

**QUESTION BANK ON
Generic English (L2), I Semester B. Com/BBA
(Other Courses under the Faculty of Commerce and Management)**

PART – I

UNIT 1 Receptive Skills: Reading and Listening Skills [Total 20 marks]

1] Comprehension Passage: Skimming and Scanning

SKIMMING

I (A) Skim the following paragraph and answer the questions: (03)

Text A

Size Matters

Here's something to think about the next time you go shopping. Have you ever noticed how many trolleys are available when you go to the supermarket? In my experience, it seems like hundreds! But how about the number of hand baskets? Invariably I struggle to find even one, especially when I only need a few items. Why might this be the case? Well it seems to be a tactic used to encourage us to buy more. If you are walking around with an empty trolley, you are more tempted to fill it, so if you are planning on only doing a quick shop, always try to find a basket. It will be lighter, easier to use and is sure to save you money!

1. What can you find in large numbers at a supermarket?
You can always find large numbers of trolleys at a supermarket.
2. Why can this be a problem?
It can be a problem because you might only want a few things but be tempted to buy more because of the room in the trolley.
3. How can you avoid spending more than you planned if you only need a few items?
Always try to use a shopping basket instead of a trolley.
4. Why is it a good idea to use a basket instead of a trolley?
It is a good idea because a basket is lighter, easier to use and even may save money.
5. Does the passage recommend using trolley?

No

Text B

Planning a Trip

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Today, many people prefer to travel independently. Firstly, they decide where they want to go and then think about the details, such as how long they want to stay, where they want to stay, how they will get there, how much it will cost, when they will go and what they need to take.

1. How do people like to travel these days?
2. What do they decide on first?
3. How many other details are mentioned in the text?

Text C

When to Go

The time you go depends on what you want to do. For example, if you want to do outdoor activities such as walking, cycling or canoeing then you need to choose a time when the weather is dry. If you prefer a more relaxed holiday spent sunbathing and swimming then the weather should not be too hot.

1. What does the time you go depend on?
2. What are some examples of outdoor activities?
3. What do you do on a relaxing holiday?

Text D

What to Take

Most people take too much when they travel, travel light is the key! Remember you will have to carry it and heavy luggage soon becomes a nightmare. Take enough clothes (but not too many), a towel, soap, shampoo and your travel documents and money.

1. What do most people take when they travel?
2. What is the best solution?
3. Which six items should you take with you?

Text E

Improving Health and Well being

To stay healthy, the body's needs for energy and nutrients must be met. This is particularly important in growing children as damage inflicted may not be reversible and can affect normal development. People whose diet lacks the necessary nutrients suffer from malnutrition, a condition that includes both over-nutrition and under-nutrition and is considered a risk factor for health.

1. What is the paragraph about?
2. What is not reversible?
3. Who suffer from malnutrition?
4. What is considered a risk factor for health?

SCANNING

I (B) Scan the following paragraph/image and answer the questions:

Text A

BARGAIN bucket



Job VACANCY

Position – **PART TIME SHOP ASSISTANT**
Location: **City Centre**

Job Duties

1. Stacking Shelves
2. Serving customers
3. Packing bags

Days of work
Monday, Friday and Saturday

Hours of Work
9.30 am to 12.30 pm

Contact jobs@bargainbucket.uk to find out more

1. This text is.....?
 - a) an email
 - (b) advertisement
2. This text is about.....?
 - a) a job
 - b) shopping
3. Bargain bucket is....?
 - a) a shop
 - b) a website
4. The job is
 - a) part time.....?
 - b) full time
5. How can you find more?
 - a) by telephone

b) by email

Text B

Charlie Chaplin

One of the first Hollywood film stars was the British actor Charlie Chaplin. Chaplin was born in London in 1889. He had a very poor and unhappy childhood. He left school when he was very young and worked in a number of jobs to survive. Then he started to perform in a variety theatre as a comic actor. In 1913, he emigrated to America because he wanted to be a film actor. He entered the film industry and invented the character of Charlie the tramp (Charlot in Italian), a funny short man with a black moustache and a bowler hat. He was brilliant and the comic character he created is still famous all over the world.

Chaplin made wonderful comedy films like *The Golden Rush*, *City Lights*, *Modern Times* and *The Great Dictator*. All most all these films were silent, that is they didn't have spoken dialogues or a soundtrack, but subtitles helped to tell the story. A pianist sometimes played the piano too – fast music for the exciting parts and slow music for the sad parts. By 1919, Chaplin was rich and he started The United Artists Studios with some other famous Hollywood stars. He lived in the USA for many years, but the government didn't like his political opinion as they thought he was a socialist. So, in 1952, when Chaplin tried to return to the USA, after a journey to London, the Americans did not allow him back. Then Chaplin decided to live in Switzerland until his death in 1977. He returned to the US only once in 1972 when he received a special Oscar for his life's work. This was Hollywood way of saying sorry to one of its greatest stars.

