



**Credit Based II Semester B.Com. Degree Examination, April/May 2017  
(2014 – 15 Batch Onwards Scheme)**

**ENGLISH**

**General Proficiency and Communicative English**

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 80

**SECTION – A**

**(Prose and Poetry)**

- I. Answer **any one** of the following in **not** more than **two** pages. (1×10=10)
- 1) What are Robert Lynd's impressions about absent-mindedness and level of intelligence ?
  - 2) How does James Bryce put forth his observations on public speaking ?
  - 3) Why is Princess September inconsolable ? How does she turn selfless finally ?
- II. Answer **any two** of the following in **not** more than a page **each**. (2×5=10)
- 1) How does J.C. Hill illustrate the importance of respecting the weak and the elderly ?
  - 2) Describe the incident of the baby in the pram as an act of absent-mindedness.
  - 3) Bring out the varied feelings evoked by the little bird among the members of King of Siam's family.
  - 4) Why does the selfish giant throw open his garden to little children ? What is the outcome ?
- III. Answer **any one** of the following in **not** more than **two** pages **each**. (1×10=10)
- 1) How does John Keats personify autumn in the poem 'Ode to Autumn' ?
  - 2) How does the poem 'The Last of the Princes' bring out the decline of the Mughal dynasty ?
  - 3) Elaborate on the Misery of the Chimney Sweeper as seen by William Blake.
- IV. Select **any two** of the following passages and answer the questions set on them in **one** or **two** sentences **each**. (2×5=10)
- 1) Where are the Songs of Spring ? Ay, where are they ?  
Think not of them, thou has thy music too,  
While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day,  
And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue;  
a) Who is addressed in line two ? 1
  - b) What does the expression 'Songs of Spring' mean in the context ? 2
  - c) How is nature described in the last two lines ? 2



2) He lines on, heir to long  
 Fingers, faces in paintings, and a belief  
 in auspicious  
 snakes in the skylight: he lives on,  
 to cough,  
 remember and sneeze, a balance of phlegm,  
 and bile,

- a) Who is referred to in these lines ? 1
- b) What has he inherited and from whom ? 2
- c) What do the last two lines suggest ? 2

3) When my mother died I was very young,  
 And my father sold me while yet my tongue  
 Could scarcely cry "weep ! weep ! weep ! weep !"  
 So your chimneys I sweep, and in soot I sleep.

- a) Who is the speaker in line one ? 1
- b) What is implied in line three ? 2
- c) What is the profession of the speaker ? Pick the words from the passage that suggest it. 2

4) And I think it no disgrace  
 To occupy my place.  
 If I'm not so large as you,  
 You are not so small as I,  
 And not half so sly.

- a) Whom does the speaker address in the context ? 1
- b) What are the speaker's thoughts of himself ? 2
- c) What challenge does the speaker pose ? 2

V. Answer **any two** of the following in **not** more than a page **each**. (2x5=10)

- 1) Why is the poet sympathetic to the plight of the blind child ?
- 2) Present the evidence of decay of royalty as seen in the poem 'The Last of the Princes'.
- 3) Describe the dream that Tom had in the poem 'The Chimney Sweeper'.
- 4) 'Talents differ from person to person'. Justify the statement with reference to the poem 'The Mountain and the Squirrel'.



SECTION – B  
(Grammar)

VI. Do as directed.

- 1) Choose the Synonym of the words underlined from the options given below : (2×1=2)
  - a) The girl is Meticulous in her work.
    - i) quick
    - ii) careless
    - iii) thorough
    - iv) slow
  - b) The elderly couple was reluctant to cross the road.
    - i) eager
    - ii) unwilling
    - iii) lazy
    - iv) ready
- 2) Fill in the blanks in the following sentences using the appropriate antonyms of the words underlined. (2×1=2)
  - a) Virtue is always admired whereas \_\_\_\_\_ is condemned.
  - b) Although the furniture looks sturdy, it is very \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate forms of words given in brackets : (2×1=2)
  - a) We marched ahead with \_\_\_\_\_ (confident).
  - b) I like watching movies that are \_\_\_\_\_ (humour).
- 4) Fill in the blanks using the appropriate words given in brackets. (2×1=2)
  - a) My friend bought a \_\_\_\_\_ in Delhi. (sight/site).
  - b) Let me know \_\_\_\_\_ your family will attend the wedding. (whether/weather)
- 5) Write **one** word substitutes for the following : (2×1=2)
  - a) A speech on religious instruction.
  - b) A large and stately mansion.

VII. 1) Do as directed.

- (6×1=6)
- a) Although very lethargic, he wakes up early (change from simple to compound sentence).
  - b) The Syrian city was bombarded by them (change into active voice)
  - c) How divine the food tastes ! (change into assertive sentence)
  - d) Omar is rather slow in his speech (change into negative sentence without changing its meaning)
  - e) Goa is the best weekend holiday destination (change into positive degree of comparison)
  - f) He said, "Are you ready for marriage yet ?" (Rewrite in reported speech)
- 2) Complete the sentences using question tags : (2×1=2)
    - a) Shakespeare wrote Macbeth, \_\_\_\_\_ ?
    - b) Shreya Ghoshal is a very popular singer, \_\_\_\_\_ ?



3) Fill in the blanks choosing the right linkers from the options given below : (2×1=2)

- a) Panda is an adorable animal, \_\_\_\_\_ it is not intelligent.  
 i) if                      ii) but                      iii) or                      iv) so
- b) He walked out of the house without his wallet \_\_\_\_\_ he was reminded by his mother to take it.  
 i) for                      ii) though                      iii) because                      iv) nor

4) Write a paragraph of about **8-10** sentences on **any one** of the following topics. 5

- a) Civic sense
- b) Electing the right leader
- c) Participation in extra-curricular activities.

5) Interpret the following diagram in **8-10** sentences. 5

The diagram shows hygiene level maintained by different wards of Mumbai during 2016.

