



# **NEW HORIZON COLLEGE**

**MARATHALLI, BANGALORE**

**I SEMESTER BBM, BCOM STUDY MATERIAL**

**GENERAL ENGLISH**

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## 1. She Spoke for All Nature

--by Rachel Carson

'She Spoke for All Nature' is a biographical article about Rachel Carson. The article was published in the 'Young World', a Saturday Supplement of *The Hindu*, on June 4, 1994. The article throws light on the life and works of Rachel Carson. She wrote four books about the mysteries of aquatic life. Her fourth book, *Silent Spring*, is her path-breaking work.

Though she was not an environmentalist or a crusader in the real sense of the word, but through her fourth book she draws our attention to the dire need of preserving our environment. Primarily she was a scientist and a writer, but her love for Nature forced her to spread awareness about environment. As a result her book, *Silent Spring*, started an ecological revolution unknowingly. The facts given in the book made the American government listen to her.

Rachel Carson was born in Springdale, Pennsylvania US on May 27, 1907. She grew up in the country-side and had a first-hand experience with the beauty and wonders of Nature. She used to wander in the farm with her little dog Candy watching butterflies, grasshoppers and flowers. She played with chickens, pigs and rabbits. She inherited her love and fondness for books from her mother. Influenced by her mother, Rachel started reading independently at the age of six. By the time she was ten, she was sure that she wanted to be a professional writer. Same year her story was published in children's magazine titled 'St. Nicholas'. A cheque of \$10 boosted her morale. Her writings were also appreciated by her teachers. However, in her college she found herself more interested in Biology. But she continued writing articles for magazines.

She specialized in Marine Zoology in college but could not go for a Master's degree as she had to earn to sustain her mother and herself after the death of father. However, it was not easy to get a full-time job for a young female in the male-dominated scientific world.

She got a rare opportunity when the Bureau of Fisheries of America decided to broadcast 52 radio-talks on fishery and marine life. She finished the assignment successfully. Later, she was also asked to rewrite the talks in the form of brochures and from there her scientific literary career began. In 1936, she passed the civil services examination and got the job of Junior Aquatic Biologist in the Fisheries Department. Her dream came true. She continued writing scientific articles in simple and impressive language.

Her first book, *Under the Sea Wind*, was a great success. William Beebe, the famous biologist and underwater explorer of the time, included two of her chapters in his book: *The Book of Naturalists*. Carson's second book, *The Sea Around Us*, appeared in 1950. Again she was applauded for her remarkable fusion of science and poetry. In her third book, *The Edge of the Sea*, she talked about the creatures that live at the edge of the sea and how they shape their lives to the rhythms of the changing sea.

Her fourth and most important book, *Silent Spring* (1962), brought her into limelight. In this book she talked about the balance of Nature and the threats caused to this balance by

the civilized world. The language of the book was simple and free of jargon. She was genuinely disturbed by the damage done by the excessive use of pesticides. Her book was opposed by many bigwigs of the industrial world. Attempts were made to discredit her and her work. Anyhow, the book was read and appreciated by the common people and it proved that the general public, given the impetus, can understand scientific concepts.

Today she is admired as the greatest scientist after Darwin, Like Darwin, she also spent long hours in collecting vast range of information to support her concepts about Nature. She made the concepts of science easier and understandable for the common public. Her greatest contribution is that she gave a shake to the ignorant world at the right time by putting forth the cause of Nature. She started an ecological revolution by speaking for all the Nature. (That is why the article is titled as ‘She Spoke for All Nature’. This the most appropriate title for this article.)

### Questions:

2 Marks:

- 1) What was the subject in which Carson specialized while in college?
- 2) What prompted Carson to write *Silent Spring*?

5 Marks:

- 1) Describe Rachel Carson’s childhood?
- 2) Bring out the significance of the title ‘*She Spoke for All Nature*’.

10 Marks:

- 1) Discuss Rachel Carson’s life as a scientist and a writer.

## 2. Two Kinds of Environmentalism

--by Ramachandra Guha

The essay, 'Two Kinds of Environmentalism,' is written by Ramachandra Guha. The essay is about the similarities as well as the differences between the two forms of environmentalism. One is popular in the North and the other one is in the South of the world. He expresses that the ideologies, motivations and forms of environment-related protests are different in developed and developing countries. He considers the United States of America as the example of the North and India as the example of the South.

Guha states that the environmental movements in the North have been related to the emergence of a post-structural society. Industrialization and materialism have resulted in a rich middle class. This stratum of the society has money and time for recreation and rejuvenation. Moreover, the invention and availability of car has opened a new world of Nature and Wilderness to them. People freshen up from the hum-drum of city life by escaping to the natural getaways in a comfortable way in their cars. It is a curious paradox that car, an invention of science and industry, helps people to escape from the noisy industrial cities. People use their cars to reach in the lap of Nature to enjoy it.

In developing countries like India Environmental movements are more a result of nature-based conflicts between the rich and the poor. Sometimes development causes destruction of natural environment and the people affected negatively are mostly farmers and tribal people. Factors like: ecological degradation, drying up of springs, decimation of forests and erosion of land etc.; directly affect the millions of villagers in India. So protests to save environment and ecology are traditional and direct in their form. People opt for 'dharanas' and hunger strikes as a means to show their anger.

However, in the North the protests are much more systematic. People there will contact some social movement organization and that organization decides the method of compensation. There methods like court-case, lobbying of legislators and ministers, the exposure on television and newspaper are more popular. However, forms of protests can be interchanged in between the South and the North, though it happens rarely.

Guha states that there are two different kinds of ideologies responsible for environmental movements. One is the ideology of the poor as the environmentalism of the poor originates as a clash over productive resources. Peasants and tribal people struggle to save natural resources because they are the source of their livelihood. Thus it turns out to be a conflict between the need to conserve Nature and economic development. On the other side in North most of the environmental movements like the Wilderness Movement is not against the economic development. Especially in the United States of America movements rather run parallel to the consumer society. There the aim is to bring the change in attitude towards the natural world. But even in America some examples like anti-pollution movement are there where poor people get involved in environment related problems. Actually the environmentalism can be divided into two types. One is the movement to save the wilderness

of forest and ocean etc. and this type is the struggle of the higher class i.e. rich people. Another type is the movement for environmental justice. This type is the struggle of the poor class as it is against social and economic inequalities.

However, the cause of environmental justice is a more popular aspect of the South. To describe the difference between the types of environmental movements popular in the North and the South, Guha gives examples of Mark Dubois and Medha Patkar. In May 1979, Mark Dubois, an American environmentalist tied himself to a boulder in the Stanislaus river in California to oppose the construction of the New Melons dam. Medha Patkar, an Indian social activist decided to drown herself in the water collected in the Sardar Sarovar Dam to protest against the dam. Guha explains that Dubois and Patkar, though they do not know each other, opted for similar forms of protest but the underlying motivations and objectives have been entirely different. Dubois objective was to save the unique ecological grandeur of the Canyon, while Patkar's objective was not only to save the Narmada River but mainly it was to save tens of thousands of farmers of the surrounding areas. The writer also approves of Medha Patkar's kind of environmentalism. While Dubois action was to save the pristine unspoilt nature, Medha Patkar's was to save nature as well as the interests of the economically weaker section of the society. Guha concludes by explaining that the epitaph of the Northern environmentalism is answered by the motto of the Southern one. 'No Humanity without Nature!' is a great thought but 'No Nature Without Social Justice!' is even bigger

**Questions:**

2 Marks:

- 1) What have the environmental movements in the North been related to?
- 2) What kind of protests do the Americans do?

