

**FIRST SEMESTER U.G. DEGREE EXAMINATION, JANUARY 2013**

(CCSS)

**English**

**A02—CRITICAL REASONING, WRITING AND PRESENTATION**

**(2012 admissions)**

**Time : Three Hours**

**Maximum : 30 Weightage**

**I. Answer the following bunches of questions as directed**

**A. Fill in the blanks choosing appropriate words from the bracket.( False dilemma, formal, ad hominem, concluded)**

**1 When Ramya saw Ajith crying she \_\_\_\_\_ that he has lost the examination.**

**2 \_\_\_\_\_ is an oversimplification of a situation.**

**3 \_\_\_\_\_ means against the person.**

**4 Salutation in a business letter is always \_\_\_\_\_**

**B. Choose the correct answer**

**5 Looking for specific information**

**(a) Skimming.**

**(b) Scanning.**

**(c) Analyzing.**

**(d) None of these.**

**6 Comment on pictures related to a text**

**(a) Title.**

**(b) Heading.**

**(c) Caption.**

**(d) None of these.**

**7 The Cornell method is associated with**

**(a) Resume writing.**

**(b) Slide presentation.**

**(c) Reasoning.**

**(d) Note taking.**

**8 Which of the following is a source ?**

**(a) Person.**

**(b) Book.**

**(c) Newspaper.**

**(d) All of these.**

**C. Match the following :-**

**9 Thesis statement**

**(a) Highlighting of positive aspects.**

**10 Topic sentence**

**(b) At the end of the introduction.**

**11 Recommendation letter**

**(c) Strengthens the bond.**

**12 Appreciation letter**

**(d) Key sentence.**

**= 3 weightage)**

**Turn over**

**II. Answer the following questions in two *or* three sentences each :-**

**13 What is skimming ?**

**14 What is a metaphor ?How is it useful ?**

**15 What is the difference between a fact and an opinion ?**

**16 What is an apology letter**

**17 How is a precis different from a summary ?**

**18 What is an abstract ?**

**19 What are non-verbal signs ?**

**20 What is a fallacy ?**

**21 What is stage fright ?**

**x 1= 9 weightage)**

**III. Answer any *five* in a *paragraph* of about 100 words each. Each question carries 2 weightage**

**22 Reasons for poor comprehension.**

**23 Advantages of the Mapping method of Note-taking.**

**24 Tips to improve comprehension skills.**

**25 Prepare a Just a Minute presentation on "Mobile phones and students".**

**26 Draft an acceptance letter to the Business organization that recruited you to the post of the Regional Manager.**

**27 Prepare a resume for the post of a Higher Secondary School teacher (English).**

**28 Read the given passage and answer the questions given**

When James Thurber was six years old, a toy arrow was shot accidentally at him by his brother impaled his right eye and he never saw out of that eye again. Though the loss was tragic, it was not devastating, like most one-eyed people he was able to navigate the world successfully. But much to his distress, in the years after the accident his left eye also started progressively deteriorating so that by the time he was **thirtyfive** he had become completely blind. Yet, ironically, far from being an impediment. Thurber's blindness somehow stimulated his imagination so that his visual field, instead of being dark and dreary, was filled with hallucinations, creating for him a fantastic world of surrealistic images. The whimsical cartoons for which he was so famous were probably provoked by its visual handicap.

**(a) In the first sentence, it is said that**

**(i) Thurber was six years old.**

**(ii) Thurber's right eye was pierced.**

**(iii) Thurber lost the power to see things with that eye.**

**(iv) All these.**

**(b) It was not devastating. What ?**

**(i) The loss of the right eye. (ii) The injury.**

**(iii) The toy.**

**(iv) None of these.**

(c) He became completely blind

(i) By the age of thirty five. (ii) When he was six.

(iii) Because of his distress. (iv) None of these.

(d) Thurber's visual field

(i) Became dark and dreary.

(ii) Was filled with hallucinations.

(iii) Was filled with impediments.

(iv) Stimulated his imagination.

(5 x 2 = 10 weightage)

IV. Answer any *two* of the following in about 300 words each. Each question carries 4 weightage :

29 Describe the most common fallacies.

30 Write an essay on power crisis and possible solutions for that.

31 Read the following poem and write an analysis focusing on elements like theme and form :—

*The Chimney - Sweeper (William Blake)*

When my mother died I was very young,

And my father sold me while yet my tongue

Could scarcely cry       weep! weep! weep!"

So you chimneys I sweep, and in soot I sleep.

There's little Tom Dacre, who cried when his head,

That curled like a lamb's back, was shaved, so I said,

"Hush, Tom ! never mind it, for, when you head's bare,

You know that the soot cannot spoil your white hair."

And so he was quiet, and that very night,

As Tom was a sleeping, he had such a sight ! —

That thousands of sweepers, Dick, Joe, Ned, and Jack,

Were all of *chem* locked up in coffins of black.

And by came an angel, who had a bright key,

And he opened the coffins, and let them all free.

Then down a green plain, leaping, laughing, they run,

And wash in a river, and shine in the sun.

Then naked and white, all their bags left behind,

They rise upon clouds, and sport in the wind ;

And the Angel told Tom, if he'd be a good boy,

He'd have God for his father, and never want joy.

And so Tom awoke, and we rose in the dark,

And got with our bags and our brushes to work.

Though the morning was cold. Tom was happy and warm :

So, if all do their duty, they need not fear harm.

(Blake is an English poet of early romanticism - known for his engravings also).

(2 x 4 = 8 weightage)