

Total No. of Printed Pages—15

1 SEM TDC ENG G 1

2011

(November)

ENGLISH

(General)

Course : 101

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

UNIT—I

1. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow :

By corruption people generally mean, giving or taking bribe to get an official task done. But it has a larger ramification as it actually involves nepotism, misuse of public money, official position and power for generating black money and many such other evils. During World War-II in British India profit seekers and black marketers ruled the roost

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taking chance of wartime scarcity of essential items. When India became independent this trend continued and further seeped into the other branches of governance like cancer. Now it is so pervasive that every branch of governance—executive, judiciary, legislature is steeped in corruption. Corruption Perception Index, an international watchdog body, in its 2010 report, has ranked India 87th out of a total of 178 countries, even below some of the least-developed African countries. This practice of corruption can be categorized as (1) political corruption, involving politicians, (2) corporate corruption which involves big corporate houses and the bribes they pay to various agencies to get their task done, (3) bureaucratic corruption involving a section of lower and higher government officials who demand a bribe for everything, even for ordinary and legitimate tasks, they do over and above the salary they get. But now the involvement of a section of judiciary in corrupt practices has become very worrisome factor. The question is where does this money generated through massive corruptions go? This becomes black money and stashed away in foreign banks. By a conservative calculation a staggering \$ 14.7 billion has been stashed away in Swiss Banks by Indians alone. However, it would

be wrong to say that corruption prevails in government departments alone, it is as prevalent in some non-governmental organizations as well as in sections of media. The media, considered the fourth pillar of democracy is also not free from it. A section of media is accused of indulging in unethical practices like paid news, biased news for a consideration and such other things. The NGOs receive huge sums of grants for utilizing them in their area of focus but a section of them either misappropriate or simply embezzle this fund. Thus all the four pillars of democracy—the Executive, Legislature, Judiciary and the Media, though only sections of them, are corrupt. Why it is so that in India there is no real check to the spread of this cancer called corruption? The basic reason for its rapid spread to all branches of governance is that there is no powerful anticorruption body to act against the corrupt in an effective and independent manner. There are bodies like Central Vigilance Commission, in the Central and States level and in some States there are the Lokayuktas but they are toothless as they are recommendatory in nature. They can simply recommend the names of those whom they perceive as corrupt, then their recommendations move through a labyrinth

of governmental and bureaucratic red tapism and most of the time nothing happens to their recommendations for prosecution. Overburdened judiciary is another reason that the guilty is not punished quickly and thus there is no fear among those who indulge in corrupt practices. So until and unless some sort of an agency or institution—statutory or constitutional, is formed envisaged with real power to act independently against the corrupt with its own investigative agency it is really difficult to eradicate corruption from Indian polity.

Questions :

1×10=10

- (a) The passage primarily discusses
- (i) governance in India
 - (ii) corruption in India
 - (iii) judiciary in India
 - (iv) media in India
- (b) Black marketers and profit seekers took chance of
- (i) slack government rules
 - (ii) scarcity of essential items
 - (iii) wartime emergency
 - (iv) British rule

- (c) Corruption does *not* involve
- (i) nepotism
 - (ii) misuse of official power
 - (iii) misappropriation of public money
 - (iv) honesty
- (d) Corruption Perception Index is
- (i) a national body on corruption
 - (ii) an NGO
 - (iii) an international watchdog on corruption
 - (iv) a government anticorruption agency
- (e) In 2010, Corruption Perception Index has published a list of
- (i) 178 countries
 - (ii) 134 countries
 - (iii) 120 countries
 - (iv) 80 countries
- (f) Corruption Perception Index has placed India in
- (i) 87th position
 - (ii) 134th position
 - (iii) 120th position
 - (iv) 85th position

