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B.M.S. College of Engineering, Bengaluru – 560019

Autonomous Institute Affiliated to VTU

A

April 2025 Semester End Make-Up Examinations

Programme: B.E.

Semester: I

Branch: Common to all Branches

Duration: 1 hr.

Course Code: 22MA1AECEN

Max Marks: 50

Course: Communicative English

Instructions: Answer all the questions

1. You've prepared a data-heavy presentation for a group of stakeholders with varying levels of technical expertise. To ensure clear communication and avoid confusing the audience, which approach is MOST beneficial to adopt?
 - a) Distribute a detailed report beforehand, then focus solely on audience questions during the presentation.
 - b) Briefly summarise key data points verbally, using visuals to highlight trends.
 - c) Speak in a rapid, technical tone, assuming the audience possesses in-depth knowledge.
 - d) Present all data in charts and graphs, emphasising intricate details.
2. Imagine you are a project manager presenting a new plan to your team. After the presentation, you notice that some team members are confused about certain aspects of the plan. Based on the components of the communication process, what should you do next to ensure effective communication?
 - a) Focus on giving more detailed information about the message.
 - b) Ignore the confusion and move forward with the project.
 - c) Re-send the message using a different channel, like email.
 - d) Ask for feedback to understand where the confusion lies and clarify.
3. You are a guest speaker at a business conference, addressing an audience of 200 people. During your speech, you provide insights into leadership strategies and answer questions from the attendees. This type of communication is known as _____ communication.
 - a) Public
 - b) Intrapersonal
 - c) Interpersonal
 - d) Small Group
4. Which of the following extracurricular activities is most effectively described on a resume to showcase leadership skills?
 - a) Founded and led a student organisation, growing membership by 10% in one year.
 - b) Participated in the college debate team.
 - c) Joined the university's environmental club.
 - d) Volunteered for various community service events.
5. During a high-stakes business negotiation between two international firms, a misinterpretation arises because the receiver **decodes** a message differently than intended by the sender. Which of the following best illustrates a failure in the **encoding-decoding process** of communication?
 - a) A company's internal memo is sent late, causing employees to miss an important deadline.
 - b) A manager gives detailed project instructions, but the team misinterprets them due to cultural language differences.
 - c) An email outlining policy changes is ignored by employees who assume it is not relevant to them.
 - d) A CEO's announcement about restructuring is leaked to the media before employees are officially informed.
6. You are reviewing a short description of your favourite book. The text reads: "This book have an interesting plot and it make me think about life." What are the grammatical errors in this description?

a) "it" and "about" b) "a" and "think" c) "have" and "make" d) "interesting" and "life"

7. During an extempore speech at a high-profile industry event, you are asked a controversial question by an audience member that challenges a core point of your talk. You are aware that providing a direct answer may polarise the audience, but evading the question could damage your credibility. How do you handle this situation while maintaining professionalism and audience engagement?

- Politely decline to answer the question, stating that it falls outside the scope of your talk, and move on to the next topic to avoid potential controversy.
- Defend your position firmly, explain the rationale behind your perspective in detail, and challenge the audience member's assumptions to assert your authority on the subject.
- Use humour to diffuse the tension, lightly downplay the importance of the question, and move forward without addressing it in detail, keeping the audience focused on your main message.
- Acknowledge the complexity of the issue, provide a balanced response by highlighting both sides of the argument, and subtly steer the conversation back to your key points without fully committing to a stance.

8. You are creating a précis of a lengthy investigative report on corporate fraud for a news website. The report contains detailed financial data, interviews with multiple sources, and legal jargon. Which of the following should you prioritise when condensing this information?

- Focusing on the emotional impact of the fraud on the victims.
- Maintaining the chronological order of events as presented in the report.
- Directly quoting extensively from the report to ensure accuracy.
- Identifying the key players, their actions, and the overall impact of the fraud.

9. You've just delivered a presentation, and you're gathering feedback from a diverse audience. How can you leverage this feedback MOST effectively to improve your future presentations?

- Analyse all comments thematically, looking for patterns that reveal broader areas for improvement.
- Identify recurring negative feedback and prioritise addressing those aspects first.
- Average out all ratings to create a single score that reflects your overall presentation effectiveness.
- Focus solely on the positive comments to boost your confidence and maintain your current approach.

