

End Semester Examination  
Communication Skills in English  
(HUM 1001)

Time 3 Hours

Max. Marks: 50

**I. Read the following passage and answer the questions on it: 1x8=08**

Telecommuting – substituting the computer for the trip to the job – has been hailed as a solution to all kinds of problems related to office work. For workers it promises freedom from the office, less time wasted in traffic, and help with child - care conflicts. For management, telecommuting helps keep high performers on board, minimizes tardiness and absenteeism by eliminating commutes, allows periods of solitude for high –concentration task, and provides scheduling flexibility. In some areas, such as Southern California and Seattle, Washington, local governments are encouraging companies to start telecommuting programs in order to reduce rush - hour congestion and improve air quality. But these benefits do not come easily. Making a telecommuting program work requires careful planning and an understanding of the differences between telecommuting realities and popular images.

Many workers are seduced by rosy illusions of life as a telecommuter. A computer programmer from New York City moves to the tranquil Adirondack Mountains and stays in contact with her office via computer. A manager comes in to his office three days a week and works at home the other two. An accountant stays home to care for child; she hooks up her telephone modem connections and does office work between calls to the doctor.

These are powerful images, but they are a limited reflection of reality. Telecommuting workers soon learn that it is almost impossible to concentrate on work and care for a young child at the same time. Before

a certain age, young children cannot recognize, much less respect, the necessary boundaries between work and family. Additional child support is necessary if the parent is to get any work done.

Management, too, must separate the myth from the reality. Although the media has paid a great deal of attention to telecommuting, in most cases it is the employee's situation, not the availability of technology, which precipitates a telecommuting arrangement. That is partly why, despite the widespread press coverage, the number of companies with work-at-home programs or policy guidelines remains small.

1. The main subject of the passage is
  - (A) Changing approach to work
  - (B) Driving to work
  - (C) Problems of office work
  - (D) Commuters for child - care purposes
2. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a problem for office employees?
  - (A) Being restricted to the office      (B) Incurring expenses for lunches and clothing
  - (C) Taking care of sick children      (D) Driving in heavy traffic
3. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a problem for an employer that is potentially solved by telecommuting?
  - (A) Employees' lateness for work
  - (B) Employees' absence from work
  - (C) Employees' need for time alone to work intensively
  - (D) Employee's' conflicts with managing time for different tasks
4. Which of the following does the author mention as a possible disadvantage of telecommuting?
  - (A) Small children cannot understand the boundaries of work and play.
  - (B) Computer technology is not advanced enough to accommodate the needs of every situation.
  - (C) Electrical malfunctions can destroy a project.
  - (D) The worker often does not have all the needed resources at home.

5. Which of the following is an example of telecommuting as described in the passage?

- (A) A scientist in a laboratory developing plans for a space station
- (B) A computer programmer sending via computer documents created at home
- (C) A computer technician repairing an office computer network
- (D) A teacher directing computer-assisted learning in a private school

6. The word ‘ precipitates’ in the last paragraph means

- a. Influences
- b. spreads
- c. scatters
- d. triggers

7. Select the appropriate antonym to the word ‘ tardiness’

- a. Efficiency
- b. lethargy
- c. punctuality
- d. regularity

8. In the sentence ‘telecommuting helps keep high performers **on board**’ the highlighted phrase means

- a. high spirit
- b. on a ship
- c. involved
- d. anxious

**B. Answer the following questions in about 50 words**

**2x2= 04**

- a. Is telecommunicating a positive development? Justify.
- b. Your views on future of telecommunication

**II      Read the following passage and answer the questions on it:**

Governments looking for easy popularity have frequently been tempted into announcing give-a-ways of all sorts; free electricity, virtually free water, subsidized food, cloth at half price, and so on. The subsidy culture has gone to extremes. The richest farmers in the country get subsidized fertilizers. University education, typically accessed by the wealthier sections, is charged at a fraction of cost. Postal services are subsidized, and so are railway services. Bus fares cannot

be raised to economical levels because there will be violent protest, so bus travel is subsidized too. In the past, price control on a variety of items, from steel to cement, meant that industrial consumer of these items got them at less than actual cost, while the losses of the public sector companies that produced them were borne by the taxpayer! A study done a few years ago, came to the conclusion that subsidies in the Indian economy total as much as 14.5 per cent of gross domestic product. At today's level, that would work out to about Rs. 1,50,000 crore.

And who pay the bill? The theory-and the political fiction on the basis of which it is sold to unsuspecting voters-is that subsidies go the poor, and are paid for by the rich. The fact is that most subsidies go the 'rich' (defined in the Indian context as those who are above the poverty line), and much of the tab goes indirectly to the poor. Because the hefty subsidy bill results in fiscal deficits, which in turn push up rates of inflation-which, as everyone knows, hits the poor the hardest of all. That is why taxmen call inflation the most regressive form of taxation.