Are the sentences True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG)?

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 1. Charlie Chaplin was from the UK. | T / F / NG |
| 2. He was a happy child. | T / F / NG |
| 3. He left school when he was 14. | T / F / NG |
| 4. Acting was his first job. | T / F / NG |
| 5. The tramp wore a bowler hat. | T / F / NG |
| 6. <i>The Golden Rush</i> was a silent film. | T / F / NG |
| 7. Chaplin was the only owner of the United Artists Studios. | T / F / NG |
| 8. Chaplin went to London in 1952 to visit his family. | T / F / NG |

Text C

How did Ramesh feel about the book

I really don't know why this book is so popular. I mean, I suppose it is going to appeal to young girls who want danger and romance, but I found this book really tedious. For a start, the characters were really unconvincing. The author went out of her way to add lots of details about the characters, but I found these details really pointless. I thought that some of the facts she presented about the main characters would

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become significant in some way later in the novel, but they didn't. They were just worthless bits of information. I also was disappointed that although this book is meant to be about kids at high school, the writer seems to have no recollection at all about what it is like to be 17. The main character thought and acted like a 32-year-old. It just wasn't believable. I am not saying Teresa Wilson is a bad writer. She can obviously string words together and come up with a story that is appealing to a large number of people, but she lacks anything original. There is no flair. It just uses the same sort of language as you can see in many other mediocre novels.

1. The above text is an example of
 - a) Literary criticism b) personal opinion c) Formal book review d) piece of information
2. Whose novel is Ramesh speaking of?
3. What is pointless in the novel?
4. To whom is the novel meant according to Ramesh?
5. What are the drawbacks of the novel?

Text D

| SERVICES OF THE SPECIAL TRAINS HAVE BEEN EXTENDED AS PER FOLLOWING | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Sl. | Train No. | From | To | Frequency | Date From | Date UPTO |
| 01 | 02819 | BHUBANESWAR | ANAND VIHAR | WED, SUN | 04.04.21 | 30.06.21 |
| | 02820 | ANAND VIHAR | BHUBANESWAR | FRI, TUE | 06.04.21 | 02.07.21 |
| 02 | 02880 | BHUBANESWAR | MUMBAI LTT | MON, THU | 01.04.21 | 28.06.21 |
| | 02879 | MUMBAI LTT | BHUBANESWAR | WED, SAT | 03.04.21 | 30.06.21 |
| 03 | 08479 | BHUBANESWAR | TIRUPATI | SAT | 03.04.21 | 26.06.21 |
| | 08480 | TIRUPATI | BHUBANESWAR | SUN | 04.04.21 | 27.06.21 |
| 04 | 02839 | BHUBANESWAR | CHENNAI CENTRAL | THU | 01.04.21 | 24.06.21 |
| | 02840 | CHENNAI CENTRAL | BHUBANESWAR | FRI | 02.04.21 | 25.06.21 |
| 05 | 02845 | BHUBANESWAR | BANGALORE CANTT. | SUN | 04.04.21 | 27.06.21 |
| | 02846 | BANGALORE CANTT. | BHUBANESWAR | MON | 05.04.21 | 28.06.21 |
| 06 | 02898 | BHUBANESWAR | PONDICHERY | TUE | 06.04.21 | 29.06.21 |
| | 02897 | PONDICHERY | BHUBANESWAR | WED | 07.04.21 | 30.06.21 |
| 07 | 08496 | BHUBANESWAR | RAMESWARAM | FRI | 02.04.21 | 25.06.21 |
| | 08495 | RAMESWARAM | BHUBANESWAR | SUN | 04.04.21 | 27.06.21 |
| 08 | 08306 | SAMBALPUR | HOWRAH | FRI | 02.04.21 | 25.06.21 |

1. Which train is convenient to go to Tirupati on Friday?
2. Is the Pondichery train running on 14.04.2021?
3. Which train should I choose to reach Mumbai?
4. Mention the train number that starts from Bhubaneshwar on Friday?
5. There are two available trains from Chennai to Bhubaneshwar on Friday. True or False

Text E

Flat for Sale

A newly built 2 story luxury flat, complete with interior furnishings for sale. Flat is located in Kochi, M.G Road, Kerala. It is also in close vicinity of reputed KMS college and Eagle Multi-speciality Hospital. Kochi International airport is 20 minutes away while the nearest railway station is 5 mins away. The expected price of the flat: INR 60 lakhs. Contact number: Ranjith - 900xxxxxx. Interested buyers only. Brokers will not be entertained.

