

IISER, Kolkata
Communicative English
(HU1101)

End-Semester Examination 2018

Full Marks: 60

Time: 3 Hours

Date: 28-11-2018 (10:00 AM – 01:00 PM)

1. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words (Copy the entire sentence while answering): 10
 - i. Salma ___ be young but she is not stupid.
 - ii. "What is the time ___ your watch?"
 - iii. No use crying ___ your bad end-sem results!
 - iv. You must do right ___ your friend.
 - v. Andrew has known Tariq ___ thirteen years.
 - vi. Ram has been Rehana's friend ___ 2009.
 - vii. The teacher wanted to know why Deepika has not been coming ___ class ___ Wednesday.
 - viii. If Seema applied herself ___ the study of bio-chemistry a little more, she would top the class.
 - ix. David's dance skills gave him a big advantage ___ his nearest competitor.

2. Fill in the blanks using the given words in the correct tense (Copy the entire sentence while answering): 10
 - i. Sanjay ___ (will) have gone to the concert if he ___ (know) that Saeed ___ (will) be going too.
 - ii. Saleem ___ (arrange) the seating in such a way that no one would feel left out.
 - iii. Reshma was ___ (use) the lab equipment very carefully.
 - iv. Out of the hundred photographs ___ (make) by Jonathan, he only selected one to print.
 - v. Ajay ___ (shall) have ___ (charge) his phone at night.
 - vi. Any teacher ___ (enter) the class switched off their phone before ___ (begin) their lecture.

3. Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper complaining about the lack of dustbins on the street where you live. 10

4. Write a letter to your friend explaining why you are writing a letter to them instead of messaging them on the phone. 10

5. Write an essay of no more than 500 words on any one of the following topics: 10
 - i. The Day I Will Never Forget
 - ii. I Am Glad That My Heart Was Broken
 - iii. My Ideal Room
 - iv. The One Object I Cannot Live Without
 - v. Kindness or Honesty: Which is More Important?

6. Write a précis of the following passage in no more than 200 words, giving your précis a suitable title: 10

Air pollution cuts the average lifespan of people around the globe by almost two years, analysis shows, making it the single greatest threat to human health. The research looked at the particulate pollution produced by the burning of fossil fuels by vehicles and industry. It found that in many parts of the worst-affected nations – India and China – lifespans were being shortened by six years.

The work combined research on the reduced lifespans caused by long-term exposure to particulates with very detailed pollution maps. The impact of toxic air is greater than that of cigarette smoking or HIV/Aids. Michael Greenstone, the director of the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago, who led the work, said: “While people can stop smoking and take steps to protect themselves from diseases, there is little they can individually do to protect themselves from the air they breathe.

“The [research] tells citizens and policymakers how particulate pollution is affecting them and their communities, and reveals the benefits of policies to reduce particulate pollution.” The World Health Organisation has said 90% of people are exposed to unsafe air, and breathing it in is killing 7 million people a year and harming billions more. In October, the WHO’s director general told the Guardian that air pollution is the “new tobacco”. “Despite this epidemic of needless, preventable deaths and disability, a smog of complacency pervades the planet,” said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

The early deaths figure is certain to be an underestimate as it only includes particle pollution and the five most firmly linked causes of death. Early estimates using improved models indicate a total figure of 9 million from particle pollution. New links to health damage are being revealed each month, with children especially affected. Recent work has shown connections to stunted lungs and childhood obesity. The latest work created a measurement called the air quality life index (AQLI), which allows people to find out how much longer they would live if they breathed air that met WHO guidelines, compared to where they live. “Around the world today, people are breathing air that represents a serious risk to their health. But the way this risk is communicated is very often opaque and confusing,” Greenstone said. “We developed the AQLI to address these shortcomings. It takes particulate air pollution concentrations and converts them into perhaps the most important metric that exists – life expectancy.”

People in India would live an average of 4.3 years longer each if their nation met the WHO guidelines. Those in Uttar Pradesh would live 8.6 years longer.

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28/11/18