The entire subsidy system is built on the thesis that people cannot help themselves, therefore governments must do so. That people cannot afford to pay for variety of goods and services, and therefore the government must step in. This thesis has been applied not just in the poor countries but in the rich ones as well; hence the birth of the welfare state in the west, and an almost Utopian social security system; free medical care, food aid, old age security, et.al. But with the passage of time, most of the wealthy nations have discovered that their economies cannot sustain this social safety net, which in fact reduces the desire among people to pay their own way, and takes away some of the incentive to work, in short, the bill was unaffordable, and their societies were simply not willing to pay. To the regret of many, but because of the laws of economies are harsh, most Western societies have been busy pruning the welfare bill.

In India, the lessons of this experience over several decades, and in many countries-do not seem to have been learnt. Or they are simply ignored in the pursuit of immediate votes. People who are promised cheap food or clothing do not in most cases look beyond the gift horses-to the question of who picks up the tab. The uproar over higher petrol, diesel and cooking gas prices ignored this basic question; if the user of cooking gas does not want to pay for its cost, who should pay? Diesel in the country is subsidised, and if the user of cooking gas does not want to pay for its full cost, who does he or she think should pay the balance of the cost? It is a simple question, nevertheless it remains unasked.

When the governments, whether state or the central, want to offer food at half its cost to everyone below the poverty line, who will pick up the tab? A few of the state governments have been bankrupted by selling rice at a cheap price. Should the Central Government be bankrupted too, before facing up to the question of what is affordable and what is not? Already, India is perennially short of power because the subsidy on electricity has bankrupted most electricity boards, and made private investment wary unless it gets all manner of state guarantees. It is easy to be soft and sentimental, by looking at programmes that will be popular. After all, who does not like a free lunch? But the evidence is surely mounting that the lunch isn't free at all. Somebody is paying the bill. And if you want to know who, take a look at the country's poor economic performance over the years

**A. Choose the correct answer**  
**08**

**1x8=**

1. Which of the following should not be subsidized now, according to the passage?
  - A. University education
  - B. Postal services
  - C. Steel
  - D. All of the above
  
2. The statement that subsidies are paid for by the rich and go the poor is:
  - A. fiction
  - B. fact
  - C. fact, according to the author
  - D. fiction, according to the author
  
3. Why do you think that the author calls the Western social security system Utopian?
  - A. The countries' belief in the efficacy of the system was bound to turn out to be false
  - B. The system followed by these countries is the best available in the present context
  - C. Everything under this system was supposed to be free but people opposed it

D. The theory of system followed by these countries is a pointer of development

4. It can be inferred from the passage that the author:

- A. Believes that people can help themselves and do not need the government
- B. Believes that the theory of helping with subsidy is destructive
- C. Is against the idea of democracy and free speech
- D. Is not in favour of helping the poor

5. People in India who receive the subsidy

- A. Are worried about who pays the cost of subsidy
- B. Are not worried about who pays the cost of subsidy
- C. Ask the questions on who pays the cost of subsidy
- D. None of the above

6. Which of the following is not true in the context of the passage?

- A. Where subsidies are concerned, the poor ultimately pay the tab
- B. Private investment may increase because of heavy subsidy
- C. Fiscal deficits are caused due to heavy subsidy bill
- D. Popular policies based on subsidies negatively impact the economy

7. Bus fares cannot be raised to **economical** levels because there will be violent protest, so bus travel is subsidized too.

Bring out the difference between the word **economical** and **economic** framing two different sentences using the words.

8. Western societies have been busy pruning the welfare bill.

Here the word ‘ pruning’ refers to

- a. Clearing   b. escalating   c. developing   d. clipping

**III Identify the sentence that is grammatically correct**

**1 x5=**

**05**

1. A. He has been playing regularly at Wimbledon since he was eighteen.  
B. He is playing regularly at Wimbledon since he was eighteen.  
C. He was playing regularly at Wimbledon since he was eighteen.
  
2. A. She returned the book to her friend, although I had specifically asked her not to.  
B. She had returned the book, although I specifically asked her not to.  
C. She returned the book, although I specifically asked her not to.
  
3. A. Everybody in the class has tickets.  
B. Everybody in the class have tickets.  
C. Everybody in the class has a ticket.
  
4. A. The list of items is on the desk.  
B. The list of items are on the desk
  
5. A. The court stated that they were ill –equipped to second-guess the trial court judge’s determination.  
B. The court stated that it was ill-equipped to second-guess the trial court judge’s determination.

