

2022

ENGLISH

Full Marks : 100

Pass Marks : 33

Time : Three hours

The figures in the right margin indicate full marks for the questions.

Answer the questions in your words as far as practicable.

**SECTION – A
(READING)**

1. *Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :*

In today's fiercely competitive business environment, companies need to communicate information pertaining to a whole range of issues in a clear and precise manner to their customers. This is particularly so in the case of companies which do business in areas such as manufacturing, information technology, engineering products and services – companies whose products and services may not be understood by a customer not familiar with its technical aspects.

These communication materials are prepared in a company these days by 'technical writers' - people who can effectively communicate to an intended audience. The skills of a technical writer are being increasingly sought for preparing marketing documents such as brochures, case studies, website contents and media kits and for the preparation of a whole range of manuals. Though technical writers in a company do a good portion of work, the trend now is to outsource technical writing to free-lancers.

Technical writing and writing text-books are poles apart. The former is aimed at those who do not have an in-depth knowledge about a product and hence should be direct and clear. An overdose of technical terms and jargons would only add to the confusion of the customer.

P.T.O.

The basic requirement for being a technical writer is near-total mastery over English language. A technical writer should be natural in creative writing and needs to be an expert in using Business English. This simply means that those with a Bachelor's degree in English Literature along with a diploma/degree in Journalism and having a Post-Graduate Diploma in Computer Applications are ideal candidates for being employed as technical writers.

Companies look for such qualifications because technical writers first need to understand the technical information themselves, before trying to communicate it in de-jargonised language to the potential customers.

A career in technical writing is seen as a good choice for women mainly because it is widely held that women are more adept at creative writing than men and the job does not entail 'graveyard shifts' or 'arduous travelling'. Though the demand for good technical writer has risen sharply over the years, the emphasis is never on numbers but on skills.

- | | |
|---|---|
| (a) What is the need to technical writing in today's world ? | 2 |
| (b) What is the nature of the job of a technical writer ? | 2 |
| (c) Whom does the technical writing aim at ? | 2 |
| (d) What should be the academic qualification of ideal candidates for being employed as technical writers ? | 2 |
| (e) Is technical writing a good career for women ? Give two reasons. | 2 |
| (f) Find out the words from the passage which means the same as the following : | |
| (i) relating to | 1 |
| (ii) perfect; most suitable | 1 |

2. *Read the following passage and give your answer as directed :*

One of the striking developments in contemporary society is the growing self-assertion of women. On the surface all seems well as women and men increasingly occupy position of equality. Indications such as the number of women who drive their own cars show that they are gaining in self-confidence and status. Many men help in house work and often look after children. Almost all younger women and many older ones now wear trousers, particularly the popular jeans. From a

distance, it is often difficult to tell whether the individual is a male or a female. The younger generation, particularly those who are now in their teens are growing up in the new culture. When they establish their families, there may be fewer problems. In the meantime, there is serious social and psychological disruption in the different strata of modern societies. The markedly affected are those engaged in intellectual and professional activities. In the rural areas and among the poorer classes the old order is changing slowly, but in the upper and middle classes the transition is rapid. Women's self-assertion has proceeded the farthest in the U.S.A. The American tradition of individuality provides the basis on which anyone, irrespective of race and sex, can assert his or her claim to equality. As an individual, no woman can be denied equal rights with any other individual.

- (a) Make notes of the main ideas from the passage. (Use recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary). 4
- (b) Develop the main ideas into a summary. 4

SECTION – B
(HIGHER LEVEL WRITING SKILLS)

3. (a) Write a diary entry about how you enjoyed your birthday celebration. Write it in about 50 words. 3

Or

- (b) You are Kamdev, General Secretary of D.K. Vidyalaya. Your school is organising a painting competition. Write a notice in about 50 words inviting the names of those who are willing to participate in the competition. 3
4. (a) You are Montana, Magazine Secretary of Morning Dew Hr. Sec. School. Your school celebrated school foundation day. The celebration was presided by the Education Minister. Write a report about the celebration to be published in your school magazine in about 125 words. 8

Or

- (b) Write a factual description of the rainy days in winter in about 125 words. 8

5. (a) E.F.L University, Hyderabad offers a corresponding course in German Language after ten plus two. You are Lanchenba. Write a letter to the Director, Correspondence Course, E.F.L. University asking for the prospectus and enquiring about the job opportunity after completing the course. 8

Or

- (b) There has been an increase in the number of mosquito-borne disease like Japanese encephalitis and dengue in your locality. Write a letter to the editor of a local daily giving details of the situation and suggestions to check the problem. Write your name as Tony. 8
6. *Make a precis of the following passage in about one-third of its length.* 4

Since 1945, the entire literary picture has changed. Fiction of all kinds has become more and more uneconomic to publish. Many magazines have gone out of business. As a type, the 'man of letters' puffing a pipe has almost vanished, to be replaced by the University lecturer or the television scriptwriter. The public is not attracted by imaginary plots of books but prefers the real story of real people. For those who do not read at all, television provides an enticing alternative.

