

Indian Institute of Engineering Science & Technology, Shibpur
Dual Degree Second Semester Final Examination, April 2016
(Branches : Civil, Mech, Aerospace, Met, Min)
Subject: Professional Communication in English (HU-1201)

Total Marks :35

Time :2 hours

All questions are compulsory

1) Make a tree diagram note from the following :

[9]

The great American novelist Normal Mailer once said, "I sometimes think that there is a malign force loose in the universe that is the social equivalent of cancer, and it's plastic. It infiltrates everything. It's metastasis. It gets into every single pore of productive life."

Plastic has its role in modern society. It's an essential part of our cars, computers, mobile phones, children's toys – and practically most everything we use on a day-to-day basis. But there's one place where plastic has worn out its welcome – and that's as a container for the food we eat and the water we drink.

The bottom line is that plastic is made from toxic materials. It's a known fact that these toxins can leach into whatever they come into contact with. And it's a known fact that when the compounds that make up plastic are ingested, they damage your body on a cellular level and cause health problems.

It's typical to suffer from a variety of health problems as you age. But is this just "part of getting older"? Or is this perhaps the result of a toxic overload in the body?

It's common knowledge that illness and disorders such as cancer, Alzheimer's, arthritis, heart disease, vision impairment and many others health problems are all on the rise. Could this be in some way associated with the increasing amount of plastic in our lives? Plastic food and beverage containers became popular fairly recently (in the 1970s) and have become ubiquitous in our lives since then. More and more research is proving that toxic compounds found in plastic cause health problems ranging from cancer to infertility.

Plastics that contain the super toxic compound bisphenol A (BPA) have been in the news a lot lately. And for this reason, consumers have been duped into thinking that if a product is "BPA-free" it's perfectly safe. But this is not true. Lots of companies have caught on to the fact that they can sell more of a product if it's labeled as "BPA-free." But guess what? It may be BPA-free, but in its place, these companies are using BPS, a close cousin of BPA that may be equally as toxic!

BPS shares many of BPA's beneficial properties, but unfortunately it has another property in common with BPA: it also mimics estrogen, which means it probably is just as unhealthy for us as the BPA it's replacing. Of course, not all BPA-free products contain BPS, but the trouble is that there's no way to know which ones to avoid.

Interesting new research published in Environmental Health Perspectives explains that a chemical widely used in plastics, called bisphenol A diglycidyl ether (BADGE), may actually

cause stem cells to become fat cells. According to one of the study's authors, "Exposure to these kinds of chemicals can reprogram your metabolism and make it more likely for you to store calories instead of passing them through."

Firstly, plastics are in most cases made from petrochemicals through an energy-intensive process that itself creates lots of pollution and toxic discharge. The fact is, every plastic container you use is making the planet less habitable. Also, most plastic in the world is not recycled and usually ends up in landfills, where it degrades very slowly. The best solution, which is affordable, convenient and really safe is glass and certain types of metal. Here are some great solutions.

Break-proof glass water bottles have a rubber coating that prevents breakage. Use of Stainless steel straws is essential. Dump your plastic Tupperware and instead go for stainless steel containers. Glass containers are great too, but most of them still have plastic lids. Glass and ceramic water coolers should be used. The coating on the non-stick cookware may be a type of plastic. Instead choose ceramic cookware or enameled cast iron.

2) Write a technical report on the following topic. Follow instructions carefully regarding the various sections :

As an alumni of this Institute write how the campus life can be improved qualitatively. Stress the need to enhance teaching systems, co-curricular activities, sports facilities and preserve the greenery and architectural heritage of this campus.

Write the title page, index page (with 5 annexure descriptions), the introduction and work out one annexure. [2+ 6 +3+3]

3) Write a memo on the following topic to be sent by the Manager (Operations) to all departmental heads on the issue of changed working hours in the wake of the heat wave. Invent necessary details to complete the memo. [6]

4) Make sentences with the following : [6]
face value, bootlegging, break even, benchmark, nosedive, downsize