**IV Rewrite the following letter after correcting the mistake  
05**

To

Associate Director  
MIT

From,

02-09- 14

Mr. Gundu  
Reg No:....., section Z,  
MIT, Manipal.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Regarding missing first sessional

With due respect, I want to inform that I am going home from 08 September 2014. My sister was getting married from 9 September to 12 September 2014 and all my family members coming for this event.. Our first sessional is held between 10 September to 13 September and I can not attend this due to marriage! As you know, it is very important for me and I am worried.

I hope you understand my problem and do the needful I kindly request you to consider my case and oblige.

Regards

Your's Sincerely,  
GUNDU

**V Read the following passage**

The pioneers of the teaching of science imagines that it's introduction into education would remove the conventionality artificiality backward-lookingness and which were characteristics; of classical studies, but gravely they were



dissatisfied. So, too, in their time had the humanists thought that the study of the classical authors in the original, would at once the dull pedantry banishes and superstitions of medieval scholasticisms. The professional schoolmaster was a match for both of them, and has almost managed to make the understanding of chemical reaction as dull and as dogmatic as an affair as the reading of Virgil's Aeneid.

the chief claim of the use of science in education is that, it teach a something child about the actual universe in which he is living in making him acquainted with the results of scientific discovery, and at the same time taught him how to logically think and inductively by studying scientific method. It help students to identify. A certain limited success has been reached in the first of this aim, but practically none at all in the second. Those privileged members of the community who have through been a secondary or a public school education may be expected to know something about the elementary physics and the chemistry of a hundred years ago, but they probably know more than any hardly bright boy can pick up from an interested in wireless or scientific hobbies out hours of school and more over As to the learning of scientific method, the whole thing is palpably a farce and sham actually for the conveyance of teachers and the requirement of the examination systems, it is necessary that the pupils not only do not learn only scientific method but learn precisely the reverse, that is, to believe exactly what they are told and to asked reproduce it when, whether it seems nonsense to them or not. The way in which educated people respond to such quackeries as spiritualisms or astrology, not to say more dangerous ones such as racial theories or currency myths, shows that fifty years of education in the method of science in Britain or Germany have reproduced no visible effect whatever. It is important to state that Education system that have been followed has had no effect or impact. the only way of learning the method of science are the longer and bitter way of personal experience, and, until the educational or social systems are altered to make this possible, the best we can expect is the production of a minority of people who are able to acquire some of the techniques of science and a still smaller minority who are able to use and develop them. (444 words)

Adapted from: The Social Function of Science, John D Bernal (1939)

- a. Rewrite the passage correcting the errors and underline the corrections made**

**05**

- b. Write a summary of the given passage      05**

## VI. Write an Essay on any one of the following: 10

- a. Euthanasia must be legalized
- b. Do men need reservation?

### 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 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 to create logical, complex structures, even when there is no grammar present for them to copy.

1 In paragraph 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 In paragraph 3, where can the following sentence be placed?

It included standardised word orders and grammatical markers that existed in neither the pidgin language, nor the language of the colonizers.

- ☐ A
- ☐ B
- ☐ C
- ☐ D

5 '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

6 'Make-shift' in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to:

- ☐ A complicated and expressive
- ☐ B simple and temporary
- ☐ C extensive and diverse
- ☐ D private and personal

7 Which sentence is closest in meaning to the highlighted sentence?

Grammar is universal and plays a part in every language, no matter how widespread it is.

- ☐ A All languages, whether they are spoken by a few people or a lot of people, contain grammar.
- ☐ B Some languages include a lot of grammar, whereas other languages contain a little.
- ☐ C Languages which contain a lot of grammar are more common than languages that contain a little.
- ☐ D The grammar of all languages is the same, no matter where the languages evolved.

8 All of the following are features of the new Nicaraguan sign language EXCEPT:

- ☐ A All children used the same gestures to show meaning.
- ☐ B The meaning was clearer than the previous sign language.
- ☐ C The hand movements were smoother and smaller.
- ☐ D New gestures were created for everyday objects and activities.

9 Which idea is presented in the final paragraph?

- ☐ A English was probably once a creole.
- ☐ B The English past tense system is inaccurate.
- ☐ C Linguists have proven that English was created by children.
- ☐ D Children say English past tenses differently from adults.

10 Look at the word 'consistent' in paragraph 4. This word could best be replaced by which of the following?

- ☐ A natural
  - ☐ B predictable
  - ☐ C imaginable
  - ☐ D uniform
- 

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My teacher, Prof KJ Kamath, who is present here with us today, Hon'ble Chancellor Dr. Pai, Pro Chancellor Dr. Ballal, Vice Chancellor Dr. K Ramnarayan, dignitaries, parents and dear students!

At the outset let me start by first congratulating the outgoing class of 2014 for your remarkable achievement in graduating from this phenomenal institution that is the Manipal Institute of Technology. When I got a call from Registrar Prabhu, the first thing that crossed my mind was a call from Manipal? Did I do something wrong in my last year of college? Are they going to take back my degree? But then soon I came to my senses and realized that it's been thirty years since I passed out and I could not have done something so wrong to be called back for punishment after three decades!