10. Which of the following sentences is grammatically correct?

- The dogs barking at the strangers.
- The dogs were barking at the strangers.
- The dog bark at the strangers.
- The dogs barks at the strangers.

11. Your college is hosting a cultural exchange program with a university from Japan. A group of Japanese students will be visiting your campus for a week, and you, as a student ambassador, are responsible for welcoming them and facilitating their interactions with the college community. You want to ensure that the exchange program is a positive and enriching experience for both the Japanese students and your fellow classmates. Which of the following activities would be MOST effective in promoting intercultural communication and understanding between the Japanese students and your classmates?

- Organise a formal welcome ceremony with speeches from college officials, followed by a traditional Indian dinner to showcase your cultural hospitality.
- Create a schedule of guided tours and lectures focusing on the history and achievements of your college, highlighting its academic excellence and contributions to society.
- Arrange a series of informal social events, such as potluck dinners, game nights, and campus tours led by student volunteers, encouraging interaction and conversation between the Japanese students and your classmates.
- Provide the Japanese students with a detailed handbook about Indian culture, customs, and etiquette, ensuring they are well-prepared for their interactions with the college community.

12. Which paralinguistic feature is MOST closely associated with conveying emotions like sarcasm or irony?

- a) tone
- b) rate of speech
- c) volume
- d) pause

13. You are writing an argumentative essay on the topic "Should social media platforms regulate fake news?" You have written a strong thesis statement: "Social media companies should be responsible for monitoring and removing fake news." Now, you need to start your first body paragraph. What would be the best way to begin?

- a) "Social media is a big part of daily life for most people nowadays."
- b) "For instance, false information can lead to poor decision-making regarding health, finances, and even political choices."
- c) "Fake news can harm people by spreading misinformation that influences their decisions."
- d) "The task of identifying and removing fake news is undoubtedly challenging,"

14. You're in a job interview and the interviewer speaks in a very soft voice. What can you NOT necessarily infer from their quiet tone?

- a) He might expect you to take the lead in the conversation.
- b) He might be disinterested in what you have to say.
- c) He might be feeling shy or nervous.
- d) He might be trying to create a relaxed and informal atmosphere.

15. "Imagine you're designing a mobile app to summarise Chennai-based news articles. To provide the most concise and relevant summaries, which of the following elements should the app prioritise?

- a) Detailed descriptions of local events
- b) The main points of the article, focusing on Chennai-specific information
- c) In-depth analysis of national and international news
- d) Extensive historical context of Chennai's news events"

16. Which of the following is the correct way to transcribe the word "cat" using IPA?

- a) /kit/
- b) /kat/
- c) /kæt/
- d) /kət/

17. Imagine that you have just read a short text about the benefits of eating fruits and vegetables. Which of the following options would best summarise the main points of the text?

- a) "Eating fruits and vegetables can make your meals colourful and tasty."
- b) "People enjoy making salads with various fruits and vegetables in summer."
- c) "There are many different kinds of fruits and vegetables to choose from at the grocery store."
- d) "Fruits and vegetables provide important vitamins, help keep you healthy, and can prevent diseases."

18. What is a recommended approach to mitigate communication barriers in a diverse workplace?

- a) Avoiding interaction with colleagues from different backgrounds
- b) Relying solely on written communication for clarity
- c) Fostering an inclusive environment
- d) Limiting communication to a few trusted colleagues

19. You are giving a presentation on the impact of social media on teenagers' mental health to an audience of parents and teachers. Midway through, you notice many audience members look bored and are starting to disengage. What is the BEST course of action to regain their attention?

- a) Introduce a short, interactive activity, like a quick poll or a think-pair-share exercise related to their own social media use.
- b) Confront the audience about their disengagement, highlighting the importance of the topic and urging them to pay attention.
- c) Immediately switch to a humorous anecdote about your own teenage social media experiences, even if it's slightly off-topic.
- d) Politely ask the audience if they have any questions so far, hoping to spark a discussion and increase participation.

20. You are planning a surprise party for a friend, and you are discussing the details with the group. One of your friends is unsure whether to bring snacks or drinks. What would be the most appropriate way to suggest bringing snacks using a modal verb?