1. What is the add about?
2. Where is the flat located?
3. Railway station is 20 minutes away from the flat? True or False
4. What is the price of the flat?
5. Why are brokers not entertained?

II Academic Reading

(02)

Identify the argument in the following passage.

Text A

For years now, there has been a long-standing argument of Ayurveda vs Allopathy, and which is the better treatment technique. In recent times, owing to the merit of being a purely natural science, Ayurveda has become extremely popular. Ayurveda is an ancient science that has many remedies based on naturally occurring substances. These Ayurvedic supplements are concocted using herbs, natural extracts, and a variety of plants that are proven to have positive effects, in treating various disorders. It is this use of naturally occurring elements that give Ayurveda an edge as a holistic healing system.

Another major aspect where Ayurveda scores is in the process of how individuals are treated. Ayurveda uses the three Doshas -- Vata, Pitta, Kapha -- to determine how healthy a person is. Once a preliminary diagnosis has been done to understand how the Doshas are balanced and which is the predominant Dosha is the body, treatment begins. Of course, remedies are suggested for specific disorders, but the larger

purpose of Ayurveda is to ensure optimal health so that diseases and deficiencies don't crop up. Its functions on the simple principle of prevention is better than cure. This is a huge contrast when compared to Allopathy, which treats just the symptoms and attempts at treating just that. Ayurveda is clearly leagues ahead since it gets to the root of the problem and holistically cures it and attempts to ensure it does not recur.

Text B

There has been research done abroad which says there is some kind of impact on birds due to cell phone towers. I was part of a committee that looked into this issue 10 years ago. The committee was constituted by the ministry of environment and forests to find out the impact of cell phones on birds, bees and wildlife in India. A lot of literature review was done then and it was found that the decline of sparrows in cities is not only because of cell phone towers. There are other reasons also, like lack of food and pesticides which led to a decline in the number of sparrows.

There is no long-term study being done in India on this issue. Also, in India, there are various variables which differ from one region to other region. For example, the bird density, the kind of landscape that we have and the kind of technology which we use (*differs from region to region*), but certainly electromagnetic radiation or EMR is a kind of pollution which is invisible. You cannot see it the way you see smog in Mumbai or Delhi or, for that matter, water pollution where water changes colour. It is not exactly about death, but about impact. For example, research by Ruiz-Martinez in Spain concluded that as the radiation of cell phone towers increase, the bird population decreases. As the human population decreases, bird population increases. So the number of cell phone towers with 4G technology might certainly impact the lives of birds, and of humans. This needs a greater amount of investigation, research and mapping in the country.

Text C

III Bibliography (Reference materials)

(03)

Using the following details, write a proper Bibliography in MLA format:

◆ Name of the Publisher: Aleph

Title : *Pride, Prejudice and Punditry*

Author : Shashi Tharoor

Year : 2021

Place of publication : New Delhi

◆ Year : 2017

Title : *The Secret Lives of Indian Mammals*

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Name of the Publisher: Hachette
Author : Vivek Menon
Place of publication : Gurgaon

◆ Name of the Publisher: Rupa
Title : *The Jungle Omnibus*
Year : 2014
Author : Ruskin Bond
Place of publication : New Delhi

◆ Title : Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Ugly Truth
Year : 2015
Name of the Publisher: Puffin
Author : Jeff Kinney
Place of publication : New York

◆ Place of publication : Bangalore
Year : 2018
Title : Principles of Management
Name of the Publisher: Creative Publishers
Author : B S Raman

IV Write an editorial:

(04)

Topics:

- ◆ Global warming effects on earth
- ◆ Should gambling be outlawed?
- ◆ Should capital punishment be allowed?
- ◆ Should marijuana be legalized?
- ◆ Should cigarettes be banned?
- ◆ How necessary is a college education?
- ◆ Does wealth translate to happiness?
- ◆ Benefits of Reading
- ◆ Is there such a thing as an Instagram addict?
- ◆ Importance (or evils) of social networking websites
- ◆ How fast foods are making us a fatter country
- ◆ Does parental pressure play a role in career?