- (g) Where does the money generated through corruption go?
- (i) To the development of nation
 - (ii) Stashed away in foreign banks
 - (iii) To the development of the region
 - (iv) To the development of the State
- (h) According to the passage, other than branches of governance, where else corruption prevails?
- (i) In corporate sector, media and NGOs
 - (ii) In Film industry
 - (iii) In Small-scale industry
 - (iv) In Cottage industry
- (i) How does a section of media indulge in corruption?
- (i) By supporting politicians
 - (ii) By supporting bureaucracy
 - (iii) By presenting biased news for a consideration and by indulging in paid news
 - (iv) By presenting news objectively

- (j) Why, so far, all the anticorruption agencies are not very effective in India?
- (i) Because they are recommendary in nature and powerless
 - (ii) Because they are inefficient
 - (iii) Because they themselves are corrupt
 - (iv) Because they are incompetent

2. Make a précis of the following in about 80 words and add a suitable title to it : 10

Liberty, as is generally considered, is not a personal affair but a social contract. It is an accommodation of interests of others and in some cases many. It is a concept in political philosophy that identifies the condition in which human beings are able to govern themselves to behave according to their free will. There are different conceptions of liberty, which articulate the relationship of individuals to society in different ways, including some which relate to life under a social contract. My exercise of liberty should not affect another's in any manner. I have the liberty to wear what I like, so have others. I may walk down the market wearing a fancy dress, that's my liberty; others can laugh at

me, that's their liberty. I have the liberty to walk on the road just like many others. But if I walk on the middle of the road taking it as my liberty to walk on any part of the road, I not only obstruct the traffic but also endanger my life and limbs. I have the right to walk on the road not to obstruct traffic. I have the right to travel in a public bus paying the necessary fare but I do not have the right to make two other persons stand by sleeping on the seat meant for three. I have the right to do whatever I like at my home. That does not mean I play my music system in full volume at the middle of the night disturbing others' sleep. Think of a traffic point where everybody wants to go on his or her own way. This will lead to nobody going anywhere at all and the area will be filled with intolerable sound of honking horns. Think of a counter where nobody follows the queue and waste their energy in elbowing out the other, then nobody would be anywhere near the task they have come to do. There are thousand such instances that can be cited to illustrate that liberty comes with certain sense of responsibility and discipline. Without a sense of responsibility liberty would create chaos in society which will only lead to the jungle raj of 'might is right'.

UNIT-II

3. (a) Write a letter to your friend describing a trip you have recently made to a place of tourist interest.

7

Or

Write a complaint to the dealer about your recently purchased computer which has developed a problem.

- (b) Write an application to the Headmaster/ Secretary of a school applying for a post of Assistant Teacher, along with your CV.

8

Or

Write a letter to the Editor of an English daily drawing attention of the authorities concerned to the problem of bad road conditions and broken bridges connecting your area to the outside world.

UNIT-III

4. Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow :

Reading habit is a nice way of gathering information. It is not only a source of pleasure but also helps immensely in

enhancing the sphere of knowledge of a person. Books contain a treasure trove of knowledge on almost every subject one needs to know. Over the ages great thinkers, writers and experts have written down their thoughts and ideas in the form of books and preserved them for the posterity.

However, with the advent of television and other electronic entertainment gadgets reading has become a dying habit. A lot has been written and debated as to how television has affected the reading habit of all from children to adult. Children find watching television a better and more satisfying means of passing their leisure time than reading a book. For adults too, reading habit has been confined to a cursory look at the newspaper headlines in the morning. Students read under the compulsion of examination and read only the textbooks. The habit of reading for pleasure has been an extinct art.

Children find television more interesting than reading because they have never been taught to discover the wonders of a book. At the age of two or three they are taught how to read, but as they grow older, they are not taught to use reading for entertainment, information and knowledge. Brought up on

standard textbooks the child does not get to read anything else. Naturally when a child finds that the textbooks he reads are dull and boring, he never feels like reading anything else.

In many other countries children are encouraged to read newspapers, magazines and other novels along with textbooks. This actually encourages the student to read. The lack of reading habit among adults infects to children.

To encourage children to take up reading as a pleasure there should be a conscious effort to reduce homework. But here again the parents must see that the leisure time of their child should not be passed in playing video games or listening to high decibel music. So it is the duty of the teachers and parents to guide children to discover the magical world of books so that reading as a habit can thrive once more.

