

**PSG COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCE**  
(AUTONOMOUS)  
**BA DEGREE EXAMINATION DECEMBER 2024**  
(Fifth Semester)

Branch – ENGLISH

**MAJOR ELECTIVE COURSE – I**  
**ENGLISH FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS**

Time: Three Hours

Maximum: 50 Marks

**SECTION A**

**1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follows it (5X1=5)**

The young lift-man in a city office who threw a passenger out of his life the other morning was fined, for the offence was undoubtedly in the wrong. It was a question of 'please'. The passenger entering the lift said 'Top'. The lift-man demanded 'Top, please', and this concession being refused he not only declined to comply with the instruction, but hurled the passenger out of the lift. This, of course, was carrying a comment on manners too far. Discourtesy is not a legal offence and it does not excuse assault and battering. If a burglar breaks into my house and I knock him down, the law will acquit me. And if I am physically assaulted, it will permit me to retaliate with reasonable violence. It does this because the burglar and my assailant have broken quite definite commands of the law. But no legal system could attempt to legislate against bad manners, or could sanction the use of violence against something which does not itself recognize as a legally punishable offence. And whatever our sympathy with the lift-man, we must admit that the law is reasonable. It would never do if we were at liberty to box people's ears because we did not like their behaviour, or tone of their voices, or the scowl on their faces. Our fists would never be idle, and the gutters of the city would run with blood all day.

- a) What was the discourtesy shown by the passenger?
- b) How did the lift-man retaliate?
- c) In what situation does the law acquit a person who has used violence?
- d) Why is discourtesy not a legal offence?
- e) How did the writer justify that the law is reasonable?

**SECTION B**

**Answer all the questions (3X5=15)**

**1. Read the following passage and make a précis. Suggest a suitable title:**

Education ought to teach us how to be in love always and what to be in love with. The great things of history have been done by the great lovers, saints, men of science and artists, and the problem of civilization is to give every man a chance of being a saint, a man of science or an artist. But this problem cannot be solved unless men desire to be saints, men of science and artists. And if they are to desire that continuously they must be taught what it means to be these things. We think of the man of science, or the artist if not of the saint, as a being with peculiar gifts who exercises more precisely and incessantly perhaps, activities which we all ought to exercise. It is a commonplace belief that art has ebbed away out of our ordinary life, out of all the things which we use, and that it is practiced no longer recognize the aesthetic activity as an activity of the spirit and common to all men. We do not know that when a man makes anything he ought to make it beautiful for the sake of doing so, and that when a man buys anything he ought to demand beauty in it for the sake of that beauty in it for the sake of that beauty. We think of beauty if we think of it at all, as a mere source of pleasure, and therefore it means to us an ornament added to things for which we can pay extra as we choose. But neatly is not an ornament to life, or the things made by man. It is an essential part of both.

**Cont...**

2. Write FOR and Against on ANY ONE of the following topics in 300 words.

- Are we too dependent on computers?
- Are cell phones dangerous?

3. Write an expository essay on ANY ONE of the following topics:

- The greatest thing that brings you happiness.
- Teenagers are materialistic

### SECTION - C

Answer all the questions

a. Fill in the blanks in the paragraph with the help of the options given. (4 x 1/2=2)

My Friend Riya is not serious \_\_\_\_\_ (in/about/of) her studies. She, as a result, has failed \_\_\_\_\_ (at/into/in) three subjects. She is more interested \_\_\_\_\_ (at/in/into) watching T.V. than devoting time \_\_\_\_\_ (to/for/with) her lessons.

b. Relate the correct option in Analogy:

(4x1/2=2)

- \_\_\_\_\_ : wrist :: belt : waist  
a. arm      b. hand      c. bend      d. bracelet
- shark : \_\_\_\_\_ :: slug : land  
a. seaweed      b. ocean      c. sky      d. slide
- hangar : airplane :: garage : \_\_\_\_\_  
a. steak      b. runway      c. oil      d. automobile
- ramp : highway :: \_\_\_\_\_ : house  
a. traffic      b. head      c. door      d. speed

c) Find the SYNONYM for the given word:

(4x1/2=2)

- Contagious - a. Harmful      b. Taking      c. Harmless      d. Spreading by contact
- Groan - a. Cry of pain      b. Grumble      c. Please      d. Grain
- Delirious (adj) - a. Restlessness      b. Angry      c. Normal      d. Hot
- Frail - a. Heavy      b. Weak      c. Unsound      d. Tender

d) Find the ANTONYM for the given word:

(4x1/2=2)

- Plaintively - a. Cheerfully      b. Sadly      c. Sorrow      d. Softly
- Shrill - a. Chuckle      b. High sound      c. Low pitch sound      d. Loud
- Swoop - a. Quick      b. Run      c. Swap      d. Slow movement
- Devour - a. Peck      b. Gulp      c. Swallow      d. Scoop

e) Identify the four misspelt words in the following list.