5 Marks:

- 1) Why does the author say that the strategies used by Dubois and Medha Patkar were superficially similar?
- 2) Bring out the significance of the title '*She Spoke for All Nature*'.

10 Marks:

- 1) Discuss the ideas of the author about the two kinds of environmentalism.



### 3. Tiger Tiger Revisited

--by Gordon J L Ramel

The poem is a serious parody of an earlier poem titled 'The Tiger' by William Blake. Blake's poem talks about the tiger's ferociousness, but Gordon J L Ramel's poem is a timely alarm for the mankind. He conveys the message that human beings are even more dangerous and destructive. The poet asks several questions in the poem to make human beings realize that they are responsible for making the species of tiger an endangered one.

Ramel, a well-published poet, says that human beings have cast their destructive shadow on tigers. As a result, the number of tigers in the world is decreasing day by day. He wonders if any strict laws or business deals can save the tiger from such a doom. He knows that rules are there but people have the tendency to break even the strongest of the laws. The poet's next question is: Is it really difficult for mankind to imagine living in world where the needless killing is not required? In other words, if human beings stop killing the tiger it will not affect their existence on this earth in any negative way.

The poet expresses his disgust for the cruel people who kill tigers for money. He wonders how greedy and destructive the minds are, who plan to kill tigers for earning money by selling their bones and skin. This kind of killing is also a proof of the moral depravity of the murderers as they care only for themselves but they do not think about the other species inhabiting the same planet. Moreover, it is sad that all the education and learning of human beings, that does not teach them to value the life of others, is a waste only. Man does not realize that man-made wonders of science cannot compete with the wonders and beauty of Nature. For example, there is no comparison of the tiger in the man-made world.

Ramel wants to know about the person who has sowed the seeds of human ignorance and greed. Ramel wonders whom that person hates so much that he is hell-bound to destroy the beauty and balance of nature. Ramel further states that even the God will not be happy with us because we are responsible for the merciless killing of the tiger. Here the poet again refers to Blake's poem and addresses tiger as 'who kills the lamb'. In the last stanza, Ramel again shakes our conscience by telling us to compare the past and the present. He wants the reader to realize that the total number of tigers alive is really dipping down. It is strange and awful that only we, the human beings are responsible for wiping off such a majestic and royal creature from the earth:

'Tiger tiger fading fast

In the shadow we have cast.'

#### Questions:

2 Marks:

- 1) What is the meaning of the phrase 'moral poverty'?

5 Marks:

- 1) Comment on the unkindness of humankind?

10Marks:

- 1) Sum up the views of the poet.



## 4. Ballad of the Landlord

--by Langston Hughes

The 'Ballad of the Landlord' is written by the famous African-American poet Langston Hughes. Hughes is well-known for encapsulating the black American experience in his writings. In the present poem he elaborates a familiar landlord versus tenant conflict. However, here the situation is worsened because of the existing racial discrimination. The police, the media and the judiciary all favour the white landlord.

The black tenant makes a simple request to the white landlord that the roof of his rented house is leaking and even the stairs are broken. The tenant has informed the land lord earlier also but the landlord nothing is done. The tenant wonders that the landlord has not seen the broken steps himself while coming to collect the rent. The landlord has laid down the condition that the tenant owes him ten dollars; once the money is paid then only he will think of renovating the house. The landlord threatens the tenant to get eviction orders to throw him out of the house if the tenant does not pay the pending rent.

Now the tenant also becomes angry. He tells the landlord that the latter one can only talk but cannot do anything to him. The landlord will not be able to utter one more word if the black tenant hits him once. In fact, the black race is famous for being very strong physically. The landlord gets scared on listening this and he calls the police. The policeman comes and arrests the tenant without even giving him time to explain his side of the argument. The black tenant is taken to the court as he is convicted of threatening a white landlord, ruining the government and breaking the law of the state. He is sentenced an imprisonment of ninety days and denied bail also. In this way the landlord evades the tenant's request in a very clever but cheap way by sending the tenant to jail on false charges. He gets rid of the tenant as well as he saves himself of the trouble of renovating the house. Thus if the landlord is unjust in taking the tenant to the court for such a minor squabble (fight), the judge is much more unfair in being biased.

The media also takes the side of the white man only as the headlines in the newspapers next day condemns the black tenant for his impudence. The poem explains the miserable situation and the plight of the blacks in a society dominated by the whites as nothing can help them. The police, the laws, the judiciary and the media – all of them are with the whites. Nobody cares for the blacks. For example in the poem also nobody tries to understand the problem of the black tenant whose living conditions are wretched, rather they punish him unreasonably just for trying to make things better for himself. An innocent black man is made the criminal of the state so easily.

### Questions:

2 Marks:

- 1) What is the request of the tenant to the landlord?
- 2) How does the landlord threaten the tenant?
- 3) Who calls the police and what are the charges against the tenant?

5 Marks:

- 1) Express your views on how the landlord tries to evade the tenant's request?

10 Marks:

- 1) Discuss the condition of the Blacks in a society dominated by Whites.

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## 5. The Advance

--by Henri Lopes

The story 'The Advance' is written by Henri Lopes. The story puts light on the economic, social and racial discrimination prevalent in the Congolese society. Carmen is a poor black woman who works as a caretaker for a little white girl named Francoise. Carmen is a hard working woman who tries her level best to balance her work and her duties as a mother. The entire day she works to earn money to support her son and herself. At nights she takes care of her son. Though she feels tired but she does not allow her own tiredness to affect her duties as a mother and a house-maid.

Carmen's white mistress does not treat Carmen very well. She does not trust Carmen. Whenever Carmen takes an off from her work, the mistress thinks that Carmen is just making excuses because of her laziness. She does not try to understand that Carmen can have a genuine reason to take a leave. Carmen's attitude towards the mistress is quite philosophical. Though she is an uneducated woman yet when the watchman, Ferdinand, tells her about the marital dichotomy of the mistress she feels sad for the mistress. Ferdinand tells Carmen that Madam's husband beats her. On hearing this she tries to reason it out that the mistress scolds and mistreats them to take revenge of her husband's misbehaviour with her. Carmen knows that her madam will never understand her because their lives are so different.

The story opens with a worried Carmen as that particular day she wants to go home early. Her son, Hector, is not well. He was suffering from severe stomach-ache, diarrhoea and vomitings the last night. The entire night Carmen looked after her son. She was very tired and exhausted in the morning but she had to come to her job. She has already taken off twice from her work that month. Once she could not go to work for two days because she was ill. The second time she took an off because she had to attend a funeral. Madam has given her a warning to fire her from the job if she takes one more off that month.

Carmen loves the little Francoise very much as she has been taking care of the girl since the time when Francoise was only two months old. Carmen treats her like her own child. When the girl starts crying due to forced feeding, Carmen wipes her tears fondly. She thinks that she will not be able to forget the child ever. However, that particular day she is worried about her only son Hector. She thinks about the difference between the two children. Both are of same age but their social, economic and racial status lead them towards opposite directions. Francoise is a symbol of health but Hector is often sick. Francoise is confident and very comfortable talking with grown-ups. She talks haughtily with the servants. Hector is very shy. He seems to be scared and unhappy. Carmen thinks whether her son will get equal opportunities to grow in a society that is affected badly with social, economic and racial discrimination. She thinks whether the two children will ever be able to understand each other as individuals. She thinks that the society should not be biased. The society should be changed. Everybody; rich and poor, black and white; should get equal opportunities to develop.