Registrar Prabhu then asked me if I could speak at the forthcoming Convocation.

I was overwhelmed with a number of mixed emotions. Overwhelmed because there can be nothing more rewarding than one's alma mater appreciating what one has done in life. I mean it's the same place where one has also done a lot of mischief! I felt like a child basking in the warmth of a parent's approval. Mixed emotions because while I was delighted with the invite, I also felt guilty that I had not visited Manipal after I had passed out Banmali Agrawala, President & CEO, GE South Asia in 1984. I had taken my learnings at MIT for granted. This is indeed something I will certainly correct in the years to come.

Dear Friends, MIT of today is a lot different than what it was 34 years ago, when I had entered college. I joined MIT in 1980 and yes to be honest, I had failed to clear the other so called blue chip engineering colleges – a fact which at that time had disappointed me but today makes me deeply grateful. I came from a very well educated family and both my parents were distinguished Professors of Law at the Poona University. My father was educated at Harvard and my mother at Yale. Being the only child and to prevent me from getting spoilt, I was dispatched to the boarding school at the Scindia School Gwalior. I could stay there for just two years – in class 3 and 4 – before returning to the comforts of home. I joined Loyola High School, a Jesuit school, in Poona and was a fairly good student, consistently ranking among the first five throughout my schooling years (yes, we did have ranking in school in those days!). For some strange reason, I lost focus on studies in class 11 and 12 and did not secure adequate marks to get admission into a desired college. My inability to succeed in an entrance exam was further magnified given the fact that my parents were successful and well-known academicians.

So, Finally I started my life in Manipal, somewhat dejected and hurt. I found it difficult to cope with some subjects in my first semester and could not clear Metallurgy. But I did make some great friends who are with me – even today. They bucked me up and I soon started to enjoy what I was studying. Even thirty years ago, the one thing that MIT was known for was its practical approach towards engineering. I studied Mechanical Engineering and Professor Karanth ran the Mechanical workshop like a temple. I enjoyed doing things with my hands and my understanding of engineering became a lot more real in the workshop. The

Mechanical workshop was one of my favourite places. In one of the later semesters, in a class on Operations Research, I asked a question of Professor KJ Kamath. He found the question to be so brilliant that he went on to acknowledge that as the most intelligent point that any student had ever made in his class. I'm not sure if the question was really that smart but Professor Kamath's encouragement did a lot for my confidence. Prof Kamath had pushed the right button in me to get me going. During my stay at MIT, I got selected in the Hockey team, won a few singing competitions and even became the President of the Rajdhani club. I graduated with a distinction which was in fact, an average of the last four semesters back then. My experience in running a Club was my first lesson in leadership. In short, I finished college on a rather good note.

My first job was as an engineer trainee at Bajaj Auto and I must have been one of the few interns who was very comfortable working on machines and doing things with his own hands.

Professor Karanth had trained me well. My hands-on approach helped me endear myself to the workers on the shop floor. I was off to a good start.

I subsequently worked in organisations like Tatas in India and multinational corporations like Wartsila and General Electric. I lived abroad in Finland working for Wartsila for over five years. Slowly but surely, I grew in confidence and overcame my mental block of being a "disappointment".

Along the way I was fortunate to have found my life partner and friend who made huge sacrifices to help me succeed and tolerated all my idiosyncrasies.

As I look back, I take a lot of pride in the fact that I learnt from my mistakes and it is this alma mater that gave me the confidence and ability to do so.

Life has turned a full circle for me and here I am standing at the altar of the same alma mater, thirty four years later, transformed from a so-called failure, to a so-called successful officer of the world's largest infrastructure company .

As I look ahead, I see a very bright future for all of you. The MIT of today is a much sought after institution and the environment is Banmali Agrawala, President & CEO, GE South Asia

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brilliantly conducive for high quality learning. It is also an environment which could make you complacent or perhaps, even arrogant.

I would therefore like to take this opportunity to share the learnings of my life with you and as a fellow MITian I seek your indulgence in hearing me out.

I wish to make five points.

First: No human being can be branded a failure or a success.

It was wrong on my part to have thought of myself as a failure thirty four years ago. It would be equally wrong for me to think of



myself as a success today. The circumstances around us keep changing and if anyone believes they can control their destiny to guarantee success, they are mistaken. We have seen many "successful" people fall from grace and many "failures" recognized as successes, later on in their lives.

It is impossible to live life without failing at something. Unless of course, you live so cautiously that you might as well have not lived at all. And in that case you have certainly failed!

In the words of Churchill, "Success is not final, failure is not fatal, and it is the courage to continue that counts".