Such a decline is in many ways because the old-time short story had a human quality about it, which is now eroded. Yet, in an odd way, the short story still has a prospect of living. It has been discovered by film scriptwriters that the form of the short story provides a useful structure for television.

7. (a) Write an essay of the following topic using the outlines in about 150 words.
Topic : Promotion of Sports in Manipur 8
(*Outline* : Introduction – it keeps us in good physical order – it teaches discipline – achievements and rewards – Conclusion)

Or

- (b) Write a debate on the following topic for the motion *or* against the motion in about 150 words : 8

Topic : 'Homework should be abolished'

Or

- (c) "Moral values touch the human heart and the beat of that contented joyful rhythm cannot be expressed, it has to be felt".

Realizing the importance of the above mentioned quote, Sanamacha has decided to deliver a speech in the school assembly on the topic : 'Moral values are a must in a student's life'.

Write a speech in about 150 words of the above topic.

8

8. (i) Choose from the given alternatives the one which best expresses the same in Indirect speech of the following :

Jeena said, "Can you swim ?" And I said, "No".

1

- (a) Jeena asked me that could I swim and I refused.
(b) I denied, when she asked me if I could swim.
(c) Jeena asked me if I could swim and I said that I could not.
(d) Jeena asked me if I could swim and I said no.

- (ii) Choose the one from the four alternatives which best expresses in active voice of the following :

The old man was being laughed at by the children.

1

- (a) The children were laughing on the old man.
(b) The old man was laughed at by the children.
(c) The children laughed at the old man.
(d) The children were laughing at the old man.

- (iii) Below are given different forms of a sentence as (a), (b), (c) and (d). Choose the one which is grammatically correct.

1

- (a) It is far too hard an essay for me to attempt.
(b) It is too far hard an essay to attempt for me.
(c) Too far it is an essay hard for me to attempt.
(d) It is too hard an essay for me to attempt.

(iv) Choose from the given alternatives whichever word/words you consider is correct for the blank space of the following :

I shall be very grateful to you if you _____ me now. 1

- (a) would help
- (b) shall help
- (c) help
- (d) are of help

SECTION – C
(PROSE)

9. Answer the following question in about 120 words :

(a) Describe the loneliness of Mahmood in his old age. 8

Or

(b) Describe how Amelia Slater and Elizabeth Jordan differ from each other. 8

10. Answer the following question in about 60 words :

(a) "The ship that could not sink had gone."

Why is the Titanic called the ship that could not sink? 4

Or

(b) "Grace in women gains the affections sooner and secures them longer, than anything else."

What does Hazlitt mean to say this? 4

11. Answer the following question in about 50 words :

"The geometry, for instance, they taught you at school is founded on a misconception."

Why does the time traveller say so? 3

12. Answer the following questions in about 40 words :

(a) What is the tragedy that comes to many women, men and children in Manipur as contained in 'The Scourge of HIV'? 2

- (b) 'Not many people bought kites these days'
Why did not many people buy kites these days ?

2

(POETRY)

13. *Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow :*

(a) Our groves were planted to console at noon
The pensive wanderer in their shades. At eve
The moonbeam, sliding softly in between
The sleeping leaves, is all the light they wish,
Birds warbling all the music.

- (i) Who are 'our' referred to in the passage ?
(ii) Why were the groves planted ?
(iii) What do the moonbeams do ?
(iv) What kind of music do they hear ?

1

1

1

1

Or

(b) For he seemed to me again like a king,
Like a king in exile, uncrowned in the underworld,
Now due to be crowned again.
And so, I missed my chance with one of the lords
Of life.

- (i) Who is 'he' referred to here ?
(ii) Why is 'he' compared with an exiled king ?
(iii) What did the poet want to do ?
(iv) What was the chance that the poet missed ?

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14. *Answer the following questions in about 40 words each :*

- (a) "Yet might'st thou seem, proud privilege! to sing"
What proud privilege does the skylark have ?

2

- (b) "Flowers are lovely; love is flower-like";
Why is love flower-like? 2
- (c) What is the symbolic meaning of the "Captain" in the poem 'O Captain! My Captain! ?' 2
- (d) Why does the poet say that 'some corner of a foreign field' will be for ever England? 2

(SUPPLEMENTARY READER)

15. *Answer the following question in about 120 words :*

- (a) Why does the author say that of all who give gifts Jim and Della were the wisest? 8

Or

- (b) Why are life-skills so important in combating HIV and AIDS? 8

16. *Answer the following question in about 60 words :*

- (a) Why did Fatimah think of her village she was leaving for good only in passing? 4

Or

- (b) Why did Nancy beg Charlie to forgive her? 4

17. *Answer the following question in about 40 words :*

- How is India a secular state? 2