Hector is not well. Carmen cannot ask her mother for help because her mother will take Hector to the fetishist. Carmen does not believe on him because he failed to save her other two children. His fee also is very high. Moreover, the fetishist has announced that she will keep on losing her children because she is refusing to marry the man her parents has chosen for her. Kitonga Flavien is the man of her parents' choice. He works as a driver and also runs a business of his own. He owns four taxis, a shop, a bar and two wives. Carmen could not take Hector to a doctor the previous night because the closest dispensaries were closed at night. In the Government Hospital black people would

be received only by a reluctant nurse. Private Doctors of the area would not open their doors to a black child at that time of night. Besides, she does not have money to take her son to a doctor. She wants to ask Madam for some money. That is why after finishing her work with Françoise, she waits in the kitchen for Madam. Madam is busy with some guests and Carmen does not want to be insulted in front of the guests. So she decides to wait until the guests leave the house.

Finally Madam comes in the kitchen but instead of giving her the much-needed money she scolds her for not taking proper care of her son. She also tells her rudely that her house is not a charitable trust. She makes an excuse of not having cash at home. She gives Carmen some aspirin and promises her 500 francs the next day. Carmen hurries to her house. Nobody, not even a rich black man, gives her lift. Carmen's own tribe helps her because they are also poor like her but she cannot expect any help from the rich blacks of the city. She reflects that the rich black people are like the whites only, as they do not care for the poor.

As Carmen reaches her street, she hears the wailing and crying of the women from a distance only. On hearing the raised voices of the women with her son's name in the lines, she understands that now nothing will help because her son has already left the world.

There are two songs in the story. One is the lullaby that Carmen sings for Françoise. It is the song of joy. Another one that is in the end of the story is the song of death that is sung by the women over Hector's dead body. It is sad that Carmen has to sing a lullaby to put the rich white girl to sleep while her own poor and black son has been dying at home without getting medicine. The title of the story is appropriate. Carmen needs an advance from the mistress to treat her son but Hector's death is actually advanced (hastened) by the lack of money. If Carmen possessed money, her son had not died at such a young age.

### Questions:

2 Marks:

- 1) Who is Carman?
- 2) Why was Carman in a hurry to finish her work?
- 3) Why did Carman not take her son to a doctor?
- 4) Contrast the two songs in the story.

5 Marks:

- 1) Describe Carman's problems as a poor and single mother?
- 2) What was the Madam's attitude towards Carman? Was she kind and sympathetic to Carman?
- 3) Who was Ferdinand? Comment on his friendship with Carman.

10 Marks:

- 1) The rich do not care for the poor: discuss on basis of the story '*The Advance*'.
- 2) Explain the significance of the title.
- 3) Discuss the following characters: Carman, Craman's Mistress, Ferdinand.

## 6. Penalty

--by Munshi Premchand

The story 'Penalty' is written by Munshi Premchand. The story reflects the troubles and struggle of a poor woman named Alarakkhi. It also draws attention to the human-side of Munshi Khairat Ali Khan, who is otherwise a hard-task-master. Alarakkhi works as a sweeper but her problem is that she never gets her full salary. Always some penalty will be imposed on her. That is why she is never happy on the pay days. The story opens with such a pay day only. On this particular day Alarakkhi is very disturbed because something awful has happened in the morning.

Munshi Khairat Ali Khan is the Inspector of Sanitation. He is a strict man who is always taking rounds in the city in his ekka and jotting down the names of the workers whom he finds not doing their work properly. If name of a worker is written in his book, it means that some fine will be imposed on that particular person. The fine will be deducted from the salary. It is Alarakkhi's ill-fate only that whenever she takes a break from her work, the Inspector will appear there at that very moment to write down Alarakkhi's name in his book. For example, whenever she sits down to catch her breath for a while after doing work for a long time the Inspector comes from somewhere as if he has been hiding somewhere waiting to catch her. Some other times, in the moment she buys some candy to eat the Inspector drops on her head from somewhere and notes down her name.

Same things happened that month also. Alarakkhi wanted to be on time for her duty that morning of the pay day. But her daughter was not well. It was very cold and she was having cough and fever. Alarakkhi did not want to leave the child alone but already she was late for work several time that month. So she took the child with her. The child was very cranky. She wanted to be in her mother's lap all the time. Alarakkhi threatened her daughter that if she would not behave the Inspector would beat her and he would also cut the girl's nose and ears. But the child was not ready to leave her mother's lap. Then she forcibly put the child down and started sweeping the road but the child started crying and wallowing around. At this moment Alarakkhi threatened the little girl again that she would beat her with the broom. Moreover, due to her utter desperation to finish her work on time she abused the Inspector by calling him 'bastard'. She had hardly got the words out of her mouth when she saw the Inspector getting down from his bicycle right in front of her.

Alarakkhi got very scared. The Inspector asked her why she dragged the child with her to work. Alarakkhi replied that she could not leave the child at home because the child was not well. The Inspector further scolded her for not taking care of her child properly as she could have taken a leave from work to look after the child. Then Alarakkhi explained the Inspector that she could not afford to take a leave because fine would be deducted from salary and then how would they manage the entire month. The Inspector ordered her to go home and take care of the sick girl. He also told her to send her husband, Huseni, to come and finish the work afterwards. However, before Alarakkhi left for the day the Inspector asked her why she was abusing him. Alarakkhi felt very scared and she told the Inspector that her head would have fallen off if she had done such a blunder. The Inspector did not say anything and let Alarakkhi go.

Alarakkhi is at the municipal office with a heavy heart to collect her pay in the evening. The municipal office is full that day because all the workers are there to collect their salaries. First it is the turn of the sweeper-women. Thousands of them have arrived in best of their clothes and jewellery. The paan and cigarette vendors and the sweet-peddlers have come to sell their products to them as these women will get money to get something for themselves and their families. Even the pathan

money-lenders are on hand to collect their money from the borrowers. Alarakkhi is very disturbed. She believes that something very bad is going to happen to her. She will be either fined very heavily or fired from her job for her audacity that morning. Huseni tries to console her by telling that he will go to the panchayat and question the Inspector's decision if she is fired. He tells her that there is a remedy for every problem. He makes a promise to quit drinking to save money. Alarakkhi sits there with Huseni waiting for her turn but she feels dejected. The distribution of salary started but the paymaster passes over Alarakkhi's name. All the women stare at her and talk. It becomes very difficult and shameful for her to tolerate all that. She is confirmed that she has been fired and that is why the Inspector has not scolded her at that very spot in the morning.

However, Alarakkhi is startled when she hears her name. She goes to the paymaster and is shocked further when he gives her the full amount of six rupees of her salary because she has been expecting very less amount and some punishment that month since that morning. She becomes unable to move thinking that the paymaster has done some mistake. But then the paymaster tells her to move on as there has really been no deductions for her that month. Alarakkhi is amazed but not content as she is remorseful for having abused the Inspector unnecessarily that morning. In fact, the Inspector is really a nice and kind man. He scolds and writes down her name in his book because it is the part of his duty. After knowing Alarakkhi's plight as a poor mother he becomes compassionate and considerate for her. That is why he has not cut any fine from her pay that month. The Inspector's attitude towards Alarakkhi changes (softened) after knowing her problems.

The title of the story is very appropriate as the story explains how Alarakkhi has to suffer because of the penalty imposed on her every month. Moreover, the Inspector has also paid penalty in the form of losing goodwill in the heart of Alarakkhi for being extremely strict.

### Questions:

2 Marks:

- 1) Who is Alarakhhi?
- 2) Who is Inspector Munshi Khairat Ali Khan?
- 3) State two circumstances in which the Inspector would jot down Alarakhhi's name in his diary.

5 Marks:

- 1) Describe Alarakhhi's state of mind when the story opens? Why is she so upset?
- 2) Describe the atmosphere and the activities at the municipal office on the pay day.
- 3) Why did Alarakhhi carry the sick child to the work place? Explain her encounter with the Inspector that day.