Second: More important than your degree is your Attitude. Banmali Agrawala,  
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It is tempting to believe that after four years of engineering and with a degree, you know it all. Far from it. This degree is only an entry pass into the real world. You now know the various terms that are used in real world to communicate but your true learning will only begin now – as you graduate. What matters in the real world is not how well you have learnt the jargon but your Attitude. Are you curious to learn more? Can you get along with other people? What are you passionate about? Are you humble enough

to understand that there will always be something that you don't know? Do you want to make a difference? And so on...

Skills and knowledge can be acquired but Attitude is something that is difficult to change as age catches on.

Whenever I recruit people, academic qualification, is perhaps the last thing I look for. I look for passion, humility and the curiosity to learn. Once, while making the selection for the Tata

Administrative Service, there was this girl from Jammu, who had graduated from a small college near Jammu, with modest scores.

Her English was not exactly Queen's English but we could understand her well enough. Her passion, however, to do something for the people of her State, and her pride was electrifying. Our panel of three senior Tata Directors immediately decided to take her into the TAS programme, selecting her over many others with perfect scores from famous institutions. Banmali Agrawala, President & CEO, GE South Asia

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Bottom-line is, it is choice and not chance that determines your destiny. A positive attitude is the most important thing in life and will always carry the day.

Third: Don't take your loved ones for granted.

In pursuit of our personal ambitions, we usually take our loved ones for granted. Soon after I got married, we moved to Jamshedhpur because I got a good career opportunity. While there, I had to send my wife, who was expecting our first child, to her parents' place because there was some disturbance in town. I however, decided to stay on in Jamshedhpur because I put my job before my wife.

We soon moved to Finland which is a biting cold place. Our son was born in Finland. I spent more than 200 days in a year travelling, leaving my wife behind to fend with two young children. Once again I put my career ahead of family. I did well professionally but only because my wife decided to sacrifice her present for my future.

As you step into the real world and pursue your ambitions, I urge you to constantly remind yourself that there is someone out there who is giving up his or her today for your tomorrow. If nothing else, at least acknowledge that sacrifice and always remember it. Banmali Agrawala, President & CEO, GE South Asia

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Fourth: Technology can solve many of the world's challenges.

You are graduating from the Manipal institute Of Technology. The key word here is Technology. But technology has to have a purpose. The world today has about 8 billion people. It is said that global population will stabilize at around 11 billion. More than three fourths of the current global population does not have even basic amenities like clean drinking water, basic health care or electricity. We all know that the Earth has limited resources and our demands on those resources are constantly increasing. The only way to meet our ever increasing needs and with limited resources, is to leverage technology.

Consider these facts; more poverty has been reduced in the last fifty years than in the previous five hundred years and most of that has happened in the last twenty years. Your cell phone has more computing power than the Apollo space capsule. LED lights consume almost 70% less power than conventional bulbs. Cost of solar power in India has dropped by 40% over the last three years. The internet has revolutionised communication by making it affordable and faster at the same time. This festival season we found shopping malls relatively empty because people are buying online, etc. Technology has not only made our daily lives easier and more affordable but it has also altered our social behaviour. Banmali Agrawala, President & CEO, GE South Asia

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You and I my friends, have an obligation to use our knowledge of Technology to improve the world and even more so, in our part of the world, where poverty is still so rampant.

Remember, you have the power to make a difference so use that power well.

Fifth: You can never achieve success till you like what you are doing.

While you go about building your future, remember that you need to accomplish something before you demand respect. In order to accomplish something, you will need to focus on depth before breadth, take personal risk on what you believe in and live with integrity.

Dear friends, as you step out to face the world, carry your education with pride but humility, be confident but not arrogant, be grateful to your loved ones, remember their contributions in your growth and above all – have fun. The world will become a much nicer and more joyful place as you continue your climb. May you make many friends and may you meet them all at the top

Let me finish with a small Irish prayer for you.

May The Road Rise Up To Meet You Banmali Agrawala, President & CEO, GE South Asia

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May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face;

the rains fall soft upon your fields

and until we meet again,

may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Thank you for listening and once again wish you all the best!

Read the following passage and then determine the best choice of answer form the given options for each question based on the passage.

The problem of cardiac arrest has become a major problem these days. A lot of patients have acute pain after suffering from a stroke. There are plenty of medicines, surgical methods developed in the field of medicine to treat such cardiac problems. These solutions are time consuming and costly. In the process of rehabilitation, the medicines also have a lot of side effects on the human body and take time to give relief. Therefore, a lot of people go for alternative therapies that help in rehabilitation of patients who suffer from cardiac stroke. The alternative therapies help in relieving pain, stress and make the body healthy and fit through exercise, yoga as well as meditation.