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- ◆ Pros and cons of organic farming
- ◆ Depletion of Earth's natural resources
- ◆ Effects of Global Warming on Animals
- ◆ Challenges facing Wildlife Conservation
- ◆ Working to eliminate E-waste

V Design a Brochure

(03)

Topics:

- ◆ Covid vaccination camp to be held in your college
- ◆ Inter-collegiate cultural fest
- ◆ Admission for BCA course in your college
- ◆ Drawing competition for PU students by *The Hindu* newspaper
- ◆ Book launching ceremony by a publisher
- ◆ Jewellery shop inauguration
- ◆ Café Coffee Day Franchise launch at your place

VI Covering letter to a job or e mail covering letter (03)

Topics for Covering letter to a job:

- ◆ You are Rahul/Rita of "Saketh", Vivek Nagar, Mangalore. You would like to apply for the post of Marketing Manager in Kanchan Hyundai, Udupi. Write a letter to the Public Relations Officer, Udupi branch, applying for the job.
- ◆ You are Anand/Arti of #3-2/1, Model Town, Delhi. You have seen an advertisement in *The Hindu* for the post of Chief Chef in a 5-Star Hotel. Apply for the job.
- ◆ Draft an application for the post of an accountant in Pioneers (Pvt.) Ltd. Co, Hyderabad in response to their advertisement that appeared in *The Times of India* dated 1st August, 2021. You are Nipun/Aparna.
- ◆ Write a covering letter to The Secretary, Mount Carmel Educational Institutions, Bangalore in response to their add in *The Deccan Herald* for the post of Assistant Professor in Commerce.
- ◆ Write an email covering letter to The Correspondent, Jnanasamuha Institutions for the post of assistant teacher in High School.
- ◆ Draft an email covering letter to *AdLab Graphics* for the post of graphic designer briefing your qualifications and experience and telling them how suitable you are for the job.
- ◆ Write an email covering letter to Knit-Well Garments, Bombay for the post of Floor Manager. You are Ankush Pujary from Udupi.
- ◆ Draft an email covering letter to the Chairperson, Department of English, Mysore University for the post of Research Assistant.

VII Listening skills-Questions on theoretical understanding of the skill-questions on what is listening, types of listening, effective listening (2)

Questions on theoretical understanding of the skill:

1. What is listening? What are the various types of listening?
2. What is effective listening and why does it matter?
3. Who is a god listener? What are his traits?
4. What is active and passive listening?
5. What is hearing?
6. What is the difference between Evaluative and Emphatic listening?
7. Distinguish between Discriminative and Comprehensive listening.
8. What is therapeutic and appreciative listening?

Questions on listening to announcements:

Listen to the following announcement at a railway station and answer the following questions below:

Text A

Dear passengers, train number 02526 starting from Kanyakumari to Bangalore City junction is delayed by an hour due to heavy rain. It is expected to reach platform number 2 at 4 pm. Passengers can avail the waiting room near the reservation counter. Owing to covid-19 restrictions, passengers please follow physical distance, wear your mask and use sanitizer. Thank you.

1. When is the train expected to reach platform number 2?
2. What is the starting point of the train?
3. The destination of train number 02526 is _____
4. Why is the train delayed?
5. What are the covid-19 restrictions in the announcement?

Text B

Good afternoon passengers. This is the pre-boarding announcement for Jet Airways flight 89B to New Delhi. We are now inviting those passengers with small children and any passengers requiring special assistance to begin boarding at this time. Please have your boarding pass and identification ready. Regular boarding will begin in approximately ten minutes time. Thank you.

1. When does the regular boarding of the flight begin?
2. Name the flight.
3. Where is the flight heading to?
4. What is the announcement about?

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Text C

This is the final boarding call for passengers Shanmukham and Subrahmanya booked on Indian Airlines flight 372A to Bombay. Please proceed to gate 3 immediately. The final checks are being completed and the captain will order for the doors of the aircraft to close in approximately five minutes time. I repeat. This is the final boarding call for Shanmukham and Subrahmanya. Thank you.

1. To whom is the call?
2. Where are the mentioned passengers expected immediately?
3. When will the doors of the aircraft get closed?
4. Who will announce for the closure of the aircraft doors?
5. What is the destination of the flight?

Text D

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is working to help keep you and your community safe from COVID-19. Take the following everyday steps to protect yourself and others:

- * Get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as you can.
- * If you are not fully vaccinated, wear a mask in indoor public places. (Children under the age of 2 should not wear a mask.)
- * If you are fully vaccinated, wear a mask in indoor public places if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission or if you have a weakened immune system.
- * Stay 6 feet from others who are not part of your household.
- * Avoid crowds and poorly ventilated spaces.
- * Wash your hands often.
- * Cover coughs and sneezes.
- * Clean high touch surfaces daily. For more tips, visit [cdc.gov.in](https://www.cdc.gov)

1. What is the radio announcement about?
2. Who should not wear a mask?
3. What should be avoided?
4. Mention the website address.
