

PSG COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCE  
(AUTONOMOUS)  
BA DEGREE EXAMINATION DECEMBER 2018  
(Fifth Semester)

Branch – ENGLISH

ENGLISH FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS

Time : Three Hours

Maximum : 75 Marks

SECTION - A

- I A In the following passage, you will find some blank spaces numbered. You are given a choice of three words marked a, b, c against numbers below the passage. Choose the best alternative to fill in the blanks: (3)  
Under normal \_\_\_ (1) \_\_\_ scientists and technologists are as food \_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_ of humanity as anyone else. Left to themselves they would bend all their energy for the \_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_ of mankind.
1. a) circumstances    b) aspects    c) rules
  2. a) people    b) specimens    c) nature
  3. a) food    b) bad    c) worse
- B In the following questions, there exists a certain relationship between the two capitalised words. Following them are other pairs of words. Select the pairs whose relationship runs parallel to that of the capitalised pair: (2)
1. PAGE : MARGIN  
a) book:print    b) building:walls    c) city:outskirts    d) road:pavement.
  2. PATIENT : HOSPITAL  
a) teacher:school    b) pilot:aeroplane    c) litigant:court    d) priest:church
- C Select a word which is similar in meaning to the words given: (2)
1. Artless  
a) incapable    b) dull    c) stupid    d) honest
  2. Bankrupt  
a) rich    b) careless    c) industries    d) poor
- D Select the word which is opposite in meaning to the word given: (2)
1. Amplify  
a) generalize    b) remind    c) reduce    d) distract
  2. Cussed  
a) Sweet    b) difficult    c) helpful    d) beautiful
- E Identify the four wrongly spelt words among the words given: (2)  
1) reader    2) beginning    3) dillution    4) grammer    5) exploration
- F Make acceptable words from each group of letters given: (2)  
1) rtouood    2) imleeatni    3) dehcuoc    4) fuerattnoi
- G Generate four words by prefixing or suffixing the following words: (2)  
1) active    2) patient    3) clear    4) suggest
- H Identify the word that could best replace the underlined word without the change of meaning: (2)
- 1) The leader's charisma attracted many followers.  
a) candour    b) magnetic appeal    c) power    d) humility
  - 2) He did not succeed in his endeavour.  
a) plan    b) trick    c) effort    d) enterprise
  - 3) Man has to encounter many hardships in life.  
a) bear    b) overcome    c) face    d) solve
  - 4) She is really a fantastic fire.  
a) intelligent    b) beautiful    c) charming    d) wonderful

Cont...

- I In the following sentences an idiom or a phrase is underlined. Pick out the correct meaning of the idiom or phrase from the answer choice given: (2)
- 1) We should give a wide berth to bad characters.
    - a) give publicity to    b) publicly condemn
    - c) keep away from    d) not sympathise with
  - 2) The speaker gave a bird's eye view of the situation.
    - a) a personal view    b) a general view    c) a biased view    d) a detailed view
  - 3) He is out and out a reactionary.
    - a) no more    b) thoroughly    c) in favour of    d) deadly against
  - 4) The rebels held out for about a month.
    - a) waited    b) retreated    c) bargained    d) resisted
- J Each of the following sentences is given four possible substitutions for the underlined part. Pick out the substitution which best improves the sentence.(4)
- 1) Lack of occupation is most necessarily revealed by manifest idleness.
    - a) easily perceived    b) easily acquired
    - c) easily infected    d) easily deflected
  - 2) Even today many people are guided by abstruse moral values.
    - a) dangerous    b) impracticable    c) obscure    d) irrational
  - 3) A person unrestrained by the rules of morality is called a licentious person.
    - a) libertine    b) loafer-type    c) criminal    d) freelance
  - 4) I wrote to him as lately as last week.
    - a) immediately    b) early    c) recently    d) late
- K Rearrange the following groups of words labelled as PQRS into meaningful sentences: (2)
- 1) The pen that
    - P) from express avenue    Q) is a    R) I thought    S) Costly one
    - a) PQRS    b) SQPR    c) RPQS    d) PRSQ
  - 2) The climate at Ooty
    - P) and not    Q) advisable    R) to go there    S) now is very cold
    - a) SPRQ    b) PSQR    c) QRPS    d) RQPS
- L In the following question, the topic sentence (S1) and the restatement of the topic (S6) of a well constructed paragraph are given. Sequence the other sentence given in the jumbled order: (3 marks)
- S1: I was still resolved to settle down, and I looked about me.
- S6: I was a practical man in a practical world.
- P. I hadn't the money to go to a technical school or university, besides I didn't think much of schools.
- Q. But how to become an electrician?
- R. One thing was clear-unskilled labour didn't pay, I must learn a trade and I decided on electricity.
- S. The need for electricians was constantly growing.
- M Read each of the following sentences to find out whether there is any error in the underlined parts. Write the number of your answer on the answer sheet: (15x1=15)
- 1) It is undeniably true that many amongst us felt the whole building to vibrate.
 

1	2	3	4
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No error  
5
  - 2) Do you insist that we meet atleast once tomorrow to discuss about the subject?
 