Those who have the cardiac complaint, such patients have to take a good care of their diet. Also they must look after their regular exercise in order to stay fit and make sure that they do not take undue stress. These are some of the precautions that you need to take while you are in the process of rehabilitation. The cardiac rehabilitation can be carried out at the rehabilitation centers as well as at the residence of the patients. Once the patient learns all the exercise and techniques of meditation and understands what diet he or she should include in their meals as per the instructions of the doctor's and dieticians then it is possible to accomplish the rehabilitation process at home with little guidance and monitoring. But the best results are seen at the center, where the program is given to a group of patients together.

The alternative therapies used for cardiac rehabilitation are stress management, physical exercises and diet. Let us see these therapies in detail as follows. Stress management is very much essential in the rehabilitation process because it has a lot of effect on the patient's body. A lot of relaxation techniques are taught to the patients that helps them in stress management. Meditation is one of the main areas focused in the rehabilitation program.

The various rehabilitation programs also give you information on how to have a stress free lifestyle. The patients are supported and encouraged to discuss their problems with the counselor or fellow patients. This helps them to vent their feelings and feel comforted. Breathing exercises are also of great help for the patients who are undergoing cardiac rehabilitation.

In addition to stress management, physical exercises are also given a lot of importance the rehabilitation program. The patients are asked to perform various physical exercises which are suitable to them depending on their age and the

severity of their problems. These activities include activities like walking, jogging, cycling, and some other sports like badminton, tennis etc., to maintain their health and keep their muscles, bones and body tissues in a good state. Cardio exercises in a gymnasium are also encouraged. This helps in strengthening the muscles. Physical exercise gives the confidence to look at life. The exercise also helps in weight management.

The diet of these patients also needs to be looked upon very carefully. Such people should stay away from alcohol and tobacco consumption in order to improve their health. Make sure that their meals include plenty of organic foodstuffs as well as fruits and juices. Do not include junk and oily foodstuffs in your diet because they are very difficult to digest. The intake of calories should also be done at required level. It is a significant fact that the patients have to understand and work accordingly.

Questions:

Question 1

Which of the following is a growing problem of these days?

Alcohol addiction

Tobacco consumption

Cardiac arrest

Smoking



All of the above

Correct answer: c

## Question 2

Which of the following is one of the main areas focused in the rehabilitation program?

Meditation

Rehabilitation

Alcohol addiction

Weight loss

None of the above

Correct answer: a

## Question 3

In the process of rehabilitation \_\_\_\_\_ also have a lot of side effects on the human body and take time to give relief.

Fill in the blank according to the data given in the passage.

Physical exercises

Meditation

Medicines

Diet

All of the above

Correct answer: c

#### Question 4

The people suffering from cardiac arrest should stay away from which of the following things in order to improve their health?

Alcohol and tobacco consumption

Fruits and juices

Medicines and exercises

Organic foodstuffs

None of the above

Correct answer: a

#### Question 5

Suggest a suitable title for the above passage according to the data given in the passage.

Alternative therapies for cardiac rehab

Cardiac rehabilitation

Rehabilitation form cardiac problems

Useful Cardiac therapies

None of the above

Correct answer: a

Read the following passage. Then answer the questions and check your answers.

Most people can remember a phone number for up to thirty seconds. When this short amount of time elapses, however, the numbers are erased from the memory. How did the information get there in the first place? Information that makes its way to the short term memory (STM) does so via the sensory storage area. The brain has a filter which only allows stimuli that is of immediate interest to pass on to the STM, also known as the working memory.

There is much debate about the capacity and duration of the short term memory. The most accepted theory comes from George A. Miller, a cognitive psychologist who suggested that humans can remember approximately seven chunks of information. A chunk is defined as a meaningful unit of information, such as a word or name rather than just a letter or number. Modern theorists suggest that one can increase the capacity of the short term memory by chunking, or classifying similar information together. By organizing information, one can

optimize the STM, and improve the chances of a memory being passed on to long term storage.

When making a conscious effort to memorize something, such as information for an exam, many people engage in "rote rehearsal". By repeating something over and over again, one is able to keep a memory alive. Unfortunately, this type of memory maintenance only succeeds if there are no interruptions. As soon as a person stops rehearsing the information, it has the tendency to disappear. When a pen and paper are not handy, people often attempt to remember a phone number by repeating it aloud. If the doorbell rings or the dog barks to come in before a person has the opportunity to make a phone call, he will likely forget the number instantly.\* Therefore, rote rehearsal is not an efficient way to pass information from the short term to long term memory.\* A better way is to practice "elaborate rehearsal". \*This involves assigning semantic meaning to a piece of information so that it can be filed along with other pre-existing long term memories.\*

Encoding information semantically also makes it more retrievable. Retrieving information can be done by recognition or recall. Humans can easily recall memories that are stored in the long term memory and used often; however, if a memory seems to be forgotten, it may eventually be retrieved by prompting. The more cues a person is given (such as pictures), the more likely a memory can be retrieved. This is why multiple choice tests are often used for subjects that require a lot of memorization.

