

UPC : 62031903  
Name of the course : B. A. (Programme)  
Name of the paper : English Proficiency  
Semester : III  
Marks : 75  
Time limit : 3 + 1 hours (1 hour is reserved for the downloading of the question paper and the scanning and uploading of the answer sheets)

### INSTRUCTIONS:

This question paper contains six questions.

Each question carries equal marks (18.75 marks).

Attempt any FOUR questions.

Attempt both parts of whichever question you choose to do.

Q. I. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow it:

Birbal was the favourite minister of king Akbar. The king's brother-in-law, Hussain Khan, was very jealous of him. He wanted Birbal's job and asked his sister, the queen, to help him get it. Out of love for her brother, the queen said to Akbar, "I want you to make my brother minister at your court in place of Birbal."

The king was perplexed. "How can I tell Birbal to leave his job for no reason?" he asked.

After thinking for some time, the queen said: "Ask him to do something that is impossible. When he is not able to do it, tell him to get out. When you are in the garden tomorrow, tell Birbal to bring me to you. I will refuse to come, so you can dismiss him."

The next day Akbar sat sadly in his garden. When Birbal asked him why he was upset, he said, "Your queen, my *begum* is angry with me and refuses to talk to me. If you bring her to me here, I'll give you a prize. But if you don't, I'll take away your job."

Birbal went to the queen and said: "*Begum sahiba*, *Jahanpanah* wants you in the garden. Please..." Before he could finish his sentence, a messenger came and whispered something in Birbal's ears. The queen tried hard to listen but the only words she could hear were: "She is beautiful." Birbal turned to the queen and said: "Forgive me, *Begum sahiba*. You don't have to come to the garden now. The situation has changed."

Ignoring Birbal's words, the curious queen quickly ran to the garden. She was surprised to see the king alone. The king was also surprised and said, "You told me you would not come. Why are you here?"

The queen told him about Birbal and the messenger. The king was very amused. He sent for Birbal and gave him a reward.

(A) Write 'True' or 'False' against the statements given below. Also, correct the statements that are false.

- |       |  |   |
|-------|--|---|
| (i)   | Hussain Khan did not like Birbal.  | 2 |
| (ii)  | Akbar wanted to dismiss Birbal from his post.                                | 2 |
| (iii) | The queen refused to come to the garden because she was angry with the king. | 2 |

- (iv) The queen was curious about the messenger's whispering. 2
- (v) The queen did not expect that the king would be alone in the garden. 2

(B) On the basis of the given passage, answer the following questions in two to four sentences each, using your own words as far as possible:

- (i) Was Akbar happy to hear the queen's demand? Why? 3
- (ii) What method did the queen suggest for the dismissal of Birbal? 3
- (iii) Do you think Birbal understood the queen's nature well? Give reasons for your answer. 2.75

Q. II. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow it:

1. Migration is the movement of people from one permanent home to another. This movement changes the nature of the population of a place.
2. Sometimes people move from one country to another. People who leave their country are said to emigrate while those who move into another country are called immigrants. Immigrants add to the total population whereas emigrants are subtracted from the total. The movement of people can also occur within a country. In many developing countries, large numbers of people have moved from the countryside to the cities in recent years. This is called rural to urban migration.
3. People may want to move out of a place for many reasons such as few jobs, war, natural disaster, famine, etc. These are called 'push factors'. Better opportunities for work, health care, education and a safer living environment draw people to a place. These are called 'pull factors'. Sometimes, people may be forced to leave a place because of political or religious conflicts. Such migrants are called asylum seekers.
4. Migration can bring both disadvantages and disadvantages to the country that is losing people. Emigration reduces pressure on jobs and resources. The migrants send home money. They may return at some stage with newer skills. But on the flip side, it is the skilled that may leave leading to 'brain drain'. Also, the size of the country's potential work force gets reduced. And gender imbalance may result as it is typically men who leave in the search of employment.
5. For the host country too, migration has benefits as well as drawbacks. Migration helps to reduce labour shortages. Further, migrants are more prepared to take on low paid, low skilled jobs. Their presence also results in a richer and more diverse culture. However, migration also results in overcrowding and increase in the cost of services such as health care and education. Also, there can be disagreements between people of different religions and cultures.

