

PSG COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCE
(AUTONOMOUS)

BA DEGREE EXAMINATION DECEMBER 2022
(Fifth Semester)

Branch – ENGLISH

**DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE – I : ENGLISH FOR COMPETITIVE
EXAMINATIONS**

Time: Three Hours

Maximum: 75 Marks

SECTION – A

A. In the following passage, you will find some blanks numbered. You are given a choice of three words marked a, b and c against numbers below the passages. Choose the best alternative to fill in the blanks: (3 * 1 = 3 Marks)

'Skill Set' was founded in 2014 to collect and co-ordinate(1).... about educational access and quality for students with special needs and disabilities. The organization (2)..... thousands of enquiries every year and offers....(3)....to students on how to apply to colleges and universities across the country and how to find out about special facilities and scholarships. We ensure easy access to higher education for all students, especially, those with disabilities. Your donations and suggestions will help us to improve our service to customers and you will also be helping us to continue our valuable work.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. A. Funding | B. Officials | C. Information | D. Admissions |
| 2. A. transmits | B. receives | C. passes | D. sends |
| 3. A. comments | B. conditions | C. advises | D. instructs |

B. In the following questions, there exists a certain relationship between the two capitalized words. Following them are other pairs of words. Select the pairs whose relationship runs parallel to that of the capitalized pair: (2* 1 = 2 Marks)

1. WALK : LEGS

- A. Gleam : Eyes
- B. Chew : Mouth
- C. Dress : Hem
- D. Cover : Book

2. MASSIVE : BULK

- A. Ultimate : Magnitude
- B. Trivial : Importance
- C. Anonymous : Luster
- D. Gigantic : Size

C. Select a word which is similar in meaning to the words given: (2* 1 = 2 Marks)

1. OCCULT

- | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| A. Latent | B. Transparent | C. Fathomable | D. intelligible |
|-----------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|

2. QUELL

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------------|------------|-----------|
| A. subdue | B. exacerbate | C. agitate | D. foment |
|-----------|---------------|------------|-----------|

D. Select a word which is opposite in meaning to the words given: (2* 1 = 2 Marks)

1. BRUSQUE

- | | | | |
|---------|---------|----------|-------------|
| A. curt | B. rude | C. short | D. pleasant |
|---------|---------|----------|-------------|

2. RUFFLED

- | | | | |
|---------|-------------|-----------|------------|
| A. game | B. composed | C. patent | D. diluted |
|---------|-------------|-----------|------------|

E. Identify four wrongly spelt words among the words given: (4* ½ = 2 Marks)

1. Playright 2. Sacreligious 3. Occassionally 4. Hippopotamous 5. Deceive

F. Make acceptable words from the each group of letters given: (4* ½ = 2 Marks)

1. SKOPLETAR 2. MTSEOPC 3. SYXCORP 4. LERKOBSE

Cont...

G. Generate four words by prefixing or suffixing the following words: (4* ½ = 2 Marks)
1. prestige 2. Grow 3. Historic 4. Music

H. Identify the word that could best replace the underlined word without the change of meaning: (4* ½ = 2 Marks)

1. It is necessary to keep these two issues distinct.
A. indefinite B. well-defined C. fuzzy D. similar
2. I hope you are not going to abandon your project.
A. Change B. postpone C. give up D. modify
3. Imagine my embarrassment when I realized that I made a mistake in front of all.
A. chagrin B. indifference C. surprise D. anger
4. Some language students find studying vocabulary an irksome task.
A. creative B. pleasant C. tedious D. irate

I. In the following sentences, an idiom or phrase is underlined. Pick out the correct meaning of the idiom or phrase from the answer choice given: (4* ½ = 2 Marks)

1. The supervisor was fired because he had sticky fingers.
A. dirty fingers B. Unclean hands C. Kleptomaniac D. unfit fingers
2. These red poppies are a dime a dozen.
A. very common B. very rare C. very cheap D. very expensive.
3. Don't cut any corners.
A. cutting the corners of a paper B. cutting the cloth C. produce excellent work
D. produce shoddy work.
4. That was the straw that broke the camel's back.
A. the straw on the camel B. The weight on the camel C. Loss of patience
D. loss of hunger.

