

2012

GENERAL ENGLISH

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 150

Note : Attempt **all** the questions.

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow : 2×10=20

The manager of an office in Shelford was a hard-working man who never arrived late and never left early. He was honest, clean, well-dressed, and clever. But one important quality in men of good position he had never learnt, and that quality was politeness. He never took the trouble to be polite; he never considered the feelings of his staff. If he wanted something done, he did not say, 'Do you mind doing this?' He gave an order; 'Do this and be quick about it.' When he failed to hear a question he was asked, he never said, 'I beg your pardon?' He just shouted, 'What?' The words 'Please' and 'Thank you' formed no part of his conversation.

If he had spoken gently, the work of the office would have been done just as well, and probably better; for the staff was good. But one after another they left and found work elsewhere. No one could explain to him why they did not stay. It was difficult to go to the manager and tell him that he ought to speak more politely. So, he never understood the cause of the frequent changes in the office staff, and probably did not know how impolite he was.

Even his chief clerk, Hollis, who had been with him for many years, was getting tired of his rough way of speaking. His secretaries, typists, even the office-boy, had often complained to Hollis, and begged him to tell the manager about it; but he never had the courage to do this until one Friday evening, when he suddenly took his opportunity.

Hollis had worked hard for several nights on some difficult papers that the manager wanted on Friday. It had needed great effort to get them finished, but Hollis had succeeded. With great satisfaction he brought them into the manager's office and laid them on his desk, thinking that this time he might receive a word of praise. The manager looked at them and said nothing.

As the chief clerk reached the door on his way out of the office he turned round and said, 'I beg your pardon, Sir?' 'I didn't speak', said the manager shortly. 'Oh!' said Hollis. 'I thought you said "Thank you".'

- (i) Which words tell us that the manager was good ?
- (ii) What had the manager not learnt ?
- (iii) Which words were not part of his conversation ?
- (iv) Why did the office staff start leaving ?
- (v) Why could Hollis not convey the feelings of the staff to the manager ?
- (vi) What words does the writer use to convey that Hollis completed the work well ?
- (vii) Who complained to Hollis ?
- (viii) What did the staff beg for ?
- (ix) What was Hollis' post in the office ?
- (x) Why does Hollis say, 'I beg your pardon, Sir?' ?

2. Read the passage given below and make a précis of it in one-third its original length. Give an appropriate title for the passage. Use the special sheets for writing the précis and attach them securely inside your answer book. 15

The forests of India are a critical resource for the subsistence of rural peoples throughout the country, but especially in hill and mountain areas, both because of their direct provision of food, fuel and fodder and because of their stabilizing soil and water resources. As these forests have been increasingly felled for commerce and industry, Indian villagers have to protect their livelihoods through the Gandhian method of *satyagraha* or 'nonviolent resistance'. In the 1970s and 1980s, this resistance to the destruction of forests spread throughout India and became organised and known as the 'Chipko Movement'.

The first Chipko action took place spontaneously in April 1973 and over the next five years spread to many districts of the Himalayas in Uttar Pradesh. The name of the movement comes from a word meaning 'embrace': the villagers hug the trees, saving them by interposing their bodies between them and the contractor's axes. The Chipko protests in Uttar Pradesh achieved a major victory in 1980 with a 15-year ban on green-felling in the Himalayan forests of that State by the order of India's then Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi.

Since then the movement has spread to Himachal Pradesh in the north, Karnataka in the south, Rajasthan in the west, Bihar in the east and the Vindhyas in central India. In addition to the 15-year ban in Uttar Pradesh, the movement has stopped felling in the Western ghats and the Vindhyas and generated pressure for a natural resource policy which is more sensitive to people's needs and ecological requirements. (253 words)

3. Read the jumbled sentences given below and form a meaningful paragraph by rearranging them. Rewrite the complete paragraph in your answer book. 10

- (i) The farmer made no reply but merely nodded and went on his way.
- (ii) He shouted, "I say ... Hello!"
- (iii) As the farmer and his horse came closer the rich man saw that the horse was indeed a fine looking animal.
- (iv) Will you sell her ?
- (v) The rich man raced across the road to talk to him again.
- (vi) He looked up at the rich man and replied, "She doesn't look good, and she is not for sale."
- (vii) What would you say to ₹ 1,000 ?
- (viii) He shouted again, "Wait a minute. I think your horse looks very good and I would like to buy it."
- (ix) The farmer made no reply but merely nodded and went on his way.
- (x) "That's a fine looking horse you've got there."