- a) "You will bring snacks to the party"
- b) "You might bring snacks if you want."
- c) "You could bring snacks, that would be helpful."
- d) "You must bring snacks to the party."

21. Which of the following sentences uses comparatives and superlatives incorrectly?

- a) This year's harvest was the worst yet; the apples were less red and more small than last year's.
- b) This is the most delicious cake I have ever eaten; it's even better than your grandmother's famous recipe.
- c) Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world, more impressive than any other peak.
- d) Although cheetahs are the fastest land animals, they are smaller than lions and tigers.

22. You are writing a review for a restaurant where you recently dined. You want to describe how the food was served and how attentive the staff was. Which of the following sentences correctly uses adverbs to convey your experience?

- a) "The food was served quickly, and the staff were extremely attentive."
- b) "The food was served fastly, and the staff were quite attentive."
- c) "The food was served fast, and the staff were attentive."
- d) "The food was served quick and the staff were very attentive."

23. What is the correct **IPA transcription** for the following word in **Standard British English (RP)**? "She bought a new phone."

- a) /ʃi: bɔ:t ə nju: fəʊn/
- b) /ʃi bɔ:t ə nu: fən/
- c) /ʃi bɔ:t ʌ nju: fəʊn/
- d) /ʃi: bɔ: ? ə nju: fən/

24. You are having a conversation with your colleague in the office break room. During the discussion, they stand very close to you, within a foot of distance. This makes you feel slightly uncomfortable, and you instinctively take a step back.

What aspect of non-verbal communication is being affected in this scenario?

- a) Kinesics
- b) Haptics
- c) Chronemics
- d) Proxemics

25. Choose the sentence that correctly uses the present perfect tense:

- a) I have been finished my project, so I can now relax.
- b) I have been finishing my project for the past two days.
- c) I have finished my project last night.
- d) I have finished my project, so I can now relax.

26. During which stage of the essay writing process should Anya (a university student) focus on organizing her ideas and creating an outline?

- a). Revising: After writing the first draft, when she's reviewing and refining her essay for clarity and coherence.
- b). Drafting: While writing the essay, allowing her ideas to flow naturally and organically as she develops her arguments.
- c). Researching: While gathering information and evidence from various sources to support her arguments about deforestation.
- d). Prewriting: Before she begins writing the essay, when she's brainstorming ideas and planning the structure of her essay.

27. You're catching up with a friend over coffee. She is sitting across the table with her palms down on the table, facing you. What might their palm position indicate?

- a) She is holding back some information.
- b) She is feeling open and receptive to conversation.
- c) She is feeling disengaged with the conversation.
- d) She is trying to establish dominance or control over the situation

28. Choose the sentence that correctly uses the subjunctive mood:

- a) If I was you, I would accept the offer.
- b) If I were you, I would accept the offer.
- c) If I will be you, I would accept the offer.
- d) If I am you, I would accept the offer.

29. You are writing a paragraph discussing the benefits of renewable energy. Which of the following topic sentences would best introduce the main idea of the paragraph?

- "Renewable energy is gaining popularity worldwide as an alternative to fossil fuels and many countries are implementing it."
- "Solar power, wind energy, and hydropower are all examples of renewable energy sources."
- "The environmental impact of traditional energy sources is severe, with significant carbon emissions and air pollution."
- "Many countries have started implementing policies to promote the use of renewable energy sources."

30. Imagine you are a second-year university student preparing to give an extempore speech on the impact of social media on modern communication. You have always struggled with public speaking due to glossophobia, which makes you feel anxious and uneasy when speaking in front of an audience. During your preparation, you decide to use some techniques to manage your anxiety. You practice deep breathing exercises and visualise yourself delivering a successful speech. On the day of the speech, you notice your heart racing and your palms sweating as you walk to the front of the classroom. Based on the scenario above, which strategy would be the most effective for you to manage your glossophobia during your extempore speech?

- Avoid eye contact with the audience to reduce your anxiety.
- Engage in positive self-talk and remind yourself of your preparation.
- Speak as quickly as possible to finish the speech sooner.
- Focus on the mistakes you might make during the speech and ways to avoid them.

31. You're a young professional at a networking event. You see a senior executive you admire across the room. When approaching for an introduction, who should initiate the handshake?

