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II Semester B.Com. Degree Examination, June - 2025 GENERAL ENGLISH - II

Embolden - II (SEP Scheme)

Time: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

Instructions to Candidates:

- Answer all the Sections.
- Mention the question numbers correctly.

SECTION-A

(Literary Components)

I. Answer any Five of the following in a sentence or two each:

 $(5 \times 2 = 10)$

- 'In Fruits of the Earth'; why does the poet stare with wide eyes and get hypnotized in the yard?
- 2. What do the lines 'how many times must a man look up before he can see the sky' refer to from the song 'Blowing in the Wind'?
- 3. What advice did Saba Mahjoor get from her relatives when she got married?
- 4. Which are the instances that bring joy to Ajji in 'My Beloved Charioteer'?
- 5. How does the husband Louis react on seeing the baby Lula Ann in the story 'Sweetness'? How did it impact their relationship?
- 6. Who sailed to West Africa in 1561 and kept a fascinating account of his voyage as mentioned by Adiche?
- Mention any two ways of making oneself attractive as told by Erich Fromm in 'Is Love an Art'?

II. Answer any Four of the following in about a page each:

 $(4 \times 5 = 20)$

- How did the poet react when he sees small plants in 'Fruits of the Earth'?
- Explain the issues emphasized by Bob Dylon in the poem 'Blowing in the Wind'?

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- 3. How are Ajji, Aarti and Priti different from each other? How do their age and experiences affect their views on life?
- Explain the difficulties faced by the blacks in the United States. Discuss with reference to the story 'Sweetness'.
- How does Erich Fromm differentiate between 'falling in love' and 'being in love'?

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

- How did Adiche's early reading habits influence the idea of Africa?
- The poem 'Fruits of the Earth' beautifully contrasts the fleeting nature of materialistic pleasures with the enduring joy of being one with nature. Elaborate.
- 'Marriage is like a tanga' redefines gender roles. Explain this statement from your understanding of the story.

SECTION-B

(Language Components)

IV. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below: (5×1=5)

Today's world can truly be called a "society of the spectacle", a phrase that the French sociologist and thinker Guy de Bord used decades earlier. Every act of lived experience has today become a spectacle. It would be a little incorrect to say that this craze for spectacle-izing everything that occurs around us is a recent phenomenon. If one had watched *The Pirates of the Caribbean movies*, one would realise that even in the late eighteenth century, executions were public events - a large portion of the populace would gather around the site of the hanging in the city square in order to see justice being meted out in front of their very own eyes. It was also a form of popular entertainment. It was a sort of a collective public blood-letting. The spectacle that the contemporary society has become is an overwhelming experience. One enters into a restaurant, orders an exotic dish - but the proof of having eaten it doesn't exist until tons of photographs are clicked from varied angles and shared on social networking sites, one goes for a holiday to a calm and serene location, but is all the while busy telling the world about it. It is as if one has to document every moment of one's existence. When does one live that moment then? Perhaps it is in the documentation that one survives these days.

- Name the French sociologist and thinker who used a phrase called "society of the spectacle"?
- What has become a spectacle today, according to the passage?
- Name the movie mentioned in the passage.
- 4. How does a restaurant dish become popular?
- 5. Where does one go for a holiday?

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- A. Choose the appropriate idioms from the bracket and fill in the blanks: (3×1=3) (Get cold feet, under the weather, let the cat out of the bag, in the nick of time)
 - Amitabh felt _____ when he woke up as he was awake all night for his new project.
 - Never ever tell Ajji anything about the secret trip, she will always
 - The police in the Indian cinemas arrive _____ or when already the robbery is done.
- B. Use each of the phrasal verbs in your own sentence:

 $(2 \times 1 = 2)$

- 1. Put off
- Work out.
- VI. Identify the errors and correct the following sentences:

 $(3 \times 1 = 3)$

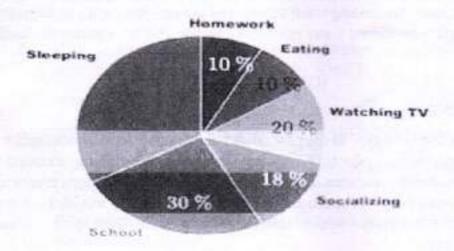
- The scenaries of Kashmir is lovely.
- Though he is poor, he dream big.
- Raman passed out of college in 2020 and he is doing graduation in scotland. (punctuate)

VII. Identify the correct word given in the bracket:

 $(2 \times 1 = 2)$

- John gave me two (pieces/peace) of cake.
- The sugar had a negative (effect/affect) on the science experiment.

VIII. The following pie chart shows how students spend their time in a day. Analyse the chart and answer the questions set on it: (5×1=5)



- The time spent in school is ______the time spent in socializing?
 - a) More than
- b) Less than
- c) Similar to
- The difference between time spent in eating and homework is
 - a) High

b) Low

c) Nil

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3.	Th	The difference of percentage between spending time in school and homework is								
	a)	30%	b)	20%	c)	10%				
4.	Ca	culate the percent	age of time sper	nt in sleeping fr	om the chart.					
	a)	12%	b)	10%	c)	5%				
5.	Но	How much percentage of time will the students spend watching TV?								
	10	2004	b)	2007	-4	100/				

IX. Change the following sentences to reported speech:

 $(5 \times 1 = 5)$

- The speaker said, "Oil floats on water".
- 2. "Give me your pencil", Anitha said to Anchan.
- "Where does the headmaster live?" a parent asked the student.
- "Thank you very much for your help", the stranger said to me.
- 5. Gajendra said to Ramesh, "I shall be writing to you by this time tomorrow".

X. Write a paragraph on any One of the topics using the given hints. Role of water in good health.

Water-life sustaining force-man is misusing - last half century - vilage tanks - washing - drinking water. Our rivers - diseases - water from rivers - consumption - misuse of water - population of the world - expected to touch 150 crore mark - poor earth may not sustain - man - misusing this source - nauseating smell greets - vast oceans - means of - underground water - feared - People - sustaining water resources - responsibility - awareness - social resources.

(OR)

Importance of sports and games:

In 'A sound mind - a sound body -' in the past sports - importance - educational sphere - extra - curricular - implication - educational system - intellectual perfection - exercise of limbs - growth of personality - character in man - discovered usefulness - Sports encourage large heartedness - generosity - A sportsman's journey - unexpected troubles - A true sportsman - unmindful of victory - seldom loses balance of mind. Team spirit - virtue - glory - international level.