B.Tech / Integrated (MBA/M.Tech) 1st Semester Examination
June 2014
Communication Skills in English - I
Subject Code: AHL-105

Time Allowed: 03 hours.              Maximum Marks: 100

Before answering the question paper the candidate should ensure that they have been supplied the correct question paper. Complaints in this regard, if any, shall not be entertained after the examination.

Note: Question No. 1 is Compulsory and attempt two questions from each section. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Do as directed. 2*10=20
   a. Give two examples of a polysyllabic word.
   b. Transcribe the words butter and chalk phonetically.
   c. Make noun from ‘Enjoy’ and use that noun in your own sentence.
   d. Make verb from ‘Circle’ and use that verb in your own sentence.
   e. What is the basic difference between a précis and a paraphrasing?
   f. Correct the following sentences: i. The ruler and warrior have arrived.
      ii. Both Sachin as well as Ganguly played well.
   g. How does reading comprehension help in learning a language?
   h. Mention any one drawback of increased longevity as discussed in the essay ‘The Year 2050- reflections of a Futurist’.
   i. Who wrote the essay ‘Experiment and Experience’?
   j. Mention any four consonant symbols.

SECTION-A

2. (a) Transcribe the following words using IPA symbols.  [1*10=10]
   Goodness, Children, Admission, Receipt, Surface, Experiment, Fundamental, Custom, Chapter, Synthetic
   (b) Identify the number of syllables in the following words:  [1*10=10]
   Terrific, Badminton, Charm, Student, Beautiful, College, Membership, Sunday, Judgement, Housekeeping

3. (a) Provide antonyms of the following words:  [1*5=5]
   Knowledge, Vacant, Confident, Punish, Guilty
   (b) Provide synonyms of the following words:  [1*5=5]
   Foreign, Adequate, Genuine, Hazardous, Marriage

4. (a) Write précis of the following passage and provide a suitable title to it.  [8+2=10]
   It is physically impossible for a well-educated, intellectual, or brave man to make money the chief object of his thoughts just as it is for him to make his dinner the principal object of them. All healthy people like their dinners, but their dinner is not the main object of their lives. So all healthy minded people like making money ought to like it and enjoy the sensation of winning it; it is something better than money. A good soldier, for instance, mainly wishes to do his fighting well. He is glad of his pay—very properly so and justly grumbles when you keep him ten years without it—till, his main mission of life is to win battles, not to be paid for winning them. Same goes for clergymen. The clergymen's object is essentially to baptize and preach not to be paid for preaching. Same is valid for doctors. They like fees no doubt—ought to like them; yet if they are brave and well-educated the entire object to their lives is not fees. They, on the whole, desire to cure the sick; and if they are good doctors and the choices were fairly to them, would rather cure their patient and lose their fee than kill him and get it. And so with all the other brave and rightly trained men: their work is first, their fee second—very important always; but still second. (236 words)
   (b) Compose a paragraph on Your University Library in about 300 words: [10]

SECTION-B

5. Correct the following sentences:  [2*10=20]
   i. The ruler and warrior have arrived.
   ii. She returned back yesterday.
   iii. I have received your letter yesterday.
   iv. I don’t hardly know the person.
   v. The owner of these houses are very clever.

(c) Substitute with a single word:  [1*5=5]
   i. An unmarried woman
   ii. One who can be easily deceived
   iii. The art of gardening
   iv. Showing endless combinations of colours and forms
   v. A person who writes the words of songs
   (d) Frame sentences with the following words by using them as a noun and as a verb:  [1*5=5]
   Experience, Experiment, Plant, Dance, Parent
vi. I have lost my spectacle somewhere.

vii. I and my friend went to watch a movie.

viii. When the rains are expected to begin?

ix. Unless you do not work hard, you cannot pass.

x. They had won the match, didn’t they?

6. (a) Comprehend the given passage and answer the questions that follow it: [5*2=10]

The existence of mammals on the earth can be traced back to at least the Triassic time. The rate of development was retarded, till evolutional change suddenly accelerated in the oldest Paleocene. This resulted in an increase in average size, larger mental capacity, and special adaptations for different modes of life, during the Eocene time. Further improvement was seen during the Oligocene Epoch, with the appearance of some new lines and extinction of others. The Miocene and Pliocene times are especially significant as they mark the culmination of various groups and a continued approach toward modern characters. It is in the Miocene time that the mammals reached their peak with reference to variety and size.