- It doesn't matter who initiates the handshake; confidence is key.
- You should extend your hand first as a sign of respect.
- A handshake is not appropriate in this formal setting.
- You should wait for the senior executive to extend their hand first.

32. During a multicultural business meeting, a team member from another country constantly nods in agreement but later does not follow the plan. What type of communication barrier is this?

- Psychological barrier
- Emotional barrier
- Physical barrier
- Cultural barrier

33. In the word "afternoon," which syllable typically receives the most stress?

- The third syllable ("noon")
- Stress can vary depending on the context
- The second syllable ("ter-")
- The first syllable ("af-")

34. Choose the option that has the correct transcription for the word "thought":

- /θɔ:t/
- /θout/
- /θɔt/
- /θat/

35. Which sentence uses the correct pronoun case?

- Between you and I, I think he's made a mistake.
- The prize was awarded to he and his partner.
- Who did you say was responsible?
- Us students need a longer break.

36. Identify the sentence where the verb tense is used incorrectly.

- By the time we arrived, they had already left.
- He is understanding the concept better after the lecture.
- I was reading when the phone rang.
- They have been working on this project for months.

37. In which of the following sentences is "**a few**" used incorrectly?

- I have **a few** friends who can help me with this project.
- The doctor said there are **a few** options left for treatment, but we must act quickly.
- Unfortunately, **a few** students showed up for the seminar, so the event was cancelled.
- She has **a few** minutes to discuss the matter before her next meeting.

38. Michael is a recent engineering graduate with expertise in various programming languages and software development tools. He's updating his resume to apply for software engineering positions at tech companies.

Which of the following approaches would be MOST effective for Michael to present his skills on his resume?

- a) List all the programming languages and software tools he has ever used, regardless of his proficiency level, to demonstrate the breadth of his technical knowledge.
- b) Categorize his skills into relevant sections, such as "Programming Languages," "Software Development Tools," and "Cloud Computing Platforms," providing specific examples of his proficiency in each area.
- c) Describe his skills in a narrative paragraph, highlighting his passion for technology and his ability to learn new tools and technologies quickly.
- d) Include a separate "Skills" section with a long list of keywords related to his technical expertise focusing solely on ATS optimization rather than readability for recruiters.

39. You are a recent graduate with a degree in communications, but you haven't secured any internships or relevant work experience in your field yet. You're applying for entry-level public relations positions and want to emphasise your strong communication and interpersonal skills, as well as your eagerness to learn and contribute to a PR team.

Which resume type would be MOST suitable for your situation, allowing you to highlight your skills and enthusiasm despite your lack of direct experience?

- a) Functional resume, highlighting your communication, interpersonal, and organisational skills gained through coursework, extracurricular activities, and volunteer work.
- b) Combination resume, starting with a skills summary followed by a brief chronological work experience section (including unrelated jobs) and a section on relevant projects or coursework.
- c) Targeted resume, customising your resume for each specific job application by matching your skills to the exact requirements and keywords mentioned in the job description.
- d) Chronological resume, focusing on your education and listing your coursework, GPA, and any relevant academic achievements.

40. You are writing a proposal letter to a prestigious client, aiming to persuade them to partner with your company for an upcoming project. The client is highly selective, and you need to strike the right balance between confidence and humility in your tone. Which of the following is the most effective opening sentence for your letter?

- a) "We are certain that our unmatched expertise makes us the best choice for your upcoming project."
- b) "With a proven track record in similar projects, we are confident our collaboration would bring substantial value to your team."
- c) "We believe that, while we are new to this field, we can contribute significantly to your project."
- d) "Although there are many options available, we think you should consider us as a potential partner."

41. Choose the grammatically correct sentence:

- a) Neither the students nor their teacher are aware of the changed schedule.
- b) Each of the paintings, regardless of their style and provenance, were sold at the auction.
- c) A basket of apples, along with a jar of honey and a thoughtful note, makes a lovely gift.
- d) The flock of geese, startled by the sudden noise, take flight.

42. In which of the following sentences is the word stress marked INCORRECTLY, potentially leading to a misunderstanding or an unnatural pronunciation?