10Marks:

- 1) Alarakhhi was very scared on the payday as she knew that she had done a grave mistake. Elaborate the mistake she had done. What did actually happen in the end? Why was Alarakhhi feeling remorseful in the end of the story?
- 2) Comment on the significance of the title 'Penalty'.

## 7. A Shocking Accident

--by Graham Greene

The story 'A shocking Accident' is written by Graham Greene. The story is about a strange incident in the life of a nine-year old boy named Jerome. Jerome was called by the headmaster between the break in his second and third hour in his office. The headmaster wanted to give Jerome the news of his father's death. The headmaster was perplexed and apprehensive because he had to tell about a very sad incident, which happened in a comic way, to Jerome. He did not know how to tell Jerome that his father had died because a pig fell on him while he was walking through a street in Naples in Paris. Eventually the headmaster cut the story short and told Jerome in a straight-forward way that his father was no more.

Jerome, who loved and admired his father very much, used to think that his father was either a smuggler or a secret agent. He visualized that his father must have died because of a hail of bullets showered on him. But the headmaster told him that his father had not been shot dead. He rather died because a fat pig fell on him from the balcony of the fifth floor of a residential building in Naples. Listening to this Jerome asked the headmaster what happened to the pig. Though the nine-year-old boy had asked the question out of curiosity as he was trying to visualize the accident, the headmaster interpreted it as callousness and insensitivity on Jerome's part. However, Jerome thought about the incident a lot but it did not occur to him that the circumstances of father's death were really comic. He realized the truth only when he was in the first term of his public school. There he told the story of his father's death to his best friend who talked about it all over the school. The students made fun of him and he was nick-named as Pig. After this incident Jerome realized that the story of his father's death was comic and it actually made people laugh. Jerome felt very bad about it. That time onwards Jerome started thinking about the ways to narrate the story in such a way that the comic element should be minimized. First, he tried the method of beating around the bush. He used to elaborate the other facts so much that the people expected the end of the story to be an anti-climax only. He tried to make the essentially interesting death of his father boring so that people should not laugh in the end. Second method which he tried was to cut the story extremely short.

His aunt had no sense of humour because even after many years of the incident also, she failed to realize that the circumstances in which the man died were in fact comic. She continued describing the incident as a shocking accident to everybody. She also tried to explain everybody that her brother was a very wise and careful man. She believed that her brother had written a few good books as he was a great writer. (According to the narrator the man was just an average kind of writer. He was not a distinguished or celebrated one. The narrator tells the story of the death of Jerome's father in a very nice way. He balances the tragic and the comic factors of the incident very well. He is successful in amusing the readers without making fun of Jerome's emotions.)

With the time Jerome grew up to be a chartered accountant and he also found a girl named Sally for him. Sally was a pleasant, fresh-faced and sensitive girl of twenty-five. Her father was a doctor and she was a fan of Hugh Walpole. She was a loving girl who started liking babies when she was given a doll at the age of five. They decided to get married and Jerome wanted to keep the marriage a very simple and private affair. He wanted to marry Sally quietly in a registry-office. In fact, he wanted to avoid people because he knew that many people meant that the topic of his father's death would obviously come up and again all of them would laugh at the incident.

Jerome was also worried about Sally's reaction on hearing the story. He knew that one day she would know the truth and if she would also laugh then it would become intolerable for him. He was actually successful in avoiding the topic for a long time. However, exactly one week before their marriage, he took Sally to his aunt's house. His aunt disclosed the information to Sally in an abrupt way which was very unusual of her as she used to tell the story in detail. However, it was a big relief for Jerome that Sally did not laugh. In fact, later she asked the same question: 'What happened to the poor pig?', that Jerome had asked the headmaster when the news of his father's death was broken to him. Jerome felt extremely happy. His own fear and pain of years that people would laugh at him because of his father's death had been appeased by one right reaction of Sally.

**Questions:**

2 Marks:

- 1) Who was called into the Headmaster's room and why?
- 2) Why did the Headmaster look perplexed and apprehensive?
- 3) When did Jerome realize that the circumstances of his father's death were comic?

5 Marks:

- 1) Why did Jerome decide to get married in a registry-office?
- 2) What was the impact of Jerome's father's death on Jerome's life? How was he able to come out of it finally?

10 Marks:

- 1) Discuss Jerome's Aunt in detail. How did she make the things difficult for Jerome by her so-called sense of humour?
- 2) Describe Jerome's father's death. How did Jerome's life changed after the death?

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## 8. The Throw-away Society

--by Alvin Toffler

The writer Alvin Toffler gives the example of a little girl who would happily exchange her Barbie doll for a newer version. She would not know the trade policies behind this trade-allowance. The number of Barbie dolls manufactured since 1959 has almost outnumbered the human population. That great is the attraction of the human child to the object of fascination with which she plays! Every time, it is manufactured with new styles and designs which attracts the girls and they repeatedly throw-away their earlier dolls or happily exchange them for the new and trendier ones. In fact, the whole society does not understand this system but all the people are crazy behind things and at the end we see all of them spending very less time with the things they buy.

In fact, the entire world is full of these manmade things gradually minimising the natural world. People do not crave for nature or natural things. Things attract men not because they make life convenient and happier but because they have arrested the minds of the people more than anything that exists naturally. In the past, girls would not want to play dolls and prefer to stay with their mothers and grandmothers but now girls want Barbie dolls. This is a contrast which can be extended to grown-ups as well. Since childhood, these children are adapted to the “throw-away culture” and grow up developing the same “throw-away” mentality.

### The Economics of Impermanence

Man wanted to create things which are durable (in the past). He had to build things which should last because the society was like that and believed in permanence. This was well strengthened by economic policies and the economic policies further strengthened the trend of impermanence. Earlier although people paid more they got durable and long lasting things but now in this modern world however much one pays, he would end up buying things which are less durable.

With change in society, the economics of permanence changes to economics of transience. The cost of repair is greater than the cost of replacement. Therefore, logically, it is sensible to build cheap, unrepairable, throw-away objects although they might not last long. Improvement in technology gives better objects repeatedly. As people know that technology keeps replacing things every now and then, therefore, it is better to stick to things which are of short durability. David Lewis, an architect from Pittsburg reports about the old houses being torn down in Miami and new houses which have air conditioning reduces the rental of the old houses. So it is wise to break down the old ones and build up new houses instead of investing money for repairing the old houses.

But with change uncertainty of future needs crops in (we do not know what we would need in future). Since we know change cannot be stopped therefore, we prefer not to use

many resources for creating something which would become permanent. Instead of permanence, we try making durable things and its cool!

The throw-away culture is an effect of this kind of a system. Man's relationship with things becomes transient at the end.

**Questions:**

2 Marks:

- 1) Why, according to Toffler, do little girls like Barbie?
- 2) What was the new offer that Mattel announced with the New Barbie?
- 3) Why do people today buy new things instead of getting their old things repaired?

5 Marks:

- 1) Toffler talks about two kinds of environment, what are they?
- 2) What lesson would the little girl learn when she exchanged her old Barbie for a new one?

10 Marks:

- 1) What message does the writer want to give through the chapter '*The Throw-away Society*'?

