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1 SEM TDC ENG G 1

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(November)

ENGLISH

(General)

Course : 101

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 32 (Backlog)/24 (2014 onwards)

Time : 3 hours

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

UNIT—I

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

The Nobel Prize is a set of annual international awards bestowed for 'those who conferred the greatest benefit on mankind' in the fields of Physics, Chemistry, Literature, Physiology or Medicine, Economics and

Peace. The Nobel Prizes are instituted by Alfred Nobel's last will, which specified that his fortune be used to create a series of prizes for outstanding work in fields benefitting humanity. They are widely recognized as one of the most prestigious honours awarded in the aforementioned fields.

A total of 835 individuals (791 men and 44 women) and 21 organizations were awarded the Nobel Prize so far, some more than once. Among the total recipients, 11 are Indians (5 Indian citizens and 6 of Indian origin or residency). Rabindranath Tagore was the first Indian citizen to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1913 and Mother Teresa, born as Anjezë Gonxhe Bojaxhiu in Albania, is the only woman in the list. Mother Teresa was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1979. Another Indian scientist Sir Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman has received the Nobel Prize in 1930 for his work in Physics. Amartya Sen was awarded the Nobel Prize for Economic Studies in the year 1998. As recent as 2014 another Indian Kailash Satyarthi was awarded this prize for his outstanding work in eradicating child labour. He shared it with the Pakistani girl Malala Yousafzai. There are some Non-Resident Indians who have settled down

in other countries too have received this prize for their excellent work in various fields. Prominent among them is Har Gobind Khorana, who was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1968 for Physiology or Medicine. In 1983 another scientist of Indian origin Subrahmanyam Chandrasekhar received this prize for his work in Physics. Venkatraman Ramakrishnan, a scientist of Indian origin was awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in the year 2009.

It is noteworthy that great Indian writer and philosopher Sri Aurobindo was nominated for the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1943 and for the Nobel Prize in Peace in 1950. On 1st December, 1999, the Norwegian Nobel Committee confirmed that Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize thrice (in 1937, 1939 and 1947, a few days before he was assassinated in January 1948). In 2006, Geir Lundestad, Secretary of Norwegian Nobel Committee said, "The greatest omission in our 106 year history is undoubtedly that Mahatma Gandhi never received the Nobel Peace Prize. Gandhi could do without the Nobel Peace Prize. Whether Nobel Committee can do without Gandhi is the question".

Questions :

- (a) In what fields is the Nobel Prize awarded? 2
- (b) Who has instituted the Nobel Prize? 1
- (c) How many individuals and organizations have been awarded the Nobel Prize so far? 2
- (d) Who is the first Indian to be awarded the Nobel Prize? 1
- (e) Name the Non-Resident Indians who have been awarded the Nobel Prize. 2
- (f) Name the two famous Indians who were nominated but never received the Nobel Prize. 2

2. Make a précis of the following passage and add a suitable title to it : 10

In the present-day society, media plays a pivotal role in our lives. It shapes our views on events of importance and also moulds the way we see the world. Media acts as an interface between the common man and the Government. It is a very powerful medium with the ability to make and break the opinion of people. It has the capacity to swing perceptions or evoke emotions. This is what it has gained—faith of public.

Media through its various means of newspapers, television and cinema is what rules the heart and minds of a large section of people. So it is rightly termed as the fourth pillar of democracy after legislative, executive and the judiciary. A free press is the first and foremost requirement of a true democracy. Because it disseminates information, spreads the messages of the political leaders and provides an opportunity to the public to evaluate the message. While making an assessment of Mahatma Gandhi, famous English novelist George Orwell has said that there was no Gandhi in Stalin's Russia because a leader like Gandhi can exist only in a society where there is a free and open media. Gandhi became a successful mass leader of the masses only because the British had provided him with a free and unbiased press. Politicians and Media depend on each other like fish on water. Since media plays an important role in shaping public opinion, politicians of every hue want to control it. With the advent of satellite channels, every politician worth his salt wants to have a channel of his own. So there is a mushrooming of news channels now in the