- The protesters were adamant that the controversial deVELopment project be halted.
- The museum curator carefully handled the fragile ARTifact recovered from the archaeological dig.
- Despite facing numerous OBstacles, the entrepreneur persevered and ultimately achieved sucCESS.
- The renowned PHOtographer was known for her captivating portraits and stunning LANDscapes.

43. You are writing an essay about the importance of healthy eating. You've written a strong introduction and want to start your second paragraph with a sentence that grabs the reader's attention while staying relevant to the topic. Which of the following would be the BEST opening sentence for that paragraph?

- "My favourite meal is pizza, but I know it's not the healthiest choice."
- "Imagine a plate filled with vibrant colours, from leafy greens to ruby red strawberries."
- "Exercise is also important for your health, not just what you eat."
- "Did you know that some foods can actually help prevent migraines?"

44. A journalist is tasked with writing a short 300-word article about a recent 1,500-word interview with a famous entrepreneur. The article needs to highlight the entrepreneur's vision for the future, key business strategies, and advice for young professionals. The journalist wants to condense the interview while keeping the most impactful quotes and avoiding too much detailed backstory.

Which of the following condensation methods would be most effective for the journalist to use in this situation?

- Summarising the entrepreneur's entire career history and then briefly mentioning the interview content.
- Extracting the key quotes from the interview that showcase the entrepreneur's vision and advice, while briefly summarising their strategies.
- Rewriting the entire interview in shorter sentences to fit within the word limit, but keeping every detail intact.
- Focusing on summarising the entrepreneur's background information rather than their vision and strategies.

45. Which sentence correctly adheres to subject-verb agreement and tense consistency?

- Every one of the paintings in the exhibition were sold on the opening night.
- Neither the students nor their teacher was aware of the changed exam schedule.
- The flock of birds fly south for the winter, their journey spanning thousands of miles.
- Despite the challenges they face, the team members remains committed to their goal and are working tirelessly.

Q.46 to Q.50 are based on the following passage:

The traditional view of museums as repositories of historical artefacts is undergoing a significant transformation. Increasingly, museums are evolving into dynamic spaces for community engagement, interactive learning, and cultural exchange. This shift is driven by a number of factors, including changing audience expectations, advancements in technology, and a growing recognition of the museum's role in fostering social cohesion. Modern museum exhibits often incorporate multimedia elements, interactive displays, and virtual reality

experiences to create immersive and engaging learning environments. Furthermore, many museums are actively seeking to connect with diverse communities through outreach programmes, educational workshops, and collaborative projects.

However, this evolution also presents challenges. One key issue is the need to balance the preservation of historical artefacts with the desire to make them accessible and engaging to a wider audience. Another challenge lies in securing the necessary funding and expertise to develop and maintain innovative exhibits and programmes. Moreover, museums must carefully consider the ethical implications of using new technologies, such as facial recognition software, in their spaces. Despite these challenges, the transformation of museums into vibrant community hubs represents an exciting development in the cultural landscape.

46. The passage suggests that the evolving role of museums includes:

- A shift away from research and scholarship towards entertainment and spectacle.
- A greater emphasis on community engagement, interactive learning, and cultural exchange.
- A decreased focus on the preservation and interpretation of historical artefacts.
- A move towards becoming primarily online virtual institutions.

47. The passage mentions which of the following as a challenge faced by modern museums?

- Balancing preservation with accessibility.
- Attracting a younger audience to traditional exhibits.
- Maintaining the physical security of historical artefacts.
- Complying with international regulations on cultural property.

48. The author implies that the use of new technologies in museums:

- Is universally beneficial and poses no ethical dilemmas.
- Offers exciting possibilities but requires careful consideration of ethical implications.
- Should be strictly regulated to prevent the misuse of sensitive data.
- Is primarily driven by a desire to increase revenue and attract more visitors.

49. According to the passage, what is one factor driving the transformation of museums?

- A decline in public funding for cultural institutions.
- Advancements in technology and changing audience expectations.
- A decrease in interest in historical artefacts and cultural heritage.
- Increased competition from other forms of entertainment.

50. What is the main focus of the passage?

- The challenges facing museums in the 21st century.
- The changing role of museums in contemporary society.
- The history and evolution of museum practices.
- The impact of technology on museum exhibitions.