Glossary:

semantic: relating to the meaning of something

Reading Comprehension questions:

1. According to the passage, how do memories get transferred to the STM?

- A) They revert from the long term memory.
- B) They are filtered from the sensory storage area.
- C) They get chunked when they enter the brain.
- D) They enter via the nervous system.

Explanation:

Choice A is the opposite of what happens.

Choice C is what a person should try to do when memorizing something.

Choice D is not mentioned.

The correct answer is B. This is a factual question.

2. The word elapses in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to:

- A) passes
- B) adds up
- C) appears
- D) continues

The correct answer is A. This is a vocabulary question.

3. All of the following are mentioned as places in which memories are stored EXCEPT the:

- A) STM
- B) long term memory
- C) sensory storage area
- D) maintenance area

Explanation:

Choice A is mentioned in the first paragraph.

Choice B is mentioned in the second paragraph.

Choice C is mentioned in the first paragraph.

The correct answer is D. This is a negative factual question.

4. Why does the author mention a dog's bark?

- A) To give an example of a type of memory
- B) To provide a type of interruption

C) To prove that dogs have better memories than humans

D) To compare another sound that is loud like a doorbell

Explanation:

Choice A is incorrect because it is not the "reason" the author mentions it.

Choice C is not mentioned.

Choice D distracts you because both are mentioned as examples.

The correct answer is B. This is an author purpose question.

5. Look at the four stars that indicate where this sentence can be added to the passage. Where would the sentence fit best?

For example, a reader engages in elaborate rehearsal when he brings prior knowledge of a subject to a text.

The correct answer is fourth \* This is a insert text question.

6. How do theorists believe a person can remember more information in a short time?

A) By organizing it

B) By repeating it

C) By giving it a name

D) By drawing it

Explanation:

Choice B is what regular people think is true.

Choice C is not mentioned.

Choice D is a type of cue for retrieval.

The correct answer is A. This is a factual question.

7. The author believes that rote rotation is:

A) the best way to remember something

B) more efficient than chunking

C) ineffective in the long run

D) an unnecessary interruption

Explanation:

Choice A is contradicted by "not an efficient way".

Choice B is incorrect because these two terms are not compared.

Choice D is illogical.



The correct answer is C. This is a factual question.

8. The word it in the last paragraph refers to:

- A) encoding
- B) STM
- C) semantics
- D) information

The correct answer is D. This is a reference question.

9. The word elaborate in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to:

- A) complex
- B) efficient
- C) pretty
- D) regular

The correct answer is A. This is a vocabulary question.

10. Which of the following is NOT supported by the passage?

- A) The working memory is the same as the short term memory.
- B) A memory is kept alive through constant repetition.
- C) Cues help people to recognize information.
- D) Multiple choice exams are the most difficult.

Explanation:

Choice A is mentioned in paragraph one.

Choice B is mentioned in paragraph three (though an interruption will destroy it).

Choice C is mentioned in the last paragraph.

The correct answer is D. This is a negative factual question.

11. The word cues in the passage is closest in meaning to

- A) questions
- B) clues
- C) images
- D) tests

The correct answer is B. This is a vocabulary question.

12. Which of the following best provides the important information in the highlighted sentence from the passage. Incorrect answer choices leave out essential information or change the meaning of it

- A) Prompting is the easiest way to retrieve short term memory after an extended period of time.
- B) A memory can be retrieved by prompting, in a case where it has been rarely used.
- C) It's easier to remember short term memories than long term memories due to regular prompts.
- D) Recalling a long term memory that is often used is easy, while forgotten memories often require prompting.

Explanation:

Choice A changes the meaning of the information.

Choice B leaves out essential information about the long term memories that are used often.

Choice C changes the meaning of the information.

The correct answer is D. This is a sentence simplification question.

13. An introductory sentence for a summary of the passage is found below. Complete the summary by choosing the THREE answer choices that contain the most important ideas in the passage. Some sentences do not fit in the summary

because they provide ideas that are not mentioned in the passage or are only minor ideas from the passage. This question is worth 2 points.

The brain stores information that a person may need in the immediate future in a place called the short term memory (STM).

1. Most people can only remember numbers for a short time.
2. Many psychologists agree that only a certain amount of information can be stored in the STM at once.
3. Some techniques for memorization don't work because of potential interruptions.
- 4) Elaborate rehearsal is generally considered less effective than rote rehearsal.
- 5) Assigning meaning to information makes it easier for the brain to retrieve.

Explanation:

Choice 1. is a minor example in the passage.

Choice 2. is the topic of paragraph 2.

Choice 3. is the topic of paragraph 3.

Choice 4. incorrect according to the passage.