\*\*\*\*\*

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SN – 017

I Semester B.Com./B.B.M./B.H.M. Examination, November/December 2010  
(2010-11 & Onwards) (Fresh)  
LANGUAGE ENGLISH – I

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 90

PART – A

(Course Book - Literary Component)

I. Answer **any seven** of the following in **one** or **two** sentences **each** : (7×2=14)

- 1) Name the book that made Rachel Carson famous. What kind of revolution did the book start ?
- 2) Mention any two books that Rachel Carson wrote about the sea.
- 3) What are the traditional forms of protest against environmental degradation in Indian Villages ?
- 4) In the poem 'Tiger Tiger Revisited' what does the expression 'Sulphurous Cauldron' refer to ?
- 5) What punishment does the judge give the tenant in the poem 'Ballad of the Landlord' ?
- 6) Why did Carmen ask for an advance from Madam in the story 'The Advance' ?
- 7) Identify two instances in which the inspector jotted down Allarakhi's name in the story 'Penalty'.
- 8) How did Jerome's father die in the story 'A Shocking Accident' ?
- 9) Why, according to Alvin Toffler, do little girls like Barbie dolls ?

II. Answer **any four** of the following in about **one page** each : (4×5=20)

- 1) Write a note on Rachel Carson's childhood.
- 2) In the essay 'Two Kinds of Environmentalism' explain the differences between the forms of protest and reasons for it in America and India.

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- 3) Why and how does the landlord get the tenant arrested in the poem 'Ballad of the Landlord' ?
- 4) Bring out the differences between the lives of Francoise and Hector in the story 'The Advance'.
- 5) Describe the atmosphere and the activities at the Municipal office On the pay day. What was Allarakhi's state of mind on that day in the story 'Penalty' ?
- 6) Explain with examples the reasons as to why we buy things for short term use, according to the essay 'The Throw-away Society'.

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

- 1) Discuss how Rachel Carson was both a scientist and a writer.
- 2) How does Carmen try to balance her work and her role as a mother in the story 'The Advance' ?
- 3) Narrate the circumstances under which the inspector changes his attitude towards Allarakhi in the story 'Penalty'.

IV. Do as directed : **(6×1=6)**

- a) Identify the suitable synonym from the brackets for each of the given word :
  - i) Chilly (sultry, humid, freezing, blazing)
  - ii) Wretch (fortunate, prosperous, doldrums, miserable creature)
- b) Use the appropriate forms of the word in the brackets to fill in the given blanks :
  - i) She spoke to all her classmates \_\_\_\_\_ (haughty).
  - ii) Jack is very playful and needs to take his project \_\_\_\_\_ (serious).
- c) Add '\_\_\_ist' or '\_\_\_er' to the words given below and fill in the blanks appropriately  
[teenage, art]
  - i) He is an \_\_\_\_\_ par excellence.
  - ii) She acted in her first film when she was a \_\_\_\_\_.



**Part - B**  
**[Communication Skills]**

- V. 1) Fill in the blank with an appropriate article : (1×1=1)  
A car hit \_\_\_\_\_ old man when he was crossing the road.
- 2) Fill in the blank with an appropriate preposition : (1×1=1)  
Malini reached home \_\_\_\_\_ 11 O clock in the night.
- 3) Fill in the blank with the correct verb : (1×1=1)  
One of the best uses of a computer \_\_\_\_\_ exchanging instant messages . (are/is)
- 4) Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with an appropriate tense form of the verb given in the bracket : (1×2=2)
- a) The film "Three Idiots" has \_\_\_\_\_ (win) the Best Popular Film Award.
- b) Yesterday I \_\_\_\_\_ (give) S.L. Byrappa's novel to my friend as a birthday gift.
- 5) Rewrite the following by adding appropriate punctuation marks where needed : 2  
the holiday was announced late however the students had already come to the college.

VI. Read the following passage carefully and write only the answers against the correct question numbers :

I had a farm in Africa, at the foot of the Ngong Hills. The Equator runs across these highlands, a hundred miles to the north, and the farm is at an altitude of over six thousand feet. In the day-time you felt that you had got high up, near to the sun, but the early mornings and evenings were restful, and the nights were cold.



The geographical position and the height of the land combined to create a landscape that could not be found anywhere else in the world. It was Africa distilled up through six thousand feet, like the strong and refined essence of a continent. The colours were dry and burnt, like the colours in pottery. The trees had a light delicate foliage, the structure of which was different from that of the trees in Europe ; it did not grow in bows and cupolas, but in horizontal layers. The formation gave to the tall solitary trees a likeness to the palms or a heroic and romantic air like fullrigged ships with their sails furled.

Upon the grass of the great plains the crooked bare old thorn-trees were scattered, and the grass was spiced like thyme and bog-myrtle ; in some places the scent was so strong that it hurt the nostrils. All the flowers that you found on the plains, or upon the creepers were small, like flowers of the valleys. In the beginning of the long rains a number of big, heavy-scented lillies sprang out on the plains. The views were immensely wide. Everything that you saw made for greatness, freedom and nobility.

The chief feature of the landscape was the air. Looking back on a journey in the African highlands, you are struck by your feeling of having lived for a time up in the air. The sky was pale blue or violet, with ever-changing clouds towering up and sailing on it. It painted the ranges of hills and the woods a fresh deep blue. In the middle of the day the air was alive over the land, like a flame burning. It waved and shone like running water, mirrored and doubled all objects. Up in this high air you breathed easily, drawing in a vital assurance and lightness of heart. In the highlands you woke up in the morning and thought : Here I am, where I ought to be.

- 1) "The geographical position and the height of the land combined to create a landscape that could not be found anywhere in the world", says the writer.

Now, here are two statements :

- a) The landscape was very special
- b) The landscape was like any other landscapes.

Choose a statement which does not match the description of the landscape in the passage.

1



- 2) The writer's description of the landscape combines elements of subjectivity and objectivity. **2**

Here are two sentences from the passage. Identify which sentence is subjective and which is objective :

- a) "The equator runs across these highlands a hundred miles to the north, and the farm is at an altitude of over six thousand feet".  
b) "Everything that you saw made for greatness, freedom and nobility".

- 3) Below is a list of expressions from the passage which appeal to the senses :  
Write beside the expressions which sense it evokes – smell, sight, touch : **3**

- a) The nights were cold  
b) Big, heavy-scented lillies  
c) The sky was pale blue or violet.

- 4) The writer compared the tall, solitary trees in the farm to \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_. **2**

- 5) The writer's intension in this passage seems to be  
a) to communicate the unpleasant experience of living in Ngong Farm. **1**  
b) to communicate the joy of owning and living in Ngong Farm.

Choose the right answer.

- 6) The chief feature of the landscape was the \_\_\_\_\_. **1**  
a) Depth of the valley  
b) Freshness of the air.

Complete the sentence with the right answer.

**Total Marks : 10**



VII. Write a paragraph **each** of about **80-100** words using the given hints : **(5+5=10)**

a) Narrate the unexpected visit of your father to your college ; you may use the following guidelines to write your paragraph :

- Write how you felt on seeing your father in your college.
- State why he could have come there.
- Conclude the paragraph.

b) Write a paragraph describing the Lalbagh Flower Show : Use the hints given in the box below :

- Flower show - Independence Day - Republic Day - Lalbagh BBMP - Glass House - Many people - Public sector companies - Participation. Exhibition - Different varieties - Flowers - Cacti plants - Feast to eyes.