(A) The above passage has five paragraphs. These have been numbered for your convenience. Below are five sub-headings. Match each sub-heading with the paragraph it applies to. 5 x 2 = 10

- (i) Types of migration
- (ii) Why people migrate?

- (iii) Effects of migration on the host country
- (iv) What is migration?
- (v) Effects of migration on the country from where people move out

(B) On the basis of the given passage, give brief answers to the following questions, in your own words as far as possible:

- (i) Give any three reasons why people move from one place to another. 3
- (ii) Can migration be beneficial to the country that loses its people? In what ways? 3
- (iii) What do you think is the attitude of the writer towards migration – for, against, or neutral? 2.75  
Justify your answer.

Q. III. (A) Complete each sentence by selecting the correct word from the pair given in brackets after the blank: 1 x 10

- (i) The mother scolded the child for using \_\_\_\_\_ (improper / proper) language.
- (ii) I felt tired after the \_\_\_\_\_ (long / short) journey.
- (iii) The boy was trying to study in the \_\_\_\_\_ (bright / dim) light of a street lamp.
- (iv) Don't \_\_\_\_\_ (loose / lose) the money.
- (v) Setting up a business requires a large \_\_\_\_\_ (some / sum) of money.
- (vi) The company is looking for \_\_\_\_\_ (talent / talented) youngsters.
- (vii) The mission was \_\_\_\_\_ (success / successful).
- (viii) Modelling is a \_\_\_\_\_ (glamorous / glamour) profession.
- (ix) The old man passed \_\_\_\_\_ (away / down) in the night.
- (x) The police are looking \_\_\_\_\_ (for / into) the matter.

(B) You have seen the following advertisement in today's newspaper. Write a job application in response to this advertisement. 8.75

**WANTED**  
**MARKETING EXECUTIVES**  
(male / female)

A leading MNC requires enthusiastic young graduates with excellent communication skills and some experience in sales to market its exciting range of luxury products

Apply with full bio-data within fifteen days to:

High-end Commodities Pvt Ltd  
12 – B, Connaught Place  
New Delhi - 110001

Q. IV. (A) Complete each sentence by selecting the correct word from the pair given in brackets after the blank: 1 x 10

- (i) The government has appointed \_\_\_\_\_ (a / the) new ambassador to China.
- (ii) My mother is \_\_\_\_\_ (a / an) university teacher.
- (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ (A / The) Yamuna flows through Delhi.
- (iv) The next paper is \_\_\_\_\_ (at / on) 18<sup>th</sup> December.
- (v) The paper will be held \_\_\_\_\_ (in / on) the afternoon.
- (vi) The paper will begin \_\_\_\_\_ (at / on) 2. 30 p.m.
- (vii) \_\_\_\_\_ (Which / Who) has taken my pen?
- (viii) To \_\_\_\_\_ (whom / whose) did you hand the packet?
- (ix) You like chocolates, \_\_\_\_\_ (doesn't / don't) you?
- (x) You won't be late, \_\_\_\_\_ (will / won't) you?

(B) Describe the popular hill station of Kodaikanal in a paragraph of 100 to 150 words using the information given below: 8.75

- Area : 21.7 sq. km  
Altitude : 2,343 metres  
Population : 20,446  
Tourist season : April to June, September to October  
Clothing : Summer: light woollens;  
Winter: heavy woollens  
Connectivity :
  - Nearest airport: Madurai (120 kms);
  - Nearest railhead: Kodaikanal Road (80 kms);
  - Direct buses from Madurai, Kodaikanal Road, Palani, Tiruchirapalli and CoimbatorePlaces of Interest :
  - Kodaikanal lake: the main attraction of the hill station, spread over 24 hectares, good for boating
  - Coaker's walk: a one km long walk along a steep slope, offering nice views
  - Pillar Rocks: over 100 metre high rocks, 7 kms from Kodaikanal lake, with picnic spots and caves near them