1	2	3	4
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No error  
5
  - 3) Your latest servant's uniform both displeased my wife and me. No error

1	2	3	4	5
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- 4) No sooner has she realized her blunder than she began taking corrective measures. No error  
1 2 3 4 5
- 5) The tallest among them expressed a keen desire to sit under the shade of a tree.  
1 2 3 4  
No error  
5
- 6) At that very moment they were showing signs of growing nervousness, isn't it.  
1 2 3 4  
No error  
5
- 7) "He is too healthy", remarked the captain, "and is best suited to an army career".  
1 2 3 4  
No error  
5
- 8) She has a remarkably kindly disposition who wins her friends wherever she goes.  
1 2 3 4  
No error  
5
- 9) He was curious to know why we should return then their money back. No error  
1 2 3 4 5
- 10) Her memory played her false and she could not remember who had invented electricity. No error  
1 2 3 4 5
- 11) It was generally agreed that the speeches of their Prime Minister were better than the ministers. No error  
1 2 3 4 5
- 12) The Shramas have finally gone in for the costliest flat in the entire town.  
1 2 3 4  
No error  
5
- 13) One of the finest books have been withdrawn from general circulation. No error  
1 2 3 4 5
- 14) We shall teach everyone present a lesson, isn't it? No error  
1 2 3 4 5
- 15) Her greatest concern in life is to earn the name for honesty. No error  
1 2 3 4 5

### SECTION - B

II. A. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow it: (15 marks)

Marie Skłodowska Curie (1867 – 1934) was born in Warsaw, Poland. As a student, she participated in the students' revolutionary organisation which was fighting against the dictatorial regime in Poland. She was forced to leave Poland for Paris because of her involvement in such activities. In 1903 she shared with her husband Pierre Curie and another scientist Henri Becquerel, the Nobel Prize in Physics for the discovery of radioactivity. Later in 1911, she received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the discovery and isolation of radium. She was the first person to win two Nobel Prizes. She and her husband discovered Polonium. This element was named in honour of her motherland, Poland.

Marie and her daughter Irene Joliot Curie died of radiation-induced illness. These two women risked their lives for the sake of advancement of science, which now greatly benefits the society. Irene and her husband Frederick Joliot-Curie shared the noble prize in Chemistry in 1935. The Curies thus created a record by four family members having received Nobel Prizes.

Despite her spectacular contribution to science, Marie's nomination to the French Academy of Sciences in 1911 was rejected by one vote because she was a woman!

on 1. Marie Curie won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for \_\_\_\_\_.

II A Cont

2. Frederick Joliot-Curie is Marie Curie's \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. husband
  - b. brother
  - c. son
  - d. son-in-law
3. In what way did Marie Curie and her daughter risk their lives for the advancement of science?
  - a. They defied the dictators of Poland and France.
  - b. They discovered Polonium which had great side effects.
  - c. They exposed themselves to radium and died of radium-induced illness.
  - d. They joined terrorist organisations.
4. Which of the following is true?
  - a. Polonium was named after Marie Curie's motherland.
  - b. Polonium was Henri Becquerel's contribution to Science.
  - c. The discovery of Polonium helped Marie Curie get nominated to the French Academy of Sciences.
  - d. She won the Nobel Prize for the discovery of Polonium in 1935.
5. Marie Curie's nomination to the French Academy of Sciences in 1911 was rejected by one vote because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. she had already won the Nobel Prize
  - b. she had won two Nobel Prizes
  - c. she was a woman
  - d. she was Polish

## B Write a precis of the following:

(5 marks)

The composition of the 33rd team will be: Europe—14 referees and 14 assistants; Asia—five referees and 7 assistants; Africa—five referees and five assistants; North and Central America and the Caribbean— five referees and four assistants; South America—six referees and four assistants; and Oceania—one referee and two assistants.

But what types of individuals make up this team? Any idea that they are faceless characters devoid of personality or feeling is dispelled by being in their company for less than five minutes. Many of them know each other very well, having been together at previous FIFA tournaments. Many are close friends and humour is never far from the surface when they are together.

Alongside the humour, however, there is a professionalism among the refereeing team. Before the start of France 98, a fitness test was held. No matter how fit and how confident the referees are, there is always tension in the air before the test begins. On the bus travelling to the sports centre the referees agreed among themselves that since it was only a few days before the competition began they would run together at a sensible pace. 2800 metres in the 12 minutes run—that was to be the target. But referees are competitive and when the whistle went for the start of the run within 10 seconds it had become a race. Still, this was an important statement about the attitude of the refereeing team. They were at the World Cup France 98, as athletes in top condition and they wanted to push themselves to the maximum.

In any team there must be a balance between youth and experience. This is particularly true of the referees in 2002 FIFA World Cup. There are the experienced referees such as Ali Bujsaim of the United Arab Emirates, Vitor Mello Pereira of Portugal, Gamal el Ghandour of Egypt, Kim Milton Nielsen of Denmark, Italy's Collina and Scotland's Dallas. Representing India was Komleeswaran Sankar — the first Indian to officiate in a FIFA World Cup ever.

- C Write for and against on any ONE of the following in about 300 words (in two paragraphs) (5 marks)
  - 1) Modern Fashions
  - 2) Tradition and Modernity
- D Write an expository essay involving all its mechanics on any ONE of the following in about 350 words: (7 marks)
  - 1) Recent developments in Electronics
  - 2) A Scooter accident.

T-Z-Z

END