4. Correct the sentences given below without changing the meaning : 20

- (i) My father name is K. Jangaiah.
- (ii) Shall I introduced you to my other guests ?
- (iii) How you spent your vacation, Moinuddin ?
- (iv) She has beautiful long hairs.
- (v) If the rain is stop we will go out to play.
- (vi) Prabhakar is came back from Nirmal the day before yesterday.
- (vii) Janaki eating mangoes everyday.
- (viii) Animals are having nervous systems like human beings.
- (ix) The use of machines have made the world a smallest place.
- (x) The number of marks I get will determine me selection.

5. Make sentences using the following idiomatic expressions. Your sentence should bring out the meaning of the idiomatic expression clearly. 2×10=20

- (i) child's play
- (ii) to give a free hand
- (iii) to give up
- (iv) golden opportunity
- (v) red tape
- (vi) to make a mountain out of a mole-hill
- (vii) to catch red-handed
- (viii) in black and white
- (ix) black sheep
- (x) to turn up

6. Give synonyms of the following. Write them clearly in your answer book next to each word. 10

- (i) Assist
- (ii) Adequate
- (iii) Admire
- (iv) Rich
- (v) Begin
- (vi) Ache
- (vii) Change
- (viii) Fatal
- (ix) Final
- (x) Delight

7. Give antonyms of the following. Write them clearly in your answer book next to each word. 10

- (i) Careful
- (ii) Absent
- (iii) Tall
- (iv) Wide
- (v) Pleasant
- (vi) Export
- (vii) Kind
- (viii) Disability
- (ix) Open
- (x) Lost

8. Write the correct spellings of the following words : 10

- (i) absense
- (ii) acept
- (iii) accidantley
- (iv) address
- (v) anounsement
- (vi) fourty
- (vii) holliday
- (viii) villian
- (ix) seperete
- (x) bicicle

9. Make sentences with the following pairs of words, clearly bringing out the difference in meaning between the two words. 2×5=10

- (i) Bank (as noun); Bank (as verb)
- (ii) Talk (as noun); Talk (as verb)
- (iii) Root; Route
- (iv) Cut (as noun); Cut (as verb)
- (v) Week; Weak

10. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences using suitable articles/prepositions/conjunctions. Rewrite the completed sentence in your answer book. 10

- (i) Shasidhar is _____ best batsman in the team.
- (ii) Mythili has decided to become _____ advocate.
- (iii) What were you looking _____ inside the cupboard ?
- (iv) You will have to practice _____ at least six months before you become perfect.
- (v) Raghu has been working in this school _____ 2004.
- (vi) Jaya and Rajita planned to meet _____ 4 p.m.
- (vii) It is difficult to decide _____ the two options.
- (viii) Dr. Bhaskar is _____ heart specialist.
- (ix) We put all the provisions _____ our own bag.
- (x) Shaukat promised to pay _____ the loan in one year.

11. Give appropriate one-word substitutes for the following : 5

- (i) A place where a collection of books is placed
- (ii) That which cannot be heard
- (iii) Person who takes part in a competition
- (iv) Young one of a tiger
- (v) Act of large-scale cutting down of trees

12. Insert appropriate punctuation marks in the following sentences and write them in your answer book :

5

good morning I would like to open a savings bank account could you tell me about the procedure you are most welcome

13. In the sentences given below some words are underlined. Identify the parts of speech of the underlined words :

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- (i) The teacher advised the students to read the questions carefully.
(ii) Rajesh lost his purse and immediately reported the matter to the police.
(iii) The annual rainfall here is very scanty and irregular.
(iv) The soldier was limping because he was badly hurt in the leg.
(v) Mangamma missed her bus although she had left her home early.