Q. V. (A) Complete each sentence by selecting the correct word from the pair given in brackets after the blank: 1 x 10

- (i) We'll have to take an auto as the market is too \_\_\_\_\_ (far / near) from my home.
- (ii) The river becomes much \_\_\_\_\_ (narrower / wider) during the rains.
- (iii) The shopkeepers protested at the \_\_\_\_\_ (just / unjust) decision of the municipality.
- (iv) \_\_\_\_\_ (Breath / Breathe) slowly.

- (v) Oil is lighter \_\_\_\_\_ (than / then) water.  
 (vi) \_\_\_\_\_ (Its / It's) likely to rain tonight.  
 (vii) The children are very \_\_\_\_\_ (excited / exciting) about the coming holidays.  
 (viii) I had a very \_\_\_\_\_ (disturbed / disturbing) sleep last night.  
 (ix) She's gone to the station to see \_\_\_\_\_ (away / off) her guests.  
 (x) Our neighbours are going \_\_\_\_\_ (away / on) for a week.

- (B) Column A contains some comments used in spoken English. For each comment, first decide whether it is formal or informal (Column B) and then select the most suitable response to it from Column C. (0.75 + 1) x 5  
 The first one is done for you below the table.

	Column A	Column B	Column C
(i)	With your permission I would like to leave early today.	Informal	It would give us great pleasure.
(ii)	Come on now, who says no to an ice cream!	Formal	Gosh! That was close. Thanks.
(iii)	We would be pleased if you could come to our place for dinner tonight.	Informal	Can't! I must stay away from such stuff to lose weight.
(iv)	I can't stand Akshay's movies.	Formal	What I said was that we need to hire more staff.
(v)	Hey! Look out, that car's coming towards you.	Informal	You must be joking!
(vi)	I'm sorry, but would you mind repeating what you just said, please?	Formal	Sorry. There's a lot of work that needs to be completed today.

*Example: (i) With your permission I would like to leave early today. – Formal – Sorry. There's a lot of work that needs to be completed today.*

- Q. VI. (A) Complete each sentence by selecting the correct word from the pair given in brackets after the blank: 1 x 10

- (i) You'll have to wait for \_\_\_\_\_ (a / an) hour.  
 (ii) She is \_\_\_\_\_ (a / the) best student in the class.  
 (iii) Did you remember to lock \_\_\_\_\_ (a / the) door?  
 (iv) The Taj Mahal is \_\_\_\_\_ (at / in) Agra.  
 (v) My friend got off the train \_\_\_\_\_ (at / in) Agra.  
 (vi) Her house is located \_\_\_\_\_ (at / on) the main road.  
 (vii) \_\_\_\_\_ (Whom / Whose) car is this?  
 (viii) \_\_\_\_\_ (How / What) did he say to you?  
 (ix) He isn't very friendly, \_\_\_\_\_ (is / isn't) he?  
 (x) The boys are lying, \_\_\_\_\_ (are / aren't) they?

- (B) Column A contains some comments used in spoken English. For each comment, first decide whether it is formal or informal (Column B) and then select the most suitable response to it from Column C. (0.75 + 1) × 5
- The first one is done for you below the table.

	Column A	Column B	Column C
(i)	Mind if I use your phone?	Formal	I don't find it particularly enjoyable.
(ii)	That's all, I think. Thank you for seeing me.	Informal	Thanks. I would have slipped!
(iii)	May I ask you if you are fond of Western music?	Formal	I'd love to.
(iv)	Hey! Watch your step! The floor is wet.	Informal	I couldn't agree more.
(v)	Like to go to the canteen?	Formal	The pleasure has been mine.
(vi)	Would you agree that the government should spend more on education?	Informal	Not at all. Go ahead.

*Example: (i) Mind if I use your phone? – Informal – Not at all. Go ahead.*