VIII. Make notes based on the following passage using a linear or a suitable diagrammatic format :

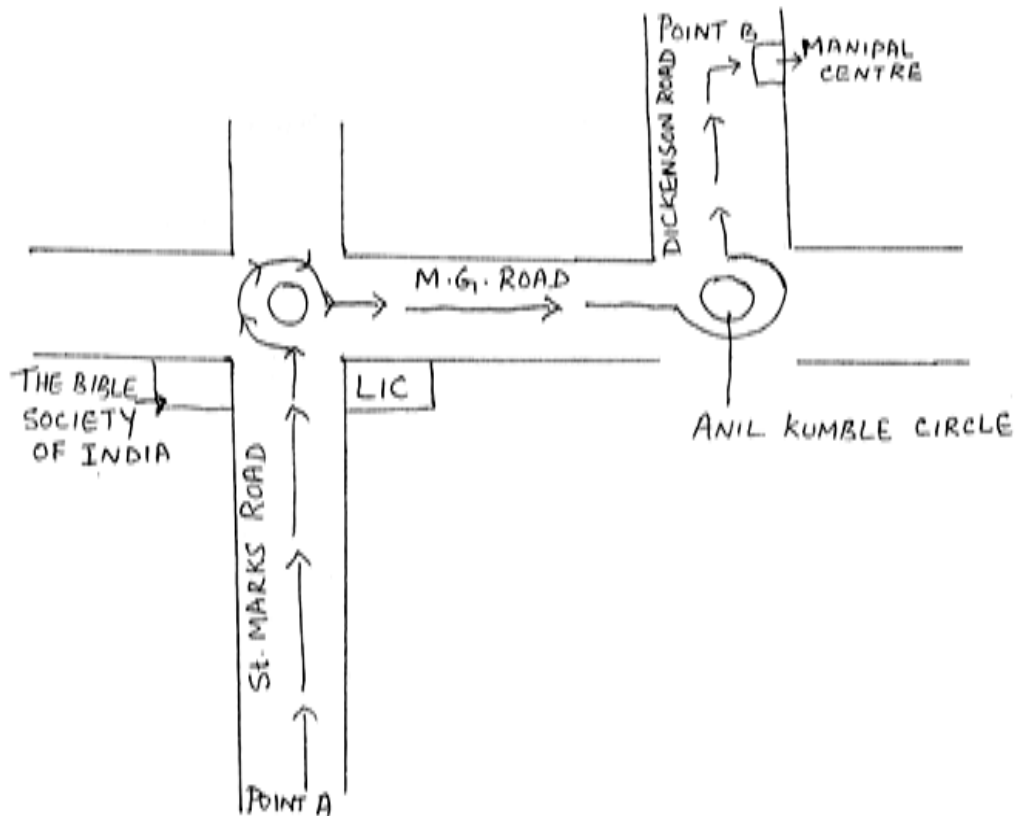
5

The world of insects includes some of the most beautiful and fantastic animals on earth. Few other branches of the animal kingdom demonstrate such astounding diversity in size, colour and form. Most insects are less than 6 mm long. The smallest ones include hairy-winged dwarf beetles. They are about 0.25 mm long and could easily crawl through the eye of the smallest needle. Giant insects include the Goliath beetle, which grows more than 10 cm long, and the Atlas moth, which has a wingspread of about 25 cm. An Atlas moth is about 1,000 times as large as a dwarf beetle. There are insects of all colours on the rainbow. Some butterflies and moths with their gorgeous colour patterns are among the most beautiful of all animals. Many insects blend perfectly with their backgrounds. For example, most beetles that live in the ground are black or brown. Some moths have the colour of the bark of the trees. Apart from this they have an amazing variety of shapes and special structures.



IX. 1) Do as directed :

- Introduce your friend Rahul to Jayan, your senior in college. 2
- 2) Write a set of instructions for the following in **five** or **six** sentences : 3  
How you would prepare Maggie noodles.
- 3) Looking at the map given below, write down in **five** or **six** sentences how to reach point B which is Manipal Centre from point A which is St. Marks Road : 3





OS – 530

I Semester B.Com. / B.B.M. / B.H.M. Examination, October/November 2012  
Freshers (2011-12) & Onwards, Repeaters (2010-11) Scheme  
LANGUAGE ENGLISH – I

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 100/90

**Instructions :** 1) Answer **all** the questions.

2) Students of Freshers' Scheme (2011-12 onwards)

answering for **100** marks should answer **2** out of 4

questions in Part – A, **III** Main question.

3) Students of Repeaters' Scheme (2010-11 answering for

**90** marks) should answer **1** out of 4 questions in Part – A,

**III** main question.

PART – A

Marks :60/50

**(Course Book-Literary Component)**

I. Answer **any seven** of the following in **one** or **two** sentences each : (7×2=14)

1. How is the Environment Day observed as mentioned in 'She Spoke for all Nature' ?
- 2) What have the environmental movements in the North been related to ?
- 3) What does the phrase 'Moral Poverty' mean in 'Tiger Tiger Revisited' ?
- 4) In the 'Ballad of the Landlord' how is the tenant evicted ?
- 5) Why does Carmen say Françoise was as much her daughter as Madam's ?

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- 6) Who is Munshi Khairat Ali Khan ?
- 7) What are Jerome's memories of his father ?
- 8) In the past, societies were based on \_\_\_\_\_. The new fast -moving society of the present is based on \_\_\_\_\_.
- 9) Who is Rachel Carson compared with and why ?

II. Answer **any four** of the following in about **one page each** : **(4×5=20)**

- 1) How did reading contribute to the Young Rachel Carson's success ?
- 2) In the essay 'Two Kinds of Environmentalism' which movement appeals to you more ? Give reasons for your preference.
- 3) Justify the title 'Ballad of the Landlord'.
- 4) Give a brief account of Carmen's background.
- 5) Explain why Alarakkhi is heart-broken on pay day.
- 6) How did Jerome's aunt describe her brother's death to strangers ?

- III. a) Students of Freshers' Scheme (2011-12 onwards) answering for 100 marks should answer **2** out of 4 questions in about **2 pages each** : **(2×10=20)**
- b) Students of Repeaters' Scheme (2010-11 answering for 90 marks) should answer **1** out of 4 questions in about **2 pages**: **(1×10=10)**



- 1) How did the three books make Rachel Carson a noted writer ?
- 2) What environmental concerns does 'Tiger Tiger Revisited' bring to our attention ?
- 3) Discrimination is the theme of 'The Advance'. Discuss.
- 4) Explain the factors that influence the 'economics of transience' as discussed in 'The Throw-away Society'.

IV. Do as directed :

(6×1=6)

- a) Identify the suitable synonym from the brackets for each of the given word :
  - i) Wail [lament, loathe, screech]
  - ii) good-hearted [well -educated, affluent, merciful]
- b) Use the appropriate forms of the word in the brackets to fill in the blanks :
  - i) Reading aloud is \_\_\_\_\_ done now-a-days. (rare)
  - ii) After much \_\_\_\_\_ they came to a decision (deliberate)
- c) Add '\_ist' or 'er' to the words given below and fill in the blanks appropriately.  
(meteorology, employ)
  - i) A \_\_\_\_\_ forecasts weather.
  - ii) My \_\_\_\_\_ is a hard task master.



## PART – B

## (Work Book – Communication Skills)

V. 1) Fill in the blank with an appropriate article :

(1×1=1)

His mother is \_\_\_\_\_ honest person.

2) Fill in the blank with an appropriate preposition :

(1×1=1)

There is a bridge \_\_\_\_\_ the river.

3) Fill in the blank with the correct verb :

(1×1=1)

Either Sanyal or Satwik \_\_\_\_\_ a doctor (is/are).

4) Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with the appropriate tense form of the verb given in the brackets :

(1×2=2)

a) She \_\_\_\_\_ (teach) the children last year.

b) Ms. Sudha \_\_\_\_\_ (walk) to the office everyday.

5) Rewrite the following with appropriate punctuation marks wherever necessary :

2

it was the dropping of a bomb on Nagasaki which virtually made japan surrender during the world war ii

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

A 'blog' is a discussion or information site published on the World Wide Web consisting of discrete entries, otherwise called "posts". The term "weblog" was coined by Jorn Barger. The short form, "blog", was coined by Peter Merholz. It was Even Williams who used "blog" as both a noun and a verb ("to blog," meaning "to edit one's weblog or to post to one's weblog") and devised the term "blogger" to refer to a person who blogs.



