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**First Term Examination - 2021**

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**GENERAL ENGLISH – II**

**Part II**

**Vocabulary**

**01. Fill the gaps with the correct words given below.**

**[Cash , tune , risk , home , temper]**

1. The younger scouts were too afraid to take the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of marching through the deep forest late at night.

2. After a while, the lecture lost his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and started to shout at the students who had been sniggering all the time.

3. I can’t say he’s very good at playing the saxophone. It all happens quite often that he plays out of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. Phillip, apologize to your sister! I don’t want to hear you calling her \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ any more.

5. We were informed by the shop assistant that they didn’t accept credit cards consequently, we had no other option but to pay in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**(05 Marks)**

02. Choose the words that best complete the sentences in the text.

People’s personalities **(1).** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ considerable from one another as there are no two alike. Our ingrained characteristic which **(2).** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the patterns of our behavior. Our reactions and temperaments are unparalleled on **(3).** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the diversified process that **(4).** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ our personality in the earliest **(5).** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of human development. Some **(6).** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of character may to come **(7).** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ be hereditary simulating the attributes that **(8).** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ our parents. Others may **(9).** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from the conditions experienced during pregnancy and infancy in this way reflecting the parents approach towards **(10).** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their offspring.

1. distinguish – converge – vary – differentiate

2. denote – resolve – inflict – determine

3. account – means – taken – event

4. mould – design – conceive – fabricate

5. states – instants – stages – terms

6. factors – traits – items – breeds

7. scope – area – extent – length

8. pertain – recognize – associate – identify

9. stem – relate – rise – formulate

10. breeding – rearing – growing – yielding **(10 Marks)**

03. Underline the correct word ending , selecting from those given in brackets.

1. He has been invite (ing , ed , ation) to the party by the president of the society.

2. She foolish (ness , ed , ly) accepted the offer and finally realized it was a mistake.

3. Your argu (ment , ed , able) is not practical in this issue.

4. It was grammar (tical , tically , tized) not accepted, but some people use this pattern in spoken English.

5. The unemploy (ment , ed , able) youths have started a protestation campaign to anguish the government. **(05 Marks)**

04. Select any five words from the list below and use each in meaning sentences.

Relevant, Accurate, Intimidate, Conclude, Recommend, Vulnerable, Removal, Reconcile, Confirm, Consent

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**(05 Marks)**

**Dialogues**

01. How do you respond in each of the following situation? Write one sentences or question for each situations.

1. You as an announcer at a prize giving function and you want to invite the chief guest to the stage for issuing certificates.

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2. You are the principal. A past pupil of your school, request a recommendation letter from you and you want to know the reason for the letter.

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3. You want to ask your friend, whether he likes to join you to go to the beach in the evening.

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4. You are a customer and you want to ask the salesman, whether it is possible to reduce the price of the shirt you have selected.

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5. You are not sure whether the buses to Kollupitiya stop at certain bus halt. You want to know about it from a person standing there.

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**(10 Marks)**

02. You are in the bank to inform about the loss of your ATM card. Complete the missing part of the conversation with the officer.

**Officer** : May I help you?

**You** : I have lost my ATM card, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Officer** : You should write a letter to the Manager informing the loss of your ATM card.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ?

**You** : I lost it last Sunday.

**Officer** : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ?

**You** : No, I didn’t inform the bank on that day.

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**Officer** : You should have done it, any way \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**You** : My identity card number is 65738543V

**Officer** : Ok, I will block your card first, in case anyone use it, will be a problem.

**You** : Thank you.

**Officer** : You are welcome. Please fill this form to apply for a new card.

**You** : Ok, That’s good.

**(05 Marks)**

03. Form a dialogue to the situation given below.

You work at a travel agent. Some customers are visiting you due to a problem they have had during their holidays. Convince them that they paid for what was offered and the conditions of the journey were previously accorded. **(10 Marks)**

04. Of the options given below each sentence in bold print. Underline the one that best expresses its meaning.

1. Had I known that Susi was in hospital, I would have gone to see her.

i. I went to see Susi when she was in hospital.

ii. I didn’t know that Susi was in hospital, So I couldn’t go to see her.

iii. I had known that Susi was in hospital, So I went to see her.