(4x1/2=2)

- EXCIETMENT      2. GUARANTEE      3. ENCICLOPAEDIA
- EXHAAUSTED      5. GUARD      6. ENOBLE

f) find out the meaningful word from the jumbled group of letters given:

(4x1/2=2)

- reuearts      2. oueyrnj      3. tcexmeinte      4. Gyoeva

g) Find a new word by adding a prefix and a suffix to the given word:

(4x1/2=2)

- Accurate      2. Legal      3. Normal      4. Respect

h) Find out the meaning of the words underlined in the sentence:

(4x1/2=2)

- The mother seagull swooped upwards.  
a. Leap      b. Rush      c. Ascend      d. Move very quickly
- The attic has always been a favourite with children.  
a. Loft      b. Terrace      c. Apartment      d. Strong room
- It is a 55- foot sailing vessel built indigenously in India.  
a. Fully      b. Collectively      c. Innately      d. Specially
- His older brother caught his first erring and devoured it.  
a. Bite      b. Swallowed      c. Chew      d. Gulping

**i) Find out the meaning of Idioms and Phrases underlined in the sentences: (4x1/2=2)**

1. The teacher asked the students to break a leg before they went on stage.  
 A) Good luck  
 B) Work harder  
 C) Take a break  
 D) Be careful
2. The company's financial struggles weighed heavily on the CEO's mind.  
 A) Had no impact  
 B) Caused minor concern  
 C) Caused significant worry  
 D) Led to immediate action
3. After years of saving, she finally hit the jackpot with her business venture.  
 A) Experienced financial struggles  
 B) Achieved moderate success  
 C) Enjoyed unexpected windfall  
 D) Retired early
4. The team's morale took a nosedive after the unexpected loss.  
 A) Improved significantly  
 B) Remained steady  
 C) Declined rapidly  
 D) Became stagnant

**j) Choose the correct substitution for the sentence. (4x1/2=2)**

1. A storehouse for threshed grain is called \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a) Emigration      b) effeminate      c) nostalgia      d) fugitive
2. A person who compiles dictionaries is called a \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a) Lexicographer      b) gourmand      c) secular      d) inevitable
3. A person who is indifferent to pleasures and pains of life is called a \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a) Cosmopolitan      b) stoic      c) infallible      d) judge
4. The art or practice of garden cultivation and management is called \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a) Epitaph      b) anarchist      c) horticulture      d) bureaucracy

**k) Rearranging the phrases labelled as PQRS into a meaningful sentence. (4x1/2=2)**

1. Disease is a condition experienced in the body but existing in the mind.  
 P) In the deeper self, but we are not sensitive to this.  
 Q) So, it is experienced through the mind and the senses in the body.  
 R) According to the yogic concept, disease is inherent  
 (A) PQR      (B) RPQ      (C) QPR      (D) RQP
2. . After inhaling highly-polluted air  
 P) For months, Delhiites seem to be breathing  
 Q) Remaining within the safe limits.  
 R) Easy with PM 2.5 (fine, respirable particles) levels  
 (A) PQR      (B) RPQ      (C) PRQ      (D) RQP
3. One of the problems they  
 P) Thread-like diamond crystals.  
 Q) Production of needle- and  
 R) Have addressed is  
 (A) PQR      (B) RPQ      (C) QPR      (D) RQP
4. The sudden spell  
 P) Of showers washed out  
 Q) The suspended particles from  
 R) The air, a rare phenomenon in Delhi.  
 (A) PQR      (B) RPQ      (C) QPR      (D) RQP

**l) Rearranging the jumbled sentence in a sequence exceptional S1 & S6. (4x1/2=2)**

1. S1: There was a legend among out people that the island had once been covered with tall trees.

S6: Tamai angrily went down, down to another world; so people die today because he did.

P: This was a long time ago, at the beginning of the world when Tumid and Murat ruled.

Q: Tamai wished people to die.

R: The two gods quarreled about many things.

S: Mukai did not.

2. S1: It was in 264 B. C. that the great struggle between Rome and Carthage, the Punic Wars began.

S6: But the Romans, with extraordinary energy, set themselves to out build the Carthagians.

P: It gradually developed into a struggle forth possession of Sicily.

Q: The advantage of the sea was at first with the Carthagians.

R: The First Punic War began in that year about the pirates of Messina.

S: They had great fighting ships of what was hitherto an unheard-of size.

3. S1: Rutherford was the son of a Scot's emigrant to New Zealand.

S6: Life was hard, but it was adventurous.

P: They had 12 children, of whom Rutherford was the fourth.

Q: His father established the first flax mill in South Island.

R: He was brought up in a real frontier atmosphere and it entered into the nature of the man.

S: His mother was the first woman school teacher in New Zealand.

4. S1: The five-year plans are meant for the nation's economic development.

S6: The most important is, certainly, failure on the family planning front.

P: What are the reasons for it?

Q: One way of measuring a nation's development is by finding out how much progress there has been in the fight against poverty..

R: The reasons are many.

S: In India, every five-year plan ends with more people coming under the poverty line.

**m) Spot the error in the following sentences.****(6x1=6)**

1. I promise I call you as soon as I get home. No error

(1) (2) (3) (4)

2. The number of applications has risen this year by as many as 50%. No error

(1) (2) (3) (4)

3. Many a student have passed the I.I.T examination. No error

(1) (2) (3) (4)

4. On the time of the opening ceremony of the theatre a large crowd had assembled.

(1) (2) (3)

No error.

(4)

5. Americans are accustomed to drinking coffee with their meals. No error

(1) (2) (3) (4)

6. The stock was divided among the two brothers. No error

(1) (2) (3) (4)