country. This development has greatly eroded the faith of public in the electronic as well as print media that are now owned by corporate houses and politicians. This is not a good omen for any democracy. Media controls the source of information, education, entertainment and advertisement aspects of a society. The institution which controls such vital aspects of our life needs to be free from control of vested interest. The public perception of media has been one of suspicion and distrust now. To regain the faith of the public, media needs to introspect and this introspection must be an honest one. Further they need to regulate themselves and regulate vigorously. Media houses must have transparency in management and accountability for the information they disseminate among public. To achieve these, media houses that own TV channels, newspapers and publish periodicals should function in a free and fair manner without any bias. It must free itself from the control of vested interest. A free and unbiased media will be a boon for our democracy.

UNIT—II

3. (a) Draft a letter to the Deputy Commissioner of your district describing the difficulties faced by the farmers due to a drought-like situation in your area and also request him/her to provide immediate relief to the affected farmers. (Write a fictitious name of a district and do not mention the name of your college or your name anywhere in the letter.)

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Or

Write a letter to the Branch Manager of your local bank complaining against the ATM which remains out of order most of the time in your area. (Do not mention the name of your college or your name anywhere in the letter.)

- (b) Domex Corporation of India Ltd. Paltan Bazar, Guwahati has published an advertisement for the post of an Office Assistant in the newspaper. Respond to the advertisement with your complete Curriculum Vitae (CV). (Do not mention the name of your college or your name anywhere in the letter.)

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Or

You are the Manager of Hotel Wild Grass, Shillong. One of the customers (Rajesh Baruah/Rashmi Baruah of H.S. Road, Dibrugarh) has lodged a complaint against the high prices charged and the poor quality of food served to him/her in your hotel. Write a reply to the complaint making an attempt to convince the customer of the quality of food and its price. (Do not mention the name of your college or your name anywhere in the letter.)

UNIT—III

4. (a) Using headings, subheadings and recognizable abbreviations, make notes of the following passage and write a summary of the passage in about 80 words :

5+5=10

Internet has brought about a silent revolution in the field of communication all over the world. It has shortened the duration of communication to an extent unimaginable up to a few years back. The e-mail service has replaced the cumbersome process of sending letter

and document. In real time it can send and receive messages, and in this way has revolutionized the present age of communication. It is internet through which one can buy things online. Online banking and mobile banking are now household things. It has simplified some of the complicated aspects of our life. We do not have to stand in serpentine queues to do our banking. We can do it from the comforts of our homes through online banking. Now we can do online shopping without going to the market, send messages, pictures and documents through various applications now available even on our smart phones. In a way it has changed the way we have been conducting our lives till now.

The most important contribution of internet is the 'social media' without which a large section of netizens find it difficult to live, especially the youth. Social media has been broadly defined to refer to 'the many relatively inexpensive and widely accessible electronic tools that enable anyone to publish and access information, collaborate on a common effort, or build

relationships'. The social media sites like Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, WhatsApp, Instagram, etc., have provided us a platform to express ourselves like never before. It has given us the opportunity to express our opinions from the comforts of our homes and without revealing our real identities if we so wish. The widespread use of social media has brought into fore a class of people who can now create, mould and change public opinion in a very effective manner which is hard to ignore. In 21st century social media has proved to have started many revolutions may it be the Arab Spring which started in Tunisia in December 2010 and spread over to countries like Egypt, Syria, Libya, Yemen, Bahrain, Jordan and Saudi Arabia or the widespread protests against corruption in India under the leadership of Anna Hazare in 2011. In India too we have a proof of the effectiveness of the social media which prompted people of Delhi to protest against the December 16 rape case in 2012. Social media has played a very effective role in arousing people.

