight

- (b) needs hard work and commitment
- (c) depends on one's destiny
- (d) is not achieved by those who are fortunate

82. In most developed countries it is mandatory to have strategically placed traffic police cameras .....

- (a) in order to avoid accidents
- (b) to stop the menace of eve-teasing
- (c) to keep an eye on those indulging in nefarious activities.
- (d) in order to monitor the speed of vehicular traffic meticulously

83. Causing damage to public property and not adhering to traffic rules .....

- (a) depicts lack of civic sense
- (b) is a cognizable offence
- (c) can be avoided if the Supreme Court suggests stringent measures
- (d) is a regular occurrence in big cities