J. Each of the following sentences is give four possible substitutions for the underlined phrase. Pick out the one which best improves the sentence: (4* 1 = 4 Marks)

1. In Magadh there was the government by a king or queen.
A. democratic B. monarchy C. plutocracy D. autocracy
2. The teacher asked the students to throw away the things no longer in use in the classroom.
A. redundant B. obsolete C. torn D. obnoxious
3. The MLA doesn't like to attend any press meetings, because he speaks less there.
A. unintelligible B. garrulous C. reticent D. banal
4. This building was constructed by the Government exclusively for the treatment of the chronically ill.
A. Planetarium B. Lyceum C. Medical Centre D. Sanatorium

K. Rearrange the following group of words labelled as PQRS into meaning sentences: (2* 1 = 2 Marks)

1. Make sure your glasses fit well.
P Take your glasses for adjustments to the place you bought them.
Q Keep your glasses in a case when you're not wearing them.
R The earpieces should be at eye level and don't try to adjust the earpieces yourself.
S This will prevent scratches.
Keep the glasses clean and a soft cloth is best for cleaning.
A. PRQS B. RPQS C. QSPR D. SPQR
2. My grandfather has always been my favourite person.
P. He respects what I have to say and listens to my suggestions.
Q. When I was just ten, he started to show me how to fix cars, and now I know enough to help him in his garage.
R. Since I was very little he has always taken me fishing with him, and he taught me everything I know about catching salmon.
S. Most of all, my grandad has always spent lots of time talking to me.
I love to be with my grandfather, a man who has a special place in my life.
A. RQSP B. QRSP C. SRQP D. PQRS

Cont...

- L. In the following question, the topic sentence (S1) and the restatement of the topic (S6) of a well-constructed paragraph is given. Sequence the other sentences given in the jumbled order: (3* 1 = 3 Marks)

S1: It is our policy that the regional language should prosper.

M: Rather they should be medium of instruction.

N: They would never be replaced by some other language.

O: Such an arrangement would give diversity.

P: The official language should be regional language.

S6: India's unity lies in diversity.

A. PMNO B. MNOP C. NMPO D. OMPN

- M. Read each of the following sentences to find out whether there is any error in the underlined parts. Write the number of the error part in your answer sheet. (15* 1 = 15 Marks)

- When it was feared that the serfs might go too far and gain their freedom from serfdom, the protestant leaders joined the princes at crushing them. No Error
1 2 3 4 5
- If the room had been brighter, I would have been able to read for a while before bed time. No Error
1 2 3 4 5
- Will you kindly open the knot? No Error.
1 2 3 4 5
- He sent a word to me that he would be coming late. No Error.
1 2 3 4 5
- During his long discourse, he did not touch that point. No Error.
1 2 3 4 5
- He found a wooden broken chair in the room. No Error.
1 2 3 4 5
- While crossing the highway a five year old child was knocked out by a passing car. No Error.
1 2 3 4 5
- No one could explain how a calm and balanced person like him could penetrate such a mindless act on his friends. No Error.
1 2 3 4 5
- Five years ago today, I am sitting in a small Japanese car, driving across Poland towards Berlin. No Error.
1 2 3 4 5
- I hope you won't object to me watching while you work. No Error.
1 2 3 4 5
- Twenty kms are not a great distance in these days of fast-moving vehicles. No Error.
1 2 3 4 5
- Today's youth the more they earn, more they spend. No Error.
1 2 3 4 5
- The dissidents hold a great problem in every political party. No Error.
1 2 3 4 5
- Practically every part of the banana tree is used by man. No Error.
1 2 3 4 5
- My opinion for the film is that it will bag the national award. No Error.
1 2 3 4 5

SECTION - B

- A. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow: (5* 3 = 15 Marks)

The catastrophic monsoon floods in Kerala and parts of Karnataka have revived the debate on whether political expediency trumped science. Seven years ago, the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel issued recommendations for the preservation of the fragile western peninsular region. Madhav Gadgil, who chaired the Union Environment Ministry's WGEEP, has said the recent havoc in Kerala is a consequence of short-sighted policymaking, and warned that

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Goa may also be in the line of nature's fury. The State governments that are mainly responsible for the Western Ghats — Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Goa and Maharashtra — must go back to the drawing table with the reports of both the Gadgil Committee and the Kasturirangan Committee, which was set up to examine the WGEEP report. The task before them is to initiate correctives to environmental policy decisions. This is not going to be easy, given the need to balance human development pressures with stronger protection of the Western Ghats ecology. The issue of allowing extractive industries such as quarrying and mining to operate is arguably the most contentious. A way out could be to create the regulatory framework that was proposed by the Gadgil panel, in the form of an apex Western Ghats Ecology Authority and the State-level units, under the Environment (Protection) Act, and to adopt the zoning system that it proposed. This can keep incompatible activities out of the Ecologically Sensitive Zones (ESZs).

