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[This question paper contains 12 printed pages.]

Your Roll No.....

Sr. No. of Question Paper : 3247

E

Unique Paper Code : 62031903

Name of the Paper : English Proficiency

Name of the Course : **B.A. (Programme)**

Semester : IV

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 75

Instructions for Candidates

1. Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.
2. This question paper has **two** parts, **A** and **B**. **Both** parts are compulsory.
3. Attempt any **three** questions from **Part A**, and any **three** questions from **Part B** of this paper.

Part A

Attempt any three questions from this part

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow it.

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Do you know where the modern mail system originated? Well, it was in England. And the strange thing was it was not the sender but the receiver who had to pay for the post. Initially, the postmen delivering letters used to collect the money in cash. The postage itself was quite high, calculated on the basis of a complex set of rates.

Rowland Hill, who became the greatest postal reformer in history, never forgot his childhood experience when his poor mother had to send him out to sell a bag of clothes to raise three shillings to receive a batch of letters.

Later, he (Sir Rowland Hill) thought of a scheme so that the burden of payment should be shifted from the addressee to the sender. And the system of postage stamp was started. Most letters required a postage stamp worth only a penny.

The first such stamp was issued in 1840 and carried the head of Queen Victoria. Some people felt unhappy that their queen's head was disfigured in the process of cancellation. The queen herself didn't seem to mind. In fact, she herself enjoyed walking to the local post office from her Balmoral Castle to buy stamps and chat with the postmaster.

(a) Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with relevant phrases from the passage : (5×1)

- (i) The modern postal system was started _____ .
- (ii) In the beginning, the postman used to take cash from _____ .
- (iii) Rowland Hill is known as the _____ in history.
- (iv) The first postage stamp had on it a picture of _____ .
- (v) The queen used to walk to the local post office to _____ the postmaster.

(b) Write true or false against the following statements : (5×1)

- (i) Rowland Hill was bom in a rich family.
- (ii) Rowland Hill started the system of postage stamps.
- (iii) Postage was very cheap in the beginning.
- (iv) Everyone loved the first postage stamps.

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(v) The Queen was unhappy that her face was disfigured while cancelling the stamps.

2. Complete the given sentences by selecting the correct word from the pair given in brackets. (10×1)

- (a) Sadly, it is _____ (safe / unsafe) for a girl to be out alone on the city streets.
- (b) It was very _____ (careful / careless) of you to lose the money.
- (c) The protesters are demanding _____ (injustice / justice).
- (d) The two sisters are so attached to each other that they just can't live _____ (apart / together).
- (e) I need to get my eye _____ (sight / site) checked.
- (f) Listen to the _____ (advice / advise) of elders.
- (g) She wanted to carry _____ (foreword / forward) the good work of her parents.
- (h) Everyone agrees with my plan _____ (accept / except) you.

(i) Despite repeated failures, he refuses to give _____ (away / up).

(j) We looked _____ (into / through) the hotel window at the beautiful scenery outside.

3. Supply questions to the following statements. The focus of your question should be on the underlined portion of the statement. (5×2)

(a) Yes. I have completed my work.

(b) No, she will not help us.

(c) I was late because of a traffic jam.

(d) The red panda is found in the Eastern Himalayas.

(e) William Shakespeare is probably the most famous dramatist in the world.

4. For each of the following statements, decide whether it is formal or informal. Who might say it to whom? (5×2)

(a) Sorry, *yaar*. I forgot to bring your book today.

(b) I am very grateful to you for all your help, madam.

(c) Turn down the volume, will you? I'm trying to study.

(d) Wasn't that a yuck movie? What a waste of time and money!

(e) Good morning, uncle. Did the newspaper boy deliver your paper today?

5. Using the information below, write a paragraph of about 100 words on the eminent scientist, Dr C. V. Raman. (10)

Birth	:	November 7, 1888, in Trichurapalli in Madras Presidency; father was a lecturer in Math and Physics
Education	:	B. A. and M. A. from University of Madras; Gold medal in graduation; highest distinction in M. A.
Career	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • started as an accountant in a government department; • Professor of Physics, Kolkata University • Director, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore
Honours and Achievements	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • elected to Royal Society of London, • Knight of the British Empire, • Nobel Prize in Physics for his work on scattering of light (Raman Effect) - the first Asian and non-white individual to receive this honour • Bharat Ratna in 1954
Death	:	November 21, 1970

Part B

*Attempt any **three** questions from this part.*

6. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow it.