2. I wish I had done the exam well.

i. I didn’t do the exam well.

ii. I wish to do the exam well.

iii. I have done the exam well.

3. Mr. Devendra, whom I introduced to Sarath is an engineer.

i. Mr. Devendra introduced Sarath to me.

ii. An engineer introduced Sarath to me.

iii. Mr. Devendra is an engineer.

4. There are hardly any students in the school.

i. There are no students in the school.

ii. There are only few students in the school.

iii. There are students in the school.

5. Ravi stopped to speak to Ranjan.

i. Ravi waited to speak to Ranjan.

ii. Ravi asked Ranjan not to speak to him.

iii. Ravi has stopped speaking to Ranjan.

**(05 Marks)**

**Part – II**

01. Summarize the following passage in 35 words.

Over eating is one of the most wonderful practices, among those who think that they can afford it. In fact, authorities say that nearly all who can get as much as they desire, over-eat to their disadvantage. This class of people could save a great more food than they can save by missing one meal per week and of the same time they could improve their health. A heavy meal at night, the so-called ‘dinner’ is the fashion with many and often it is taken shortly before retiring. It is unnecessary and could be forgone, not only once a week but daily without loss of strength. From three to five hours are needed to digest food. While sleeping, this food not being required to give energy for work, is in many cases converted into excess fat, giving rise to over-weight. The evening meal should be light, taken three or four hours before retiring. This prevents over eating, conserves energy and reduces the cost of food. **(10 Marks)**

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**The handwriting on the wall**

A weary mother returned from the store,

Lugging groceries through the kitchen door

Awaiting her arrival was her eight year old son, Anxious to related what

His younger brother had done

“ While I was out playing and did was on a call, T. J took his

Crayons and wrote on the wall !

It’s on the new paper you just hang in the den

I told him you’d be mad at having to do it again ”

She let out a moan and furrowed her brow “ Where is your

Little brother right now?”

She emptied her arms and with a purposeful stride she marched to his

Closet where he had gone to hide.

She called his full name as she entered his room He trembled with

Fear- he knew that meant doom for the next ten minutes she ranted

And raved

About the expensive wall paper and how she had saved

Lamenting all the work it would take to repair She condemned his

Actions and total lack of care the most she scolded, the madder

She got,

Then she sopped from his room totally distraught !

She headed for the den to confirm her fears

When she saw the wall her eyes flooded with tears the message she read pierced her

Soul with a dart it said I love mummy”. Surrounded by heart well, the wall paper

Remained just as she found it, with an empty picture frame hung to surround it a reminder

To her and indeed to all

Take time to read the hand writing on the wall.

By Valerie Cox

Answer these questions.

1. Why was mother angry at her youngest son’s actions?

2. Why do you think she called him by his full name, instead of only the first?

3. What does “ranted and raved” mean?

4. What do you think she must have said to her son, in her anger?

5. What’s the name of the youngest son.

**(05 Marks)**

6. Write similar words for the following.

a. Anxious - ………………………………………..

b. Moan - ………………………………………..

c. trembled - ………………………………………..

d. Sopped - ………………………………………..

e. Pierced - ……………………………………….. **(05 Marks)**

**Comprehension**

**Part C**

01. By the time Michael Phelps, the world famous swimmer, finished at the Rio de Janeiro 2016 Olympics, having come out of retirement, he had bagged five gold medals. This was one short of the six overall medals India has won in 70 years since independence.

But put the swimmer’s for Olympics together, since Athens 2004, and he has 28 medals, including 23 gold. India has 23 medals in total since 1948.