Questions :

- (a) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations wherever necessary.

- (b) Write a summary of the passage in not more than 75 words using the notes and add a suitable title to it.

UNIT—IV

5. (a) Prepare a report on the election process of your Student's Union.

Or

Write a report on the visit of a VIP to your area.

- (b) Write a paragraph from the outline given below :

All categories of media play a vital role in democracy—types of media—print and electronics—more popular between the two—reason for its popularity—media role in shaping public opinion—ill effects of corporate-owned media houses—remedies to check growing influence of media barons

- (c) What are the features of a good paragraph?

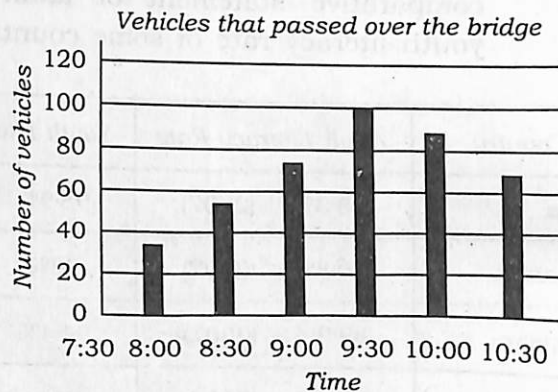
UNIT—V

6. (a) Here is a chart which gives a comparative statement of adult and youth literacy rate of some countries :

Country	Adult Literacy Rate	Youth Literacy Rate
China	93.3% (2007)	98.9% (2001)
Sri Lanka	90.8% (2007)	98% (2007)
Myanmar	89.9% (2007)	94.4% (2004)
Iran	82.4% (2007)	95% (2002)
World Average	84% (1998)	88% (2001)
India	74.04% (2011)	82% (2001)
Nepal	56.5% (2007)	62.7% (2001)
Pakistan	62.2% (2007)	73.9% (2001)
Bangladesh	53.5% (2007)	74% (2001)

Write a few sentences on the basis of the information given in the chart.

- (b) Answer the questions that follow collecting information from the graph given below :



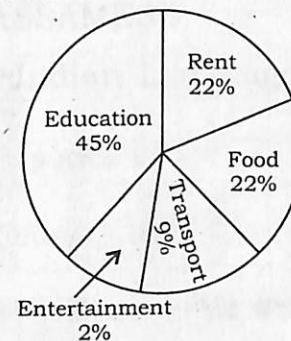
Questions :

1×5=5

- (i) When was the bridge most busy?
- (ii) When was the bridge least busy?
- (iii) When did the rush hour begin?
- (iv) How many vehicles passed over the bridge at 9:30 a.m.?
- (v) Why do you think the traffic on the bridge reduces before 8:00 a.m. and after 10:30 a.m. ?

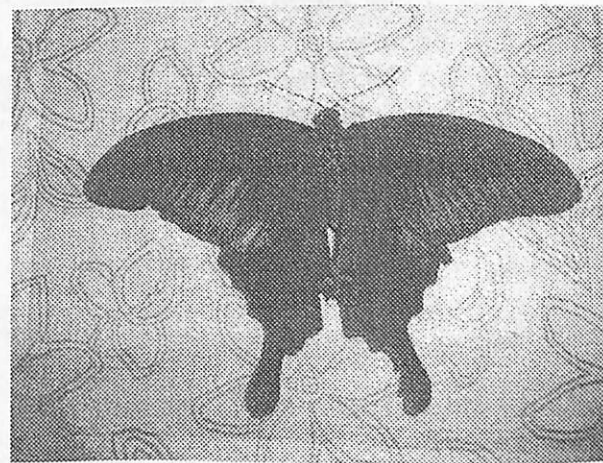
- (c) Look at the chart given below. It tells us about the monthly expenditure of Mrs. Baruah. Write a few sentences on the basis of the information you collect from the chart :

5



- (d) Look at the photograph given below and write a paragraph on it :

4



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