The ability of the mammals to adapt to various modes of life finds a parallel in the reptiles of the Mesozoic time, and apart from their greater intelligence, the mammals apparently have not done much better than the corresponding reptilian forms. Undoubtedly the bat is a better flying animal than the pterosaur, but at the same time the dolphin and whale are hardly more fish like than the ichthyosaur. Quite a few of the swift-running mammals inhabiting the plains, like the horse and the antelope, must excel any of the dinosaurs. Although the tyrannosaur was a more weighty and robust carnivore than perhaps any carnivorous mammal, the lion and the tiger, by virtue of their superior brain are far more efficient and dangerous beasts of prey. It is significant to note that various species of mammals gradually adapted themselves to various kinds of lifestyles, some took to grazing on the plains and were able to run swiftly (horse, deer, bison), others started living in rivers and swamps (hippopotamus, beaver), inhabiting trees (sloth, monkey), burrowing underground (rodent, mole), feeding on flesh (tiger, wolf), swimming in the water (dolphin, whale, seal), and flying in the air (bat). Human beings on account of their superior brain have been able to harness mechanical methods to conquer the physical world and adapt to any set of conditions.

Such adaptation to different conditions leads to a gradual change in form and structure. This is a biological characteristic of the youthful, plastic stage of a group. It is seen that early in its evolutional cycle animals possess the capacity for change, but as the animal progresses in its cycle becoming old and fixed, this capacity for change disappears. The generalized types of organisms retain longest the ability to make adjustments when required, and it is from them that new, fecund stocks take origin—certainly not from any specialized end products. With reference to mammals, we see their birth, plastic spread in many directions, increased specialization, and in some cases, extinction; this is a characteristic of the evolution of life, which can be seen in the geologic record of life.

1) **From the following, choose the most appropriate title for the above passage?**
   i. From Dinosaur to Man
   ii. Adaptation and Extinction
   iii. The Superior Mammals
   iv. The Geologic Life Span
   v. Man, the Vanquisher of the Physical World

2) **From the above passage, we can infer that, the pterosaur**
   i. resembled the bat
   ii. was a Mesozoic mammal
   iii. was a flying reptile
   iv. inhabited the seas
   v. evolved during the Miocene period

3) **As inferred from the passage, the largest number of mammals was found in which of the following periods?**
   i. Triassic period
   ii. Eocene period
   iii. Oligocene epoch
   iv. Pliocene period
   v. Miocene period

4) **It is clear from the passage, that the evidence used to discuss the life of past time periods**
   i. was developed by Charles Darwin
   ii. was unearthed by the author
   iii. has been negated by more recent evidence
   iv. was never truly established
   v. is based on fossilized remains
5) As inferred from the passage, which of the following proverbial expressions is the author most likely to agree with?
   i. It's a cruel world
   ii. All the world's a stage
   iii. The more things change, the more they remain the same
   iv. Footprints in the sands of time
   v. A short life, but a merry one

6(b) Comprehend the given passage and answer the questions that follow it:


5*2=10

Nepal, a small, mountainous country tucked between India and China, may seem completely foreign to many Americans. Cows walk down busy streets unharmed, 24 different languages are spoken, and people eat two meals of rice and lentils every day. Nepali holidays, many of which are related to the Hindu religion, can seem especially bizarre to Americans unfamiliar with the culture. However, if we look beyond how others celebrate to consider the things they are celebrating, we find surprising similarities to our own culture. The biggest holiday in Nepal is Dashain, a ten-day festival for the Hindu goddess Durga that takes place in September or October. According to Hindu beliefs, Durga defeated the evil demons of the world. To thank the goddess, people visit temples in her honor and sacrifice goats or sheep as offerings. Throughout the year, most Nepalis do not eat much meat because it is expensive, but Dashain is a time to enjoy meat every day. Children fly colorful, homemade kites during Dashain. People also construct enormous bamboo swings on street corners and in parks. Every evening people gather at these swings and take turns swinging. Nepalis say that by swinging, people can relieve the earth of their weight, if only for a few minutes out of the year. Dashain is a time for people to eat good food, relax, and enjoy themselves! Aside from eating and enjoying themselves, during Dashain people also receive blessings from their elders. Schools and offices shut down so people can travel to be with their families. Reuniting with family reminds people of the importance of kindness, respect, and forgiveness. People also clean and decorate their homes for Dashain. And, like many holidays in the United States, it is a time for shopping. Children and adults alike get new clothes for the occasion. People express appreciation for all that they have, while looking forward to good fortune and peace in the year to come. During American holidays, people may not sacrifice goats or soar on bamboo swings, but we do often travel to be with family members and take time off work or school to relax. No matter how we celebrate, many people around the world spend their holidays honoring family, reflecting on their blessings, and hoping for good fortune in the future.

a) According to the passage, what are the Hindus belief regarding goddess Durga?
b) Why does the author think Nepal would seem very foreign to many Americans?