This comparison was cited often after India bagged a disappointing two medals in Rio, a slide since London 2012 when it won – by its standards, record – six medals.

When seen in comparison to India’s overall size and population, we have the lowest number of medals per capita. India has never played the football world cup, has won a single individual gold medal at the Olympics and has had only a handful of people ranked No. 1 in their sport. The country’s only worthwhile success has come in a sport played by just a dozen nations.

If we take into account the country’s sporting achievements since independence, the successes seem limited considering all disciplines except cricket – Olympic sports and others like chess, squash, racing etc. In many, participation has not been credit-worthy. Gymnast Dipa Karmarkar, who finished fourth in the vault at Rio, and Dipika Pallikal, who got into top 10 ranking in women’s squash in 2012, were significant achievements for Indian sportswomen. Yet – and cruelly so – they were no big achievements in the world sport. Why is India so poor in sports? Football is a craze in Bengal, Goa and Kerala, then why is the Indian football team ranked no. 97 in the world? Over the years, experts and fans have offered several reasons to explain our lack of success : hereditary characteristics, poverty (therefore lack of nutrition), social divisions and an absence of sporting culture. Hereditary characteristics are used to explain why we do well in sports that do not require high athletic ability, speed and strength. Like cricket, billiards, chess, archery, shooting and tennis doubles (as opposed to singles which requires the entire court to be covered).

But the Chines, Koreans and Japanese share relatively the same height and physically as Indians – China won 27 gold medals in Rio. If poverty were the reason, then it becomes difficult to explain the success of nations like Jamaica (11 medals in Rio, for example, and Usain Bolt), Ethiopia (8) and Kenya (14) in athletics. Lack of sporting culture may be one reason. For generations, Indians have felt the need to focus on academics as their ticket to a better life. Many schools and colleges do not have sports programmes, grounds or facilities.

Politics administration and corruption are a few obstacles responsible for robbing aspiring athletes of success in their fields. Scandals, scams and abuse of power have weakened several associations.

But there are reasons why we are collectively feeling optimistic post London 2012. A bunch of non-governmental organizations are trying (and succeeding) to fill the gaps that administrations have left behind, in providing funds to promising athletes. There is a change in mindset too. Parents are now able to allow their children to focus on sports, believing it to be a genuine career choice. Successful champions are investing in the growth of talent. Be it Geet Sethi, Viswanathan Anand, Prakash Padukone or P. Gopi Chand, they are bringing their star appeal and expertise to back their chosen sport. Leagues have started among many sporting disciplines, which if continued and successful, are bound to create talent pools in the years to come, besides being financially rewarding.

The growth of cricket, since the 1983 World Cup, through the business sense of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and thanks to the marketability of Sachin Tendulkar and M.S. Dhoni, among others, has seen the sport growth in small towns. Class and caste distinctions are less visible in cities, making sport more widely accessible. India’s growing economic strength is helping too – corporate giants as well as new businessmen are investing money and technology in sports businesses.

Answer the following questions very briefly:

a). What are the reasons for the poor performance of Indian sports persons?

b). Why are hereditary characteristics not a valid argument for not winning medals?

c). Why is poverty not an excuse for poor performance?

d). Why does India not have a sporting culture?

e). What are the obstacles in the path of aspiring athletes?

f). Give two reasons to show that we are optimistic post 2012.

02. Choose the meaning of the words given below from the options that follow:

a). Bagged

i). Baggage

ii). Carried

iii). Won

iv). Landed

b). Hereditary

i). By birth

ii). External

iii). Incidental

iv). Acquired

c). Promising

i). Bearing

ii). Hopeful

iii). Successful

iv). Playful

d). Accessible

i). Bearable

ii). Available

iii). Probable

iv). Suitable **(10 Marks)**

02. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow.

1. The youth is a dynamo, an ocean, an inexhaustible reservoir of energy. But this energy cannot be kept in prison. Its basic nature is to flow, to express itself. The youth energy on the basis of the nature of its expression can be divided into four categories.