Until 2009 blogs were usually the work of a single individual, occasionally of a small group, and often were themed on a single subject. More recently "multi-author blogs" (MABs) have developed, with posts written by large numbers of authors and professionally edited. MABs from newspapers, other media outlets, universities, think tanks, interest groups and similar institutions account for an increasing proportion of blog traffic.

The emergence and growth of blogs in the late 1990s coincided with the advent of web publishing tools which made web publication easy even for non-technical users.

Although not a must, most good quality blogs are interactive, allowing visitors to leave comments and even a message. In that sense, blogging can be seen as a form of social networking. Indeed, bloggers not only produce content to post on their blogs but also build social relations with their readers and other bloggers.

In education blogs can be used as instructional resources. These blogs are referred to as 'Edublog'. A typical blog combines text, images, and links to other blogs, Web pages, and other media related to its topic. The ability of readers to leave comments in an interactive format is an important part of many blogs. Most blogs are primarily textual, although some focus on art (art blogs), photographs (photoblogs), videos (video blogs or "vlogs"), music (MP3 blogs), and audio (podcasts). Micro-blogging is another type of blogging, featuring very short posts.

There are many different types of blogs, differing not only in the type of content, but also in the way that content is delivered or written, like personal blogs, Corporate and Organizational blogs, Health blogs, Travel blogs, Gardening blogs, House blogs, Fashion blogs, Music blogs etc. Blogs are highly popular because of their utility but it goes without saying that they must be used with great responsibility.

- 1) Choose the opposite word of 'occasionally' from the following : 1
  - a) usually b) eventually
- 2) 'discrete entries' means \_\_\_\_\_ . 1
  - a) distinct entries b) disturbing entries
- 3) Even non-technical users can post on blogs because of \_\_\_\_\_ . 1
- 4) Photoblogs carry photos, while micro-blogs carry \_\_\_\_\_ . 1
  - a) Short posts b) Micro photos
- 5) Edublogs usually carry \_\_\_\_\_ . 1
- 6) Interactive blogs allow visitors to post \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ on the blog. 2
- 7) Bloggers not only produce content through blogs but \_\_\_\_\_ . 1
- 8) Blogs are popular because of their \_\_\_\_\_ but one should use them with \_\_\_\_\_ . 2



VII. Write a paragraph of each about 80-100 words using the hints given below : (5+5=10)

- a) Narrate an unforgettable experience that you had when you went boating recently with the help of the hints given below :
- \* arrangements made over the weekend
  - \* condition of the river and weather
  - \* relief you felt after the experience
  - \* reaction of your parents when you returned.
- b) Describe the location of your college with the help of following hints :
- Bus stop – main road – foot-over bridge – parking lot – building – canteen – facilities available.

VIII. Make notes on the following passage by choosing either linear or a diagrammatic format :

5

Waste generated by health care activities includes a broad range of materials, from used needles and syringes to soiled dressings, body parts, diagnostic samples, blood, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, medical devices and radioactive materials.

Disposal of this waste is an environmental concern, as many medical wastes are classified as *infectious* or *bio-hazardous* and could potentially lead to the spread of infectious disease. Examples of infectious waste include blood, potentially contaminated "sharps" such as needles and scalpels, and identifiable body parts. Sharps include used needles, lancets, and other devices capable of penetrating skin.

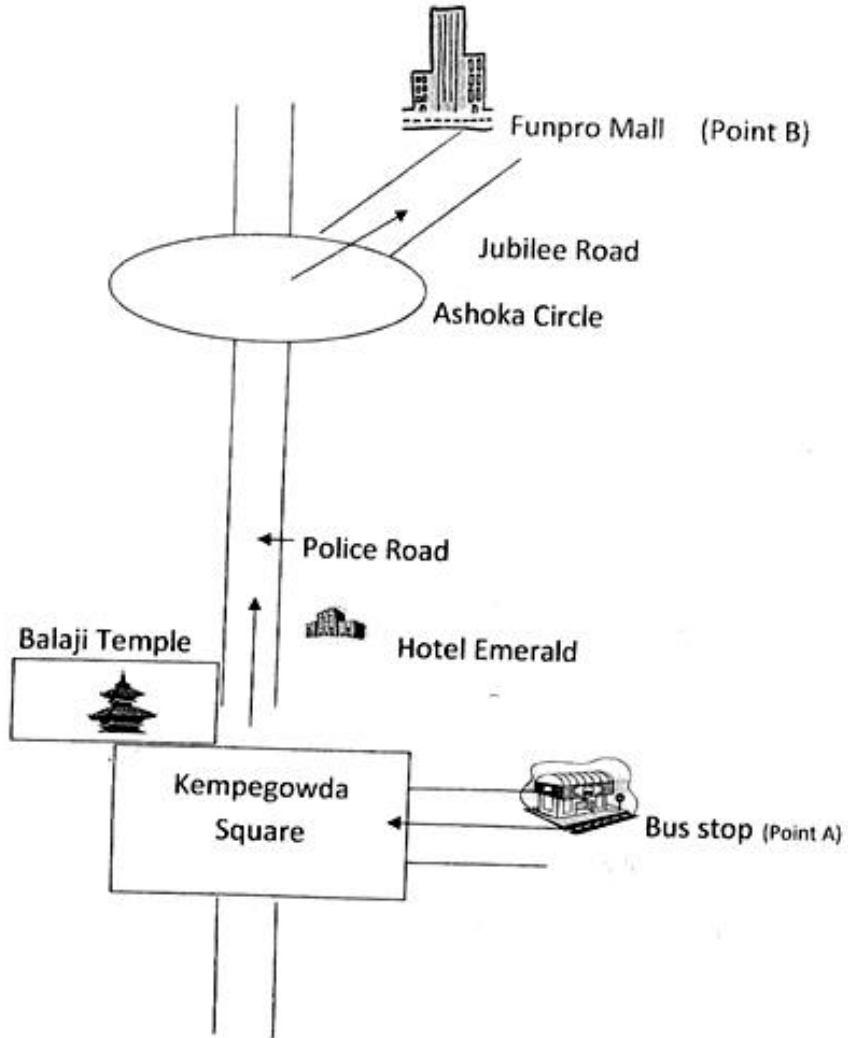
Poor management of health care waste potentially exposes health care workers, waste handlers, patients and the community at large to infection, toxic effects and injuries, and risks polluting the environment. It is essential that all medical waste materials are segregated at the point of generation, appropriately treated and disposed of safely.

IX. Do as directed :

- a) Introduce Ms. Vidya, your English teacher, to your mother. 2
- b) Write a set of instructions you would give your brother on how to draw money from an ATM. :
- c) Give directions to your sister on how to reach Funpro mall (Point B) from the bus stop (point A). (FIVE or SIX sentences). :



57





SO – 030

I Semester B.Com./B.B.M./B.H.M. Examination, October/November 2011  
(Fresh) (2011-12 & Onwards)  
LANGUAGE ENGLISH – I

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 60+40=100

- Instructions :* 1) Answer all the questions.  
2) Write the correct question Number.

