



I Semester B.Com./B.B.A. Examination, April/May 2021
(CBCS) (F+R) (2018-19 and Onwards)
LANGUAGE ENGLISH – I

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 70

- Instructions :** i) Answer all the Sections. |
ii) Write the correct question numbers.



SECTION – A
(Prose and Poetry)

40

- I. Answer any five in one or two sentences each : (5×2=10)
- 1) Name Behrman's masterpiece in 'The Last Leaf'.
 - 2) In 'All Creatures Great and Small', who did the snake fall in love ?
 - 3) How is the tree a friend of sun and sky in 'Heart of the Tree' ?
 - 4) What did Deepa and her brother get from their father's property according to the will in 'Daughter' ?
 - 5) Helen compares her life with _____.
 - 6) Who is Jane Austen mentioned in 'Bookshop Memories' ?
 - 7) As mentioned in the poem 'The Ploughman', when is work considered empty ?
 - 8) Name two poems the reader mentions and praises in 'A conversation with a reader'.
- II. Answer any four of the following in about one page each : (4×5=20)
- 1) Describe brothers' attitude after hearing the will in 'Daughter'.
 - 2) How did grandfather succeed in caging the python ?
 - 3) Explain the misconceptions about work as mentioned by Khalil Gibran.
 - 4) Why doesn't George Orwell want to be in book trade ?
 - 5) How does tree convey the loyalty in the poem 'Heart of the Tree' ?
 - 6) Why wasn't the narrator satisfied with his own book in 'A conversation with a reader' ?
 - 7) How did the word 'water' awaken Helen Keller's soul ?

P.T.O.



III. Answer **any one** of the following in about **two** pages : **(1×10=10)**

- 1) Justify the title 'The Last Leaf' with reference to the theme of sacrifice.
- 2) Describe speaker's concept of work as mentioned in 'The Ploughman'.
- 3) Bring out the element of sarcasm in 'Bookshop Memories'.

SECTION – B
(Grammar and Composition)

30

IV. Read the following passage and answer the questions set on it :

For Ralph Waldo Emerson "Great are they who see that the spiritual is stronger than any material force, that thoughts rule the world".

John Maxwell, the American leadership guru, gives the following 21 requirements as "indispensable qualities" a leader must have to become "the person others will want to follow" : character, charisma, commitment, communication, competence, courage, discernment, focus, generosity, initiative, listening, passion, positive attitude, problem solving, relationships, responsibility, security, self-discipline, servanthood, teachability, and vision. As a short definition of leadership he quotes the British Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery. "Leadership is the capacity and will to rally men and women to a common purpose and the character which inspires confidence".

A leader must know where he wishes to lead his people and how he intends to get them there. Besides he must lead them into better rather than a worse scenario in which they are placed. For this, besides vision he will minimally need character, charisma, compassion, courage, dedication, determination, communication, organizational, managerial and strategizing skills, magnanimity, self-assurance, enlightened patriotism and wide spectrum world view, so as to inspire and lead his people, beyond traditional political, economic, scientific, social, religious or ideological confines and leave a permanent imprint on history. The more enduring and beneficial that imprint, the greater the societal, national, global and intellectual landscape over which it is felt and more accurate his/her vision of the future, the more outstanding the leader he/she is.

- 1) Who is John Maxwell ? 1
- 2) What leader must know to lead ? 1
- 3) Write any one characteristic of a leader as mentioned in the passage. 1
- 4) As per Field Marshal Montgomery, what is the definition of Leadership ? 1
- 5) _____ is stronger than any material force. 1



- V. a) Choose the **correct homophone** to complete the sentence. 2
- i) They went to the store to buy some _____. (stationary/stationery)
 - ii) The _____ for my new college building is close to my house. (sight/site).

- b) Choose the correct **synonym** for the underlined word. 2
- i) He gave suave replies to every tricky question that he was asked.
a) complaisant b) compact c) transient d) sophisticated
 - ii) Ford's figures are reflective, capable of ironic detachment, and can be both enthused and diffident at the same time.
a) bold b) indirect c) practical d) meek

- c) Choose the **correct form** of the verb given in the brackets. 1
- He _____ (buy) a shirt last month. He _____ (not wear) it yet.

- VI. A) Do as directed.
- 1) Introduce yourself to the dignitaries at the conference. 1
 - 2) Make an enquiry for following situation. 1
You are at Kempe Gowda Bus station. You need to go to Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium.

- B) Fill in the blanks with appropriate **verb, article and preposition**. 3
- He walked _____ the road, wondering what _____ (happen) and where all the people go within _____ hour.

- C) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate **tense form** of the verb given in the brackets. 3
- 1) The police _____ (investigate) the robbery that took place last week.
 - 2) The streets _____ (be) deserted, with fruit and vegetables arranged in neat rows.
 - 3) Look! Those bees _____ (buzz) around the flowers.

- VII. Develop a short story by using hints given below and suggest a suitable title for the same. 4
- A sailor took his pet monkey with him to sea trip _____ terrible storm overturned ship _____ a dolphin saved the monkey's life _____ took monkey to an island _____ monkey said that he was a prince _____ Dolphin understood his lie _____ left monkey alone in the island.

- VIII. Write an essay on **any one** of the following topics given below in about **a page**. 4
- 1) Online teaching.
 - 2) Lake conservation is a need of an hour.



IX. Summarise the following passage in about **120 words** and give suitable title. **4**

Among primitive tribes today, as was the case too in prehistoric times, there is hardly any scientific knowledge; everything is mysterious. The sun rises and sets and the moon changes : but people have no idea why, or what are the relations of the heavenly bodies to the earth. No one knows anything about natural causes of rain or drought, storms or earthquakes, famine or disease.

Thus everything is put down to mysterious influences by magic or by good and bad spirits. Such ideas cannot very well be called superstitious so long as no better explanation is available. But reason may show that they are false ; and finally, when scientific knowledge demonstrates the way things really work, the ideas of magic or spirit influence can be seen to be mere superstitions.

So, as science progresses, superstitions ought to grow less. On the whole, that is true. But it is surprising how superstitions linger on. If we are tempted to look down on savage tribes and other nations for holding such ideas, we should remember that even today, among the civilised nations, a great many stupid superstitions exist and are believed by great many people. It is worth making a list of superstitions which you know about. Some people will not sit down thirteen at table ; others will not light three cigarettes from one match, or do not like to start anything important on Friday, or refuse to walk under ladder. Many people buy charms and talismans because they think they will bring them luck. Perhaps you yourself are inclined to believe in some of these ideas ! Try to find out if there is really anything in any of them, and what reasons there may be for people believing in them.

Probably the most terrible example of superstitions is the belief in witchcraft. In Western Europe, during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, over three-quarters of million people were killed, mostly after being tortured, because they were found guilty of witchcraft something for which today we can find no scientific evidence. When people give reasons for persecuting others, we ought to be very sure that their reasons are not merely superstitious, or based on false principles.

It is, however, true that the increase of scientific knowledge does reduce superstition and also baseless guessing and use-less arguments and practices. Civilized people do not argue and get angry about what water is composed of ; the composition of water is known, and there is no argument about it. They may be frightened at a volcanic eruption or an outbreak of plague ; but they do not try to calm the anger of mysterious powers to stop eruption, or blame the plague on the sins of their enemies or on the plotting or witchcraft.