Choice 5. is the topic of paragraph 4.

The correct answers are 2, 3, and 5. This is a summary question.

## Cheating and Plagiarism

Students are responsible for familiarising themselves with the University Code of Student Conduct, as on enrollment with the University the student has placed themselves under the policies and regulations of the University and all of its duly constituted bodies. Disciplinary authority is exercised through the Student Conduct Committee. The Committee has procedures in place for hearing allegations of misconduct. Copies of the student conduct code are available at the Student Services Office.

Academic dishonesty is never condoned by the University. This includes cheating and plagiarism, which violate the Student Conduct Code and could result in expulsion or failing the course.

Cheating includes but is not limited to obtaining or giving unauthorized help during an examination, getting unauthorized information about the contents of an examination before it is administered, using unauthorised sources of information during an examination, altering or falsifying the record of any grades, altering or supplying answers after an examination has been handed in, falsifying any official University record, and misrepresenting the facts to get exemptions from or extensions to course requirements.

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to submitting any paper or other document, to satisfy an academic requirement, which has been copied either in whole or in part from someone else's work without identifying that person; failing to identify as a quotation a documented idea that has not been thoroughly assimilated into the student's language and style, or paraphrasing a passage so closely that the reader could be misled as to the source; submitting the same written or oral material in different courses without obtaining authorisation from the lecturers

involved; or 'dry-labbing', which includes obtaining and using experimental data from fellow students without the express consent of the lecturer, utilizing experimental data and laboratory write-ups from other parts of the course or from previous terms during which the course was conducted, and fabricating data to fit the expected results.

## Questions

Q1 - The Student Services Office familiarises students with the student code.

True

False

Not given

Q2 - Cheats will automatically be expelled because their behaviour cannot be condoned.

True

False

Not given

Q3 - The text lists all activities that are considered to be cheating.

True

False

Not given

Q4 - According to the text, cheating is a more serious offence than plagiarism.

True

False

Not given

Q5 - It is never acceptable to paraphrase closely.

True

False

Not given

Q6 - Students can submit the same work in different courses as long as they ask their lecturer and it is not their own.

True

False

Not given

Q7 - If students want to use other students' laboratory data, they must ask them and the lecturer first.

True

False

Not given

Q8 - Data must fit the expected results.

True

False

Not given

Fast-food is such a pervasive part of American life that it has become synonymous with American culture. Fast-food was born in America and it has now swollen into a \$106-billion industry. America exports fast-food worldwide and its attendant corporate culture, has probably been more influential and done more to destroy local food economies and cultural diversity than any government propaganda programme could hope to accomplish. No corner of the earth is safe from its presence and no aspect of life is unaffected. Fastfood is now found in shopping malls, airports, hospitals, gas stations, stadiums, on trains, and increasingly, in schools. There are 23,000 restaurants in one chain alone, and another 2,000 are being opened every year. Its effect has been the same on the millions of people it feeds daily and on the people it employs. Fast-food culture has changed how we work, from its assembly-line kitchens filled with robotic frying machines to the trite phrases spoken to customers by its poorly paid part-time workforce. In the United States, more than 57 per cent of the population eat meals away from home on any given day and they spend more money on fast-food than they do on higher education, personal computers, or even on new cars.

**1. This passage on American's fast-food industry -----.**

- ☐ A) shows convincingly that it is falling into disfavour
- ☐ B) is clearly written by someone who loves good food
- ☐ C) concentrates on negative aspects of the sector
- ☐ D) reveals the support it received from government propaganda

**2. The word "swollen" in line 2 -----.**

- ☐ A) emphasizes the speed at which the industry has grown
- ☐ B) suggests that the growth is excessive and unhealthy
- ☐ C) draws attention to the inevitability of the growth of the industry
- ☐ D) implies that the industry will continue to grow on steadily

**3. One point that receives a lot of attention in the passage is -----.**

- ☐ A) the fact that fast-food is now more popular outside the US than it is inside
- ☐ B) the consideration the fast-food companies show to their employees
- ☐ C) the fact that fast-food meets our dietary needs
- ☐ D) the far-reaching effects of the fast-food industry

**4. The writer of the passage clearly regrets the fact that -----.**

- ☐ A) the growth of the fast-food industry has now come to a halt
- ☐ B) local and traditional styles of food are being pushed off the market
- ☐ C) the fast-food industry cannot retain the high standards with which it started
- ☐ D) there are still more traditional restaurants than fast-food ones

**5. The assertion at the end of the passage that Americans spend more money on fastfood than they do on higher education -----**



- ☐ A) is a criticism of the amount of money spent on fast-food by Americans
- ☐ B) is an indication that higher education in the US is not expensive
- ☐ C) is, in the light of the rest of the passage, a gross exaggeration
- ☐ D) suggests that Americans are greedy for good food

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