

DEGREE END SEMESTER EXAMINATION – MARCH 2023**SEMESTER 2: ENGLISH (COMMON COURSE FOR ALL UG PROGRAMMES)****COURSE: 19U2CCENG3: TEXT AND CONTEXT: A GUIDE TO EFFECTIVE READING AND WRITING**

(For Regular 2022 Admission and Improvement/Supplementary 2021/ 2020/2019 Admissions)

Time: Three Hours

Max. Marks: 75

1. Read the passage and answer the following questions.

Indians as a community have always been known to be resourceful and hard-working, and it is clearly demonstrated by the students heading abroad for undergraduate or higher studies. More than ever before, the youth are switching over from a bank-loan to self-financing of their studies almost invariably from the second year if not within the first six months of joining a foreign university. Part-time jobs at gas stations, restaurants, kitchens, baby-sitting, car-cleaning, fruit-picking during the harvest season - nothing seems difficult to the able-bodied youth.

In the recent years, along with fees, the quantum of loans has gone up. Some banks have seen nearly 50% of their clients (mostly students) becoming self-sufficient after the first portion of the loan allocated to them. Even the number of undergraduate students who reduce their dependence on institutional support is estimated to have grown by 20-25%.

Estimates have also revealed that while students do seek a loan for the entire spell of two to five years, depending on the programme that they have enrolled in, smarter children have invariably succeeded in bagging an assistantship or a part-time job which helps them to fund either completely or partially the remaining spell of their studies.

- a. Do you think the youth today is getting independent in terms of their education? Why? **(TWO marks)**
- b. What alternative do the youth have to bank loans to support their education expenses? **(TWO marks)**
- c. Why, do you think, students switch from bank loans to self-financing to support their studies? **(TWO marks)**
- d. Write in about fifty words your critical comments and observations about the views of the writer. **(FOUR marks)**

OR**2. Comment on the figurative language used in the passage given below (10 Marks).**

All the world's a stage,
And all the men and women merely players:
They have their exits and their entrances;
And one man in his time plays many parts,
His acts being seven ages. At first, the infant,
Mewling and puking in the nurse's arms.

5. Read the following passage and answer the questions below (5 x 2 = 10)

Artificial intelligence (AI), sometimes called machine intelligence, is intelligence demonstrated by machines, in contrast to the natural intelligence displayed by humans and other animals. In computer science AI research is defined as the study of "intelligent agents": any device that perceives its environment and takes actions that maximize its chance of successfully achieving its goals. Colloquially, the term "artificial intelligence" is applied when a machine mimics "cognitive" functions that humans associate with other human minds, such as "learning" and "problem solving". The scope of AI is disputed: as machines become increasingly capable, tasks considered as requiring "intelligence" are often removed from the definition, a phenomenon known as the AI effect, leading to the quip, "AI is whatever hasn't been done yet." For instance, optical character recognition is frequently excluded from "artificial intelligence", having become a routine technology. Capabilities generally classified as AI as of 2017 include successfully understanding human speech, competing at the highest level in strategic game systems (such as chess and Go), autonomous cars, intelligent routing in content delivery network and military simulations. Artificial intelligence was founded as an academic discipline in 1956, and in the years since has experienced several waves of optimism, followed by disappointment and the loss of funding (known as an "AI winter"), followed by new approaches, success and renewed funding. For most of its history, AI research has been divided into subfields that often fail to communicate with each other. These sub-fields are based on technical considerations, such as particular goals (e.g. "robotics" or "machine learning"), the use of particular tools "logic" or artificial neural networks.

The traditional problems (or goals) of AI research include reasoning, knowledge representation, planning, learning, natural language processing, perception and the ability to move and manipulate objects. General intelligence is among the field's long-term goals. Approaches include statistical methods, computational intelligence, and traditional symbolic AI. Many tools are used in AI, including versions of search and mathematical optimization, artificial neural networks, and methods based on statistics, probability and economics. The AI field draws upon computer science, mathematics, psychology, linguistics, philosophy and many others.

- a). What is the opposite of Artificial Intelligence?
- b). How is the term artificial intelligence colloquially applied?
- c). What is "AI Winter"?
- d). What are the long-term goals of Artificial Intelligence?
- e). Which tools are used in AI?

And then the whining school-boy, with his satchel
And shining morning face, creeping like snail
Unwillingly to school. And then the lover,
Sighing like a furnace, with a woeful ballad
Made to his mistress' eyebrow. Then a soldier,
Full of strange oaths and bearded like the pard,
Jealous in honour, sudden and quick in quarrel,
Seeking the bubble reputation
Even in the cannon's mouth. And then the justice,
In fair round belly with good capon lined,
With eyes severe and beard of formal cut,
Full of wise saws and modern instances;
And so he plays his part. The sixth age shifts
Into the lean and slipper'd pantaloon,
With spectacles on nose and pouch on side,
His youthful hose, well saved, a world too wide
For his shrunk shank; and his big manly voice,
Turning again toward childish treble, pipes
And whistles in his sound. Last scene of all,
That ends this strange eventful history,
Is second childishness and mere oblivion,
Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything.

3. Write a letter to your teacher on the advantages and disadvantages of online mode of learning. (10 Marks)
4. Describe the physical and the emotional features of the person in the picture (5 Marks)



6. Write a complaint letter to the airline authorities about the troubles you had during a flight. (10 Marks)
7. Prepare an outline of a tourist brochure highlighting the main attractions of your native place including location, topography, historic sites and landmarks, recreation facilities, climate, how to get there, cuisine, special information if any etc. (10 marks)
8. Write a cover letter and prepare a CV for the job in the advertisement (10 Marks).

FACULTY REQUIRED

Applications are invited for the post of
Assistant Professors in the following departments

BCom : Commerce, CA, Accounting & Finance

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Microbiology, Bio Chemistry, Statistics

BA : English, Tamil & Economics

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9. Based on the hints given below, describe the process of writing an essay. (10 Marks)