However, this powerful medium which can play such a vital role in arousing people to issues concerning our lives is often misused by extremist organizations to preach hate against other communities or to recruit mercenaries. In social media we have seen accused people whose guilt is yet to be proved vilified in the most foul manner. Hackers commit cyber crimes with impunity and no law has been found to be effective to stop this menace. So, as socially conscious netizens one must use this all-pervasive media responsibly.

Or

- (b) Discuss the methods of note making and their advantages and disadvantages.

10

UNIT—IV

5. (a) What are the points one should remember while preparing a good report?

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Or

Prepare a report on the observation of Environment Day on 5th of June in your college. (Use XYZ as the name of your college).

- (b) Write a paragraph on the outlines given below :

Alcoholism among the youth has become a social menace now-a-days—a growing number of youth take to alcoholic drinks after a fashion—there is thin line between a social drinker and a habitual drinker—alcoholism leads to deterioration of health—creates social problems—domestic violence, rape, robbery and such other crimes are caused by alcoholism—one must totally avoid any such drinks which is a health hazard.

- (c) Write a paragraph on any one of the following :

- (i) Skill development
- (ii) Reading habit
- (iii) Mobile phone

UNIT—V

6. (a) The table below shows the male and female literacy rates of a few Indian States according to 2011 Census. Write a paragraph collecting information from the table :

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Sl. No.	State	Literacy rate, 2011 Census (in %)	Male literacy rate, 2011 Census (in %)	Female literacy rate, 2011 Census (in %)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	67.7	75.6	59.7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	67.0	73.7	59.6
3.	Assam	73.2	78.8	67.3
4.	Bihar	63.8	73.5	53.3
5.	Odisha	73.5	82.4	64.4
6.	India	74.04	82.14	65.46

- (b) Study the table and answer the questions that follow :

State	Literacy rate, 2011 Census (in %)	Male literacy rate, 2011 Census (in %)	Female literacy rate, 2011 Census (in %)
Manipur	79.8	86.5	73.2
Mizoram	91.6	93.7	89.4
Meghalaya	75.5	77.2	73.8
Nagaland	80.1	83.3	76.7
Tripura	87.8	92.2	83.1

Questions :

- (i) Which State has the highest female literacy rate?

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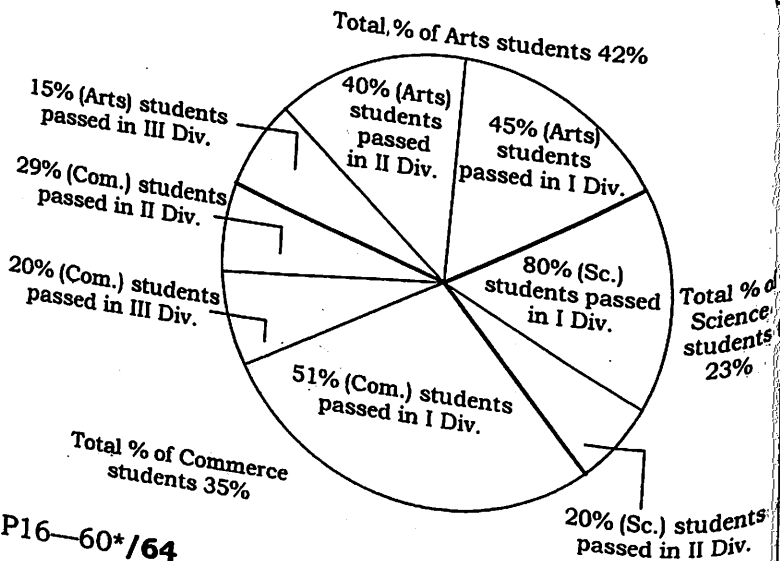
(ii) Which State has the highest literacy rate?

(iii) Which State has the lowest female literacy rate?

(iv) Which State has the second highest male literacy rate?

(v) Which State has the highest male literacy rate?

(c) The pie chart below is a result sheet of an undergraduate college. Write a few lines on the basis of the information provided therein :



P16—60*/64

(Continued)

(d) Look at the picture and write a paragraph on it :

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P16—85*/64

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