At issue in the Western Ghats — spread over 1,29,037 sq km according to the WGEEP estimate and 1,64,280 sq km as per the Kasturirangan panel — is the calculation of what constitutes the sensitive core and what activities can be carried out there. The entire system is globally acknowledged as a biodiversity hotspot. But population estimates for the sensitive zones vary greatly, based on interpretations of the ESZs. In Kerala, for instance, one expert assessment says 39 lakh households are in the ESZs outlined by the WGEEP, but the figure drops sharply to four lakh households for a smaller area of zones identified by the Kasturirangan panel. The goal has to be sustainable development for the Ghats as a whole. The role of big hydroelectric dams, built during an era of rising power demand and deficits, must now be considered afresh and proposals for new ones dropped. Other low-impact forms of green energy led by solar power are available. A moratorium on quarrying and mining in the identified sensitive zones, in Kerala and also other States, is necessary to assess their environmental impact. Kerala's Finance Minister, Thomas Isaac, has acknowledged the need to review decisions affecting the environment, in the wake of the floods. Public consultation on the expert reports that includes people's representatives will find greater resonance now, and help chart a sustainable path ahead.

Questions:

1. Which among the following has been attributed by the experts as a reason of the recent floods in Kerala and Karnataka?
 - A. The states do not have proper system in place of drainage and that is why the rain water always overflows in these two states.
 - B. The states have no idea how to manage any kind of natural calamity and that is why they cannot tackle any situation however small it may be.
 - C. The states should be entrusted with the responsibility of protection of environment in the areas within their jurisdiction.
 - D. The political decision-making strategy has always taken the upper hand as compared to the real interests of the environment.

2. According to the passage, the states affected by the floods should do which among the following to prevent such incidents in the future?
 - A. The states should devote more funds towards the reduction of natural calamities in the states.
 - B. The states should put in place proper warning mechanism so that the government can get to know the possibility of any natural calamity beforehand.
 - C. The states should plan properly so that they can implement the recommendations of the expert panels regarding the preservation of the Western Ghats Area.
 - D. The states should not do anything at present and should only focus on the idea of going all out in disaster management operations.

3. Which among the following is the main issue pointed out in the passage in the implementation of the expert panel reports in various states?
 - A. There is no issue pertaining to the Western Ghat area but the main problem is that the governments do not have enough funds.
 - B. The reservoirs in the vicinity of the area will spell the doom for the area since they will exhaust the groundwater available in the area.
 - C. The area will be flooded since the policy makers are not bothered about the environment until it affects their vote base.
 - D. The balance between development and preservation should be there in order to develop the area properly.

4. Which among the following should be the objective of all concerned regarding the development of the Western Ghats Area?
- The development plan should be well supported by money and also manpower by all the states.
 - The development plan must be drawn up correctly at the first place since it will help gain an upper hand in the whole process.
 - The states should take the development of the Western Ghats region seriously so that the area is actually preserved.
 - The Western Ghats Area should be preserved properly so that there is sustainable development of the area.
5. Which among the following should be the course of action of the government in order to ensure that the Western Ghats Area is preserved properly?
- There should be utilization of various clean sources of energy such as the solar power in the area.
 - There should not be any restriction in mining activities as well as quarrying activities in the area.
 - There should not be new construction of hydroelectric dams in the area from now onwards.
- Both I and II
 - Only II
 - Both I and III
 - Only I

B. Write a Precis of the following:

(1* 5 = 5 Marks)

Almost every organism has the tendency to react to certain stimuli for survival. This reaction to each and every situation has an evolutionary basis of adaptation. The study of human emotions dates back to the 19th century and psychologists have since then discovered many reasons for every emotion, yet these are just theories. The arousal of emotions and their assumed structures is said to occur due to repeated encounters with a situation followed by the adaptation of the encounter. Human emotions have been linked to adaptively regulate emotion-gathering mechanisms. The emotion of fear which is associated with ancient parts of the brain has presumably evolved among our pre-mammal ancestors while the emotion of a mother's love called the 'filial emotion' has seen to evolve among early mammals. Various emotions work as manipulative strategies that favours survival. Feigning emotions by an accused person may help him be saved from the punishment. An exaggerated display of anger is also associated with manipulating or threatening someone.

Despite there being several emotions for various events, ironically the most interesting emotion is the emotion of disgust. Disgust is aroused when the body senses a danger to the immunity or the physiology of the human. The disgusted memory is associated with alerting the brain of a potentially dangerous substance. A few studies have shown that the encoding triggered in adaptive memory for problems is stronger than any other behaviour. This makes us instantly have a disgusted expression at the sight of something that makes us uncomfortable or uneasy. These expressions are also closely linked to self-protective communication.

C. Write for and against on any ONE of the following in about 300 words (in TWO paragraphs)

(1* 5 = 5 Marks)

- Every politician of the country should have performed a minimum of one year service in Military.
- All schools should teach moral lesson classes at the elementary and high school level.

D. Write an expository essay involving all its mechanics on any ONE of the following in about 350 words:

(1* 7 = 7 Marks)

- Healthcare should be made universal.
- The awareness of the danger of mobile phone radiation is to be created among the students of higher education.