PART – A  
[Course Book – Literary Component]

- I. Answer any seven of the following in one or two sentences each : (7×2=14)
- 1) What was the rare opportunity that Bureau of Fisheries of America offered Rachel ? How did she benefit from it ?
  - 2) Name the two traditional forms of protest that environmentalists resort to in India.
  - 3) What reason was given to arrest the tenant in 'Ballad of the Land Lord' ?
  - 4) Why was Carmen not able to go to work for two days in a month in the story 'The Advance' ?
  - 5) What was the cause of Jerome's father's death ? Who gave the news to Jerome ?
  - 6) Why was payday not an occasion to celebrate for Alarakki ?
  - 7) What wedding present did the aunt want to give Sally in 'A Shocking Accident' ? Why ?
  - 8) According to Alvin Toffler which environment will matter more to man in the super Industrial society ?
  - 9) What lesson would the little girl of today learn when she exchanged her old doll for the new one as given in 'The Throw-away Society' ?
- II. Answer any four of the following in about one page each : (4×5=20)
- 1) Write a note on how Rachel Carson pursued her interest in marine Biology.
  - 2) What are the questions posed by the poet in the poem 'Tiger Tiger Revisited' ?

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- 3) Narrate how Carmen took care of the 'Madam's child in 'The Advance'.
- 4) How is the Inspector portrayed in the story 'Penalty' ?
- 5) What picture of "Barbie doll" does the writer present in 'The Throw-away Society' ?
- 6) How did Jerome's aunt describe her brother's death to strangers ?

III. Answer **any two** of the following in about **two** pages : (2×10=20)

- 1) Explain the commonalities and differences between the actions of Mark Dubois and Medha Patkar as presented in 'Two Kinds of Environmentalism'.
- 2) Comment on the incidents that take place in the poem 'Ballad of the Landlord'.
- 3) Carmen in 'The Advance' feels that 'Society and human nature would have to change'- Discuss.
- 4) Why did Alarakki fear the Inspector ? Is her fear Justified at the end of the story 'Penalty'? Discuss.

IV. Do as directed : (6×1=6)

- a) Identify the suitable synonym from the brackets for each of the given word :
  - i) Conservation [consumption, preservation, reservation]
  - ii) Coax [persuade, pierce, confuse]
- b) Use the appropriate forms of the word in the brackets to fill in the blanks :
  - i) \_\_\_\_\_ covered her face like a cloud. [Deject]
  - ii) \_\_\_\_\_ the paymaster was mistaken. [Sure]
- c) Add '-ist' or '-er' to the words given below and fill in the blanks appropriately.  
[geology, design]
  - i) Brinda is a good \_\_\_\_\_ of silk dresses.
  - ii) Mr. Narang is a great \_\_\_\_\_





PART - B

(Work Book - Communication Skills)

V. 1) Fill in the blank with an appropriate article : (1×1=1)

He is \_\_\_\_\_ Einstein of our college.

2) Fill in the blank with appropriate preposition : (1×1=1)

The teacher asked the student to sit \_\_\_\_\_ the chair.

3) Fill in the blank with the correct verb : (1×1=1)

Politics \_\_\_\_\_ not everyone's cake. (is/are)

4) Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with an appropriate tense form of the verb given in the brackets : (1×2=2)

a) When did you \_\_\_\_\_ (reach) the place ?

b) The earth \_\_\_\_\_ (revolve) round the sun.

5) Rewrite the following with appropriate punctuation marks wherever necessary : 2

Why havent you got the receipt after paying the fees it is very strange

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

When I was about 12 years old, my older brother, James, smuggled a BB gun into the house under the starry sky. I'm not quite sure where he got it from. This was in 1938, during the Great Depression. He must have bartered (exchanged) for it with one of his friends. Having any form of weaponry in our home was strictly taboo. James brought me to his room and took the BB gun out of a shoebox in his closet. I was immediately enamored. He let me touch it and walked with it around the room. I fingered the trigger.

"Can I shoot it, Jamesie?". I asked hopefully. "No way", James said, taking it from me and putting it back into its covert spot.



I forgot about it for a while, but one day, when no one was home, I went into James' closet and took it out. For some unknown reason, I went to the front window of the second floor in our row house. I cracked the window open. I pointed the gun outside and shot. I quickly shut the window and peeked outside. In a matter of seconds, old Mr. Scholsberg came out of his grocery store. He looked back at his store window. He looked up the street. He looked down the street. Then he looked straight across to our house. He could tell from the trajectory just where that shot had come from. He knew someone in our house was the culprit.

I ran back to James' room to return the gun and then sat downstairs, waiting nervously for someone to get home. Thankfully, Jamesie made it home before Mother or Father. As he stepped through the door, I could hear Mr. Schlosberg call his name.

"James, James," he called. "Come here, son". I crept senselessly to look out the door and saw Mr. Schlosberg pointing feverishly at our house (up to the second floor window!) and then at his shop window. James ran back across the street and into the living room. I had retreated into the kitchen.

"Alma!" he screamed. "Get out here! you cracked Mr. Schlosberg's window with my BB gun!"

"Oh! please, Jamesie," I begged. "Don't let him tell mother. She will whip my bottom real good!". Jamesie sighed. He wiped my tears and went back across the street to Mr. Scholsberg's.

I don't know what James said to that man, but there was never a mention of the incident again. I don't know how I got out of it, but I got out of it, and that was all that mattered to me then. I was too self-absorbed to realize what a great brother I had.

Years later, I found out Jamesie had used the money he got from his newspaper route to pay for Mr. Schlosberg cracked window. He only got one cent for every paper he delivered. He managed to pay the debt off just before he went off to fight in World War II.

Since that day, I have never touched a gun, a BB gun, a water gun, a real gun or any other type.



- 1) Choose the opposite word of 'later' from the following :
  - a) latter
  - b) earlier
  - c) last

1
- 2) "Strictly taboo" means \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) illegal
  - b) forbidden

1
- 3) The two expressions, which appeal to our senses, are listed below. Write beside each expression the sense it evokes :
  - a) the starry sky (touch/sight)
  - b) wiped my tears (touch/sight)

2
- 4) The two important events mentioned in the passage are :
  - a) The Great Depression and
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_

1
- 5) In the end, James appears to be a \_\_\_\_\_ (wealthy/protective) brother.

1
- 6) Find the word, which describes the path of projectile.

1
- 7) Study the two expressions given below and identify which one is subjective and which one is objective :
  - a) He must have bartered for it.
  - b) This was in 1938, during the Great Depression.

2
- 8) Which of the following techniques is used by the writer, in the passage ?
  - a) anticipation
  - b) flashback
  - c) both (a) and (b).

1



VII. Write a paragraph **each** of about **80-100** words using the hints given below : **(5+5=10)**

a) Narrate your picnic experience with the help of hints given below :

- . how the college planned the picnic ?
- . the picnic spots you visited.
- . how you enjoyed the picnic ?

b) Describe the park near your house by using the following hints :

Location of the park – greenery – morning walk – separate area for children  
– neatly maintained – timings – free entry.

VIII. Make notes on the following passage by choosing either linear or a diagrammatic format :

5

Soil is the loose top layer of Earth's surface. Plants depend on soil. It holds them up. It provides them with food and water. Soil is made up of particles. These very small pieces mostly come from rocks broken down by weathering. Other soil particles come from rotting remains of plants and animals. The part of soil that comes from living things is called organic matter.

Soil develops in layers. The top layer called top soil consists of humus. The next layer is called subsoil, which contains more rock particles than topsoil, and less humus. The third layer is called bed rock, which has many pieces of rock. There are many types of soil. Clay is a type of soil with very small particles that can hold a lot of water. Sand has much larger particles than clay. It feels rough.

IX. Do as directed :

a) Introduce Rakesh, the cricket captain of your college team, to your father. **2**

b) Write a set of instructions you would give to your friend on how to get a library card. (five or six sentences). **3**



- c) Give directions to your friend on how to go from Cubbon Park (Point A) to Raj Bhavan (Point B).

3

