

**FEG-01/
BEGF-101**

**Bachelor's Degree Programme
(BDP)**

**ASSIGNMENT
2017-18
(For July 2017 and January 2018 Sessions)**

**FOUNDATION COURSE IN ENGLISH
(FEG-01/BEGF-101)**



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FOUNDATION COURSE IN ENGLISH (FEG-01/BEGF-101)

Programme: BDP/2017-18
Course Code: FEG-01/BEGF-101

Dear Student,

You are required to do **one** assignment for the Foundation Course in English. It is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA) and carries 100 marks. It covers four blocks of the course.

Aims: The TMA is primarily concerned with assessing your proficiency in English. You should not reproduce chunks of information from the passage(s) but effectively use the skills of reading and writing that you may have acquired during the course of study to compose your answers. These assignments aim to teach as well as to assess your performance.

Guidelines: You will be required to answer the questions on reading comprehension, vocabulary, grammar and composition. For the question on transcribing phonetically, you may consult an appropriate dictionary.

As in day-to-day life, **planning** is important in attempting the assignment as well. Read the assignment carefully; go through the units on which the questions are based; jot down some points regarding each question and then re-arrange them in a logical order. In the essay-type answer, pay attention to your introduction and conclusion. The introduction must tell you how to interpret the given topic and how you propose to develop it. The conclusion must summarize your views on the topic. **You should write in your own handwriting.**

Make sure that your answer:

- a) is logical
- b) is written in simple and correct English
- c) does not exceed the number of words indicated in your questions
- d) is written neatly and clearly.

Please remember that it is compulsory to submit your assignment before you can take the Term End Examination. Also remember to keep a copy of your assignment with you and to take a receipt from your Study Centre when you submit the assignment.

Last Date for Submission of Assignment:

For June Examination	31st March
For December Examination	30th September

Good Luck!

Note: *Remember the submission of assignment is a precondition for appearing in the examination. If you do not submit the assignment on time, you will not be allowed to appear in the examination.*

Foundation Course in English (FEG-01/BEGF-101)

Assignment

Course Code: FEG-01/BEGF-101

Assignment Code: FEG-1/BEGF-101/TMA/2017-18

Max. Marks: 100 Answer all the questions

1 Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

A new study has found that the giant panda's distinct black-and-white markings have two functions: camouflage and communication. The scientists who earlier uncovered why zebras have black-and-white strips, took the colouration question to giant pandas in the latest study.

"Understanding why the giant panda has such striking colouration has been a long-standing problem in biology that has been difficult to tackle because virtually no other mammal has this appearance, making analogies difficult," said Tim Caro, a professor at the University of California, Davis in the U.S. "The breakthrough in the study was treating each part of the body as an independent area," said Mr. Caro. This enabled the team to compare different regions of fur across the giant panda's body to the dark and light colouring of 195 other carnivore species and 39 bear sub-species, to which it is related.

Then they tried to match the darkness of these regions to various ecological and behavioural variables to determine their function. Through these comparisons, the study found that most of the panda – its face, neck, belly, rump – is white to help it hide in snowy habitats. The arms and legs are black, helping it to hide in shade.

The scientists suggest that this dual colouration stems from its poor diet of bamboo and inability to digest a broader variety of plants. This means it can never store enough fat to go dormant during the winter, as do some bears. So it has to be active year-round, travelling across long distances and habitat types that range from snowy mountains to tropical forests. The markings on its head, however, are not used to hide from predators, but rather to communicate. Dark ears may help convey a sense of ferocity, a warning to predators. Their dark eye patches may help them recognize each other or signal aggression towards panda competitors.

"This really was a Herculean effort by our team, finding and scoring thousands of images and scoring more than 10 areas per picture from over 20 possible colours," said Ted Stankowich, a professor at California State University, Long Beach, in the U.S. "Sometimes it takes hundreds of hour of hard work to answer what seems like the simplest of questions," Mr. Standkowich said.

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|-----|--|------|-------------|-----|----------------------------|
| 1a | What is so unusual about the Panda? | 1 | | | |
| 1b | Why was it difficult to understand the colouration of the Panda? | 1 | | | |
| 1c | How did the breakthrough happen? | 2 | | | |
| 1d | Describe in detail the impact of the differential colouration of the Panda's body. | 4 | | | |
| 1e | What is the diet of the Panda? | 1 | | | |
| 1f | Give a suitable title to the passage. | 1 | | | |
| 1g | Find words from the passage which mean the same as the following: | 10 | | | |
| i | concealment | ii | equivalence | iii | environmental |
| iv | two-fold | v | inactive | vi | animals who prey on others |
| vii | violent behaviour | viii | fierceness | ix | extremely difficult effort |
| x | easiest | | | | |

- 2 Choose the correct form of the verb from within the brackets so as to make it agree with the subject. 5
- | | |
|-----|---|
| i | Wherewe children study? (do/does) |
| ii | Ramto school by bus but his friendsas they live nearby.
(go/goes) (walk/walks) |
| iii | Englisha universal language. (is/are) |
| iv | The publica short memory. (has/have) |

- 3 Fill in the blanks with the appropriate article (*a/an* or *the* or *no article*): 5

Monsoon is not another word for rain. As its original Arabic name indicates, it isseason. There is a summer monsoon as well aswinter monsoon but it is onlyNimbus South-West winds of summer that make a monsoon:season ofrains.

- 4 Fill in the blanks with the correct tense of the verb given in brackets: 10

The morning before, the rest room (prepare) for an important guest. The cleaner (wash) the bathroom and (sweep) the room. The housekeeper and his wife (cleaned) and (rearrange) the furniture. Now they (wait) for the guest to arrive. The cleaner's son (sit) on the verandah, playing with the pankha rope. From the kitchen (come) the smell of chicken being fried. Soon, a large grey car (arrive) and (stop) in front of the verandah.

- 5 Replace the italicized words with another word of similar meaning beginning with *un-*, *in-* or *im-* 5

- i Ram decided to speak to his boss because he felt that his salary was not *adequate*.
- ii It is *not natural* for a man to show no concern for his fellowmen.
- iii He was *not able* to come because he had high fever.
- iv Rahul is *not mature* and therefore loses his temper rather easily.
- v Kiran is *not happy* with her performance and feels she could have done much better.

- 6 Correct the following sentences: 5

- i One cannot make an omelette without break eggs.
- ii I am not knowing whether my uncle came last night.
- iii One of our neighbour is a teacher.
- iv She said that she has bought the flowers.
- v Each man built is own house.

- 7 Asking Wh-Questions, example:
You want to know where the nearest payphone is.
Where's the nearest payphone?

Now make questions in a similar ways. 10

- i Find out when Mr. Ragavan will be back.
- ii You'd like to know why the sales office hasn't called.
- iii Find out when he normally arrives at the office.
- iv You want to know why the consignment has been delayed.
- v Find out what you dial for directory inquiry.
- vi You're interested in knowing where he's phoning from.
- vii You need to know where you could reach him.
- viii Find out what the number of the Managing Director is.
- ix Find out how she spells her name.
- x Find out the way of the office.

- 8 Write about 300 words on *any one* of the following: 20

- i You want to sell your house. Write a description, giving details of where the house is located, how old it is, how many rooms it has and any garden, garage or other facility or distinguishing feature it may have.
- ii An aunt or uncle you like very much.

- 9 In about 200 words, write a conversation between: 20

- i Your younger brother who wants his pocket money increased and your father who thinks he's getting enough.
OR
- ii Shweta, who wants to take up a job and her teacher who thinks she should study further because she's bright and her job prospects would also improve if she had a degree.