Fitness means different things to different people. To a housewife, it is being able to meet the unending demands of her family. To an athlete, it is the ability to attain top form when competing. To the ambitious manager, it is the capacity to work even longer hours without feeling tired. To senior citizens, it is feeling less old.

Still, most of us agree that being fit is a lot more than just the absence of disease. To put it in a somewhat technical way, fitness is a combination of heart and muscle capacity to use oxygen for energy production. It is something that we have to work at; especially since modern urban living tends to make us less rather than more healthy. Moreover, since one can't store fitness, one needs to exercise regularly all one's life.

There are a number of advantages to being fit, apart from a general feeling of well-being. People who exercise regularly and correctly are less prone to diseases and more likely to handle stress better and sleep better at night.

Although fitness is something we have to work towards, it is not hard to get fit and stay fit. The old idea that being fit means getting up at dawn, running long distances, exercising to the point of exhaustion and eating only boiled vegetables, is now completely discredited. Although some people still believe that exercise only begins to do you good when it hurts, precisely the reverse is true – if the exercise causes pain, it's probably harming you.

During the last two decades, there has been a revolution in expert thinking about physical fitness. This revolution started when doctors and fitness professionals tried to find out not how much exercise an individual needs to keep fit, but how little. The results were very surprising. It was clear that forcing oneself through a large number of complicated exercises was unnecessary. A short and simple routine was sufficient to achieve and maintain all-round fitness.

(a) Write the opposites of the following words that have been underlined in the passage : (5×1)

- (i) longer
- (ii) absence
- (iii) advantages
- (iv) complicated
- (v) sufficient

(b) Answer the following questions in brief, using your own words as far as possible. (5×2)

(i) How can fitness be described technically?

(ii) Why do we have to keep working at fitness?

(iii) What are the benefits of regular exercise?

(iv) List two older beliefs about fitness that are no longer considered true.

(v) What have fitness experts focussed on in the last twenty years?

7. Complete each sentence / passage by selecting the correct word phrase from the pair given in brackets after each blank : (5×1)

(a) Did she talk to you? - _____ (No / Yes), she didn't.

(b) May I go to the washroom? - _____ (No / Yes), you may.

(c) Is English a global language? - _____ (No / Yes), it is.

- (d) She has many friends, _____ (does / doesn't) she?
- (e) The organisers won't serve lunch, _____ (will / won't) they?
- (f) Your neighbours are not very friendly, _____ (are / aren't) they?
- (g) He is _____ (a / the) best person for this job.
- (h) It is _____ (a / the) difficult assignment.
- (i) The child needs to purchase _____ (a / an) uniform.
- (j) She has _____ (a / an) uncle who is in the army.
- (k) The train is running _____ (a / an) hour late.
- (l) It will reach Agra _____ (at / on) 11 p.m.
- (m) The next semester will begin _____ (in / on) January.
- (n) Keep the milk _____ (in / on) the refrigerator to prevent it from going bad.

- (o) There was a beautiful painting _____ (in / on) the wall.

8. Frame suitable statements / responses for the following situations. (5×3)

(a) You can't attend class as you have to take your mother for a medical check-up. How would you take permission from your teacher?

(b) You are feeling hungry and want to go to the college canteen with your friend. What would you say to her / him?

(c) Your neighbour has parked his bike in front of your door. How would you politely ask him to shift it?

(d) You plan to sit up late to prepare for your exam. How would you ask your younger sister to make a cup of tea for you?

(e) You want to know the last date for filling up the examination form. How would you ask a college clerk for this information?

9. Imagine that you recently you went to the New Delhi Railway Station to see off your friend. Write a

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paragraph of about 150 words on the scene at the railway station. You may make use of the following ideas. (15)

Reached station well on time... train late... enough time to enjoy the scene... chaos at booking / inquiry office... crowded waiting rooms... families sitting / lying on the platform floor... tea, refreshment, newspaper stalls doing brisk business... train arrived... sudden confused movement of people... slowly passengers settle down in their seats... train begins to leave... wave goodbyes and leave... peace and quiet again

10. You have seen the following advertisement in today's edition of The Daily News. You would like to join the promotional team. Send an application to the editor along with your complete bio-data. (15)

THE DAILY NEWS

10, Daryaganj, New Delhi - 02

Smart educated girls and boys needed for a promotional campaign

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Good communication skills
- Confidence to sell ideas & products
- Fluency in English
- Minimum educational qualification: 10 + 2

Earn good money and valuable work experience!

Send complete bio-data to The Editor at the above address within 10 days