

Total number of printed pages – 8 B. Tech/MCA  
HM 3101/MCC 106

First Semester Examination – 2008

COMMUNICATIVE ENGLISH

Full Marks – 70

Time : 3 Hours

Answer Question No. 1 which is compulsory  
and any *five* from the rest.

The figures in the right-hand margin  
indicate marks.

1. (a) Fill in the blanks in the sentences below :  
1×10
- (i) Communication is usually about  
some \_\_\_\_\_.
- (ii) If you do not get \_\_\_\_\_ during  
communication, you will not know  
whether you have been understood  
or not.

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(iii) When one is using the telephone, particular attention has to be given to the \_\_\_\_\_ of communication.

(iv) A \_\_\_\_\_ is a part of a word that contains one vowel.

(v) If you do not use the appropriate \_\_\_\_\_ while speaking, the listener may feel that you are very aggressive.

(vi) The sentence "You may go home now" contains a \_\_\_\_\_ verb.

(vii) The \_\_\_\_\_ form of a verb is used when we want to highlight the 'doer' of an action.

(viii) English is not a \_\_\_\_\_ language because the spelling of a word does not always tell you how it should be pronounced.

(ix) The English that we speak is often not understood because we use a regional \_\_\_\_\_ .

(x) The sentence "They is going" is incorrect because it does not follow the rule of \_\_\_\_\_ .

(b) Say whether the following statements are *True or False* : 1×5

(i) Even if one does not know the rules of English grammar, one will be able to communicate.

(ii) No communication is possible unless one has a clear purpose.

(iii) During communication, you should pay more attention to body language than to what a person says.

(iv) The past tense is always used to refer to actions that took place in the past.

(v) English is called a "stress-timed language" because each stressed syllable takes the same amount of time to speak.

(c) In the sentences below, which of the following factors of communication (sender, receiver, code, channel, topic or message) is getting most prominence? 1×5

(i) You said you have sent the letter to my "thikana". What does that mean?

(ii) You've told us why our company is losing money. Maybe you should also tell us how we can prevent this loss.

(iii) I want to speak to my son in Afghanistan, but I can't get through to him.

(iv) If you are not satisfied with our product, just let us know and it will be replaced at once, free of cost.

(v) That was a beautiful poem you read out to us, Prof. Seth.

2. Comment on the following examples of communication. What light do they throw on the process of communication?

(a) "Wait, I haven't finished yet. I have been Personal Assistant to some of the most famous names in the world of commerce. They all seek my advice in bad times. Only last night, I got a call from Ratan Tata, who wanted to know how much he should sell the "Nano" for. It was I that finalized the design of the "Pulsar" for Rahul Bajaj. Anil Ambani ..."

"Excuse us, uncle. I think there's someone outside, wanting to meet you." 5

(b) "When the next ball was bowled, Sachin just stepped out of his crease and..."

"...drove the ball through the covers for a four. Yes, that's a favourite shot of his. I've often seen him play it." 5

3. What is the "Information Gap Principle"? Give an example to show how it is used in communication? 10

4. What do you understand by the term "intonation"? Why is it important in oral communication? Give an example to show how it can be used to create greater rapport between a speaker and a listener? 10

5. (a) Write the following words in phonemic script, using IPA symbols: 5  
shirt, horse, bird, cough, meat

(b) Divide the following words into syllables and mark the stressed syllables: 5  
abuse, country, defend, tiger, elephant

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Contd.

6. Re-write the sentences below, correcting any grammatical errors that may be present. In case there are no errors in a sentence, just write "Correct" as your answer. 1×10

(i) The boys are having lunch in the canteen.

(ii) I can't spare some time for you now as I am busy.

(iii) The owner of all these houses are selling them away.

(iv) The umpire asked the captain why were his players not on the field.

(v) He has written five new novels last year.

(vi) President of United States has great influence on the world politics.

(vii) She makes lovely chicken curry, isn't it?

(viii) Why you haven't spoken to him yet?

(ix) I don't remember to have seen him before.

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(x) He had gone to Cuttack the day before yesterday.

7. Imagine that you have been asked to write a 130-150 word report for a newspaper on the destruction caused by the recent floods in your state. Some of the things you should include are : 10

the effect of the floods on : the local people  
the houses, roads,  
agricultural lands  
communications  
food supplies etc.

Write this report, using the appropriate grammatical patterns.