2. The vast majority of the youth today are with the establishment, whose formula of life is learn, earn, burn and enjoy. It means learn to operate the modern devices and employ them to earn the maximum amount of wealth to the point of burning the natural resources of the earth, as well as yourself out, and then enjoy your own funeral. This category of youth is intelligent, skillful and hardworking but it lacks insight and foresight. They are self-indulgent and any sense of moral code of conduct is alien to their nature. Neither are they able to see in depth, to find out whether there is a deeper meaning and purpose to their human life, nor have they the capacity to look beyond the tips of their nose to find out the consequences of their way and approach, where it is leading them to. They are the ends unto themselves and enjoyment is the motto of their life.

3. The second category of youth in nature and approach is the same but as it is less privileged and less qualified and skilled; it has lesser opportunities for earning and enjoying. Such youth may be incited to be against the establishment. This opposition takes various forms. When it is well organized and systemic it may take the form of political opposition and even go to the extent of expressing itself in unjust ways. When the opposition is not so intense and organized, it remains content with giving verbal expression to its resentment periodically. The youth of the above two categories need to be shown the correct path to positively channelize their energy.

4. The third section of youth is a sober and thoughtful class of people, which objectively observes and studies the phenomenon of development of the world. These youth find that man in his insatiable thirst for consumption has become blind and lost the sense of distinction between milk and blood. Today man in his mad rush for exploitation is sucking the blood of Mother Earth; leading to their destruction and is thereby digging his own grave. This responsible category of young people is looking for an alternative mode of development based on co-operation between man and man. This development based on mutual love, friendship and harmony is not only sustainable but leading to endless prosperity mutually. To bring about his natural revolution from death-movement to life-movement is the aim of this group.

5. The fourth and most vital group of youth which is going to usher humanity into the third millennium and act as the pioneer for the future development of planetary life is engaged in evolving a new way of life and releasing a new principle of global consciousness through a fundamental research in the science of life. The science of life is a new branch of knowledge which takes the whole man into account without dividing him into subjective and objective halves of spirituality and physicality and does not treat him either as a refined (thinking) animal or an ethereal entity, having its base in some other non-physical world. It, rather, recognizes man as a basic unit of conscious life which has got immense, practically inexhaustible, possibilities and potentialities for evolution, development and growth. As per the Vedic formal, man is the micro-cosmos and his fullest flowering and enfoldment lies in his identification with the cosmos.

1. On the basis of your understanding of the passage, complete the statements given below by choosing the most appropriate option:

a). Which trait is lacking in the youth that is dexterous with the modern devices?

i. Intelligence

ii. Perseverance

iii. Foresight

iv. Skillfulness

2. Which category of youth supports the view that man’s growth lies in his identification with cosmos.

i. The youth that will take us to the third millennium

ii. That which supports sustainable development

iii. Youth that opposes the establishment

iv. Youth that is self-indulgent and unscrupulous

3. Answer the following briefly:

a). What is the most prominent quality associated with youth?

b). Explain the formula of majority of youth.

c). Give the merits and demerits of the pro-establishment youth.

d). How does the dissatisfied youth express itself?

e). Explain the attitude of modern man towards the Mother Earth.

f). How is humanity likely to be ushered in a new millennium?

4. Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following:

i. Provided with facilities (Para 3)

ii. The universe seen as a well-ordered whole (Para 5) **(10 Marks)**

**Writing**

01. Write a letter to the Sales Manager of the showroom of Soft Logic company in Bambalapitiya complaining about the defect of the mobile phone developed within few days of the purchase and seeking immediate replacement. **(15 Marks)**

02. You want to sell your car as you are planning to buy a new one. Draft a suitable advertisement to be published in the classified column of the newspaper. **(10 Marks)**

03. Write an essay about advantages and disadvantages of Internet in 200 words. **(20 Marks)**