

SET – A

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E

(Commerce)

(As per 2014 – 2017 Syllabi)

2017 (A)

COMMERCE

ENGLISH

Full Marks – 100

Time : 3 Hours

*Answer **all** questions.*

The figures in the right-hand margin indicate marks.

Questions requiring short answers must be answered serially.

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

P.T.O.

1. Read the following extracts from the prescribed text and answer the questions that follow :

(a) When I was working in C-DOT (400 employee size company), if someone had not been doing well, I used to tell the person directly to his face in a general meeting. The employees said that was insulting and they should be pulled aside individually to be told of the inefficiency. But in today's world, you cannot afford to do that every-time. Besides, I figured that criticizing someone in a meeting was for the benefit of all present, and everyone could learn from that individual's mistakes. It was then that I learned how Indians do not differentiate between criticising an idea and criticizing an individual.

So, in a group, if you tell someone that his idea is no good, he automatically takes it personally, and assumes that you are criticizing him. No one can have a good idea everyday on every issue. If you

disagree with my idea, that does not mean that you have found fault with me as a person. Thus, it is perfectly acceptable for anyone to criticize the boss – but this concept is not a part of the Indian system. So from time to time, it is important for an organization's Chief Executive to get a report on the psychological health of the firm. How do people in the team feel? Are they stable? Confident? Secure? Comfortable? These are the key elements of a team's success. For a boss to be comfortable accepting criticism from subordinates, he must feel good about himself. Self-esteem is a key prerequisite to such a system being successful.

Questions :

2×5=10

- (i) How did the writer deal with someone who had been doing badly ?
- (ii) How did the employees react to such public criticism ?
- (iii) What did the writer learn from the reaction of the employees ?

- (iv) What is not a part of the Indian system ?
- (v) What would help a boss to be comfortable accepting criticism from subordinates ?
- (b) Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay :
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced ; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee :
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company :
I gazed-and gazed-but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought.

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude ;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.



Questions :

2×5=10

- (i) What is the similarity between the stars and the daffodils ?
- (ii) Where did the poet see the daffodils ?
- (iii) What impact did the dancing daffodils have on the poet ?
- (iv) 'In such a jocund company :.' – What constituted the 'jocund company' ?
- (v) 'They flash upon that inward eye' – What does 'inward eye' imply ?

2. Read the following extract from the prescribed text and answer the questions that follow in about 70 words each :

I was hardly aware of a father, and do not remember him having lived with us. He too was a vaudevillian, a quiet, brooding man with dark eyes. Mother said he looked like Napoleon. He had a light baritone voice and was considered a very fine artist. Even in those days he earned the considerable sum of forty pounds a week. The trouble was that he drank too much, which mother said was the cause of their separation.

It was difficult for vaudevillians not to drink in those days, for alcohol was sold in all theatres, and after a performer's act, he was expected to go to the theatre bar and drink with the customers. Some theatres made more profit from the bar than from the box office, and a number of stars were paid large salaries not alone for their talent but because they spent most of their money at the theatre bar. Thus many an artist was ruined by drink – my father was one of them. He died of alcoholic excess at the age of thirty-seven. Mother would tell stories about him with humour and sadness. He had a violent temper when drinking and during one of his tantrums, she ran off to Brighton with some friends, and in answer to his frantic telegram : 'What are you up to ? Answer at once !' she wired back : 'Balls, parties and picnics, darling !'

Questions :

5×2=10

- (i) What account of his father does the writer give ?

(ii) What does the passage tell us about the vaudevillians ?

3. Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow :

Every country in the world wants rapid economic development today. Some economists tell us that it is possible to remove poverty and make everyone prosperous, provided we adopt the right economic policies. The key to prosperity, we are also told, lies in rapid and large-scale industrialisation : setting up more factories which will churn out an endless stream of consumer goods – products designed to make life more pleasant – motor cars to carry us in comfort and high speed along smooth superhighways : air-conditioners to keep us cool in summer : television sets which will keep us informed as well as entertained, and so on. The list is endless, because human wants are endless. It is believed that as more and more consumers buy the goods that these factories will produce, more and more workers will find

employment in them ; and as their levels of income rise they will, in their turn, create a further demand for yet more goods, which will mean more factories, which will mean more workers being employed, incomes rising further.... and so on. In this way, everyone becomes rich. There are no limits to economic growth and prosperity. That is the promise being made.

Questions :

2×5=10

- (i) What does every country want ?
 - (ii) How can poverty be removed ?
 - (iii) What is said to be the key to prosperity?
 - (iv) What do consumer goods aim at ?
 - (v) Why is the list of consumer goods endless ?
4. (a) Find words from the passage in Question No.3, which have the following meanings:

1×3=3

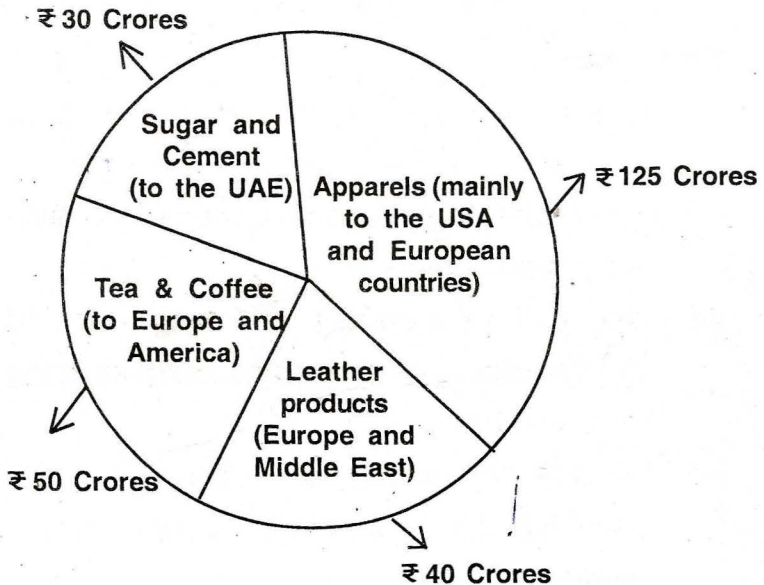
- (i) get rid of
- (ii) flourishing
- (iii) amused

(b) Use the following expressions in sentences of your own : 1×2=2

(i) provided

(ii) to set up

5. The pie-chart below contains data on India's export of some products in the year 2015-16. Interpreting the data write a paragraph of 70 words on India's exports : 5



6. Given below are five meanings of the word **matter**. The meanings are followed by an equal number of sentences in which the word has been used. Match each meaning with its corresponding sentence. 1×5=5

Meanings :

- (a) ✓ affair
- (b) ^{iv} be of importance
- (c) ~~v~~ substances of which something is made
- (d) material for thought
- (e) substance in a book

Sentences :

- (i) Our national security is a **matter** of great concern.
- (ii) The **matter** in the book is good but the style is far from being so.
- (iii) Occupying the crease for a long time and slowly building up an innings **matters** much for a test batsman.
- (iv) What is the **matter** between you ?
- (v) Solid, liquid and gas are the three states of **matter**.

7. As a news correspondent you have moved round your city / town and watched the puja celebrations by the puja committees. Write a report, in about 200 words, on Puja celebrations for publication in the daily you represent. 7

Or

Assuming that you are the Secretary of a Sports Club write a report, in about 200 words, on the activities of the club during the previous year and programmes for the coming year, to be read out in the annual meeting of the club.

8. Write notes, in outline form, on the main ideas in the following passage : 6

For some people, atlases are nothing more than useful books of reference ; they consult them only when they are obliged to do so. For others they are a source of infinite delight. The real map-lover is transported beyond his own room into a countryside he knows well, cities he has

visited, or distant places he has read about but never seen. He holds the world in his hands, and his imagination leads him everywhere.

Large-scale maps of your own neighbourhood are fascinating ; precisely because you know the district well. In no time, you are following a familiar path, turning the dots in the map into houses and shops, and the crosses into churches. You climb a hill, and as the contours of the map fall away before you, you trace the shapes of grassy slopes and valleys as far as the horizon. When you return home, you feel as if you have been wandering about for hours, even though you have not stirred from your armchair.

Maps of unfamiliar territory provide a different sort of pleasure. Here you are lured into the unknown ; you imagine strange people and magnificent scenery ; you traverse seas few ships have crossed.

9. Summarise the passage in Question No. 8, using the notes you have made. 7
10. Write an essay, in about 250 words, on any **one** of the following using the outlines given : 10

(a) **Your hobby**

[Introduction – spare time activity done for pleasure – a turn away from the monotony of routine occupation – different types of hobbies like gardening, singing, playing instrumental music, stamp collecting etc. – my hobby is stamp collecting – started when I was in class V – have collected stamps of almost all nations – they give information about the culture, the flora and fauna, the history makers etc. of various countries – take part in exhibitions and have got awards]

(b) **Cricket in India**

[Introduction (great popularity – played all over the country by people of both sexes and of all ages) – the three formats and

India's performance in them – the BCCI and the State Associations and their functions – domestic and international matches – live telecasts and the harness they cause to work and study etc. no more pleasure – has become a highly paid profession]

11. Rewrite the passage given below, correcting **all** (15) the grammatical errors in it : 1×15=15

The food bazaar is taking entire responsibility in sending the farmer's produce to the consumer. The private company with its vast resource, may set up cold storages, acquire fleets of refrigerated trucks to transport the produce into cities and even construct roads for speedy transportation. In the end of the foodchain, there have been air-conditioned supermarkets where consumers could buy produce of high quality, in good condition, at

comparatively reasonable prices, in clean and hygienic surrounding. A kilo of tomatoes which a customer could buy from a vegetable-vendor for ten rupees must be available, weighed but neatly packed for only ₹7.50 in a super-market. Out of that amount, the farmer is likely to have got at least ₹ 3.50 a much higher price than he would get if he would sell his produce to a middleman.