

FIRST SEMESTER U.G. DEGREE EXAMINATION, JANUARY 2014

(UG-CCSS)

Common Course

A 02—CRITICAL REASONING, WRITING AND PRESENTATION

(2012 Admission onwards)

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. (Punctuations, Précis, Ad hominem, salutation)**

- 1 _____ is nothing but greeting.
- 2 _____ is a short and concise account of some text.
- 3 _____ indicate how the author wants you to interpret a piece of text.
- 4 _____ means against the person.

B Choose the correct answer :-**5 Someone or something that provides information :**

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| (a) Opinion. | (b) Meaning. |
| (c) Source. | (d) Premise. |

6 A statement of evidence that leads to a conclusion :

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| (a) Hypothesis. | (b) Premise. |
| (c) Conclusion. | (d) Reason. |

7 Use of statements, stories, pictures and other items, true or false to influence people's beliefs and actions.

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| (a) Sermon. | (b) Speech. |
| (c) Propaganda. | (d) Authority. |

8 A business letter for seeking information is :

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| (a) Question letter. | (b) Inquiry letter. |
| (c) Order letter. | (d) None of these. |

C Match the following :-

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 9 Arrangement of words | (a) Analogy. |
| 10 A mistake in reasoning | (b) Fallacy. |
| 11 An indirect comparison of two things | (c) Syntax. |
| 12 Similarity between two things | (d) Metaphor. |

(3 x 1 = 3 weightage)

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

- 13 What is 'comparison' ?
- 14 What is an argument ?
- 15 What is conclusion ?
- 16 What is an inference ?
- 17 What is 'reason' ?
- 18 Define Slippery slope.
- 19 Importance of Note taking.
- 20 What is a synopsis ?
- 21 What is acknowledgment letter ?

x 1 = 9 weightage)

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

- 22 What is the difference between fact and opinion ?
- 23 Reasons for poor comprehension.
- 24 Write a note on structure of a paragraph.
- 25 Prepare a Just-a-minute presentation on "Love is blind".
- 26 Draft an acceptance letter to the Grama Panchayath Secretary who recruited you to the post of Regional Co-ordinator of Adult Education.
- 27 Prepare a resume for the post of a Lower Primary School Teacher.
- 28 Read the given passage and answer the questions given

If you visit Japan, you might choose to travel around the country by Shinkansen train. These high -speed trains connect the major cities of Japan. They are nicknamed "bullet trains" because they go very fast and have pointy noses like a bullet. Bullet trains are a good way to travel for several reasons other than their speed. They are very Punctual, often leaving on time to the second. They are also comfortable. All the seats face forward, and there is plenty of leg room. Most importantly, bullet trains are very safe. In their 35-year history, there have been only a few accidents and no deaths.

The only downside to bullet trains is that they are expensive. A ticket to travel to another city can cost almost as much as an airline ticket would. However, if you fly, you will land at an airport at the edge of a city. Train stations are usually right in the middle of a city. This means that it is often more convenient to take a bullet train instead of flying, because you will arrive exactly where you want to be.

1 What kind of train does the author talk about in this passage ?

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Shinkanset. | (ii) Sinkansen. |
| (iii) Shinkansea. | (iv) Shinkansen. |

2 These trains are nicknamed "bullet trains" because of their :

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| (i) safety and shape. | (ii) safety and timing. |
| (iii) speed and shape | (iv) speed and timing. |

3 As used In the final paragraph, the word downside most nearly means

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| (i) hill. | (ii) problem. |
| (iii) argument. | (iv) mistake. |

4 The author says that one reason to take a bullet train instead of flying is because the bullet train is often

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| (i) much faster. | (ii) much cheaper. |
| (iii) more comfortable. | (iv) more convenient. |

(5 x 2 = 10 weightage)

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

29 Give a detailed account of the method of comparison.

30 Write an essay on "Books and Internet".

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

The Solitary Reaper (William Words worth)

Behold her, single in the field,
Yon solitary Highland Lass!
Reaping and singing by herself ;
Stop here, or gently pass!
Alone she cuts and binds the grain,
And sings a melancholy strain ;
O listen! for the Vale profound
Is overflowing with the sound.

Turn over

No Nightingale did ever chaunt
More welcome notes to weary bands
Of travellers in some shady haunt,
Among Arabian sands:

A voice so thrilling ne'er was heard
In spring-time from the Cuckoo-bird,
Breaking the silence of the seas
Among the farthest Hebrides.

Will no one tell me what she sings ?--
Perhaps the plaintive numbers flow
For old, unhappy, far-off things,
And battles long ago
Or is it some more humble lay,
Familiar matter of to-day
Some natural sorrow, loss, or pain,
That has been, and may be again

Whate'er the theme, the Maiden sang
As if her song could have no ending
I saw her singing at her work,
And o'er the sickle bending ; --
I listened, motionless and still ;
And, as I mounted up the hill,
The music in my heart I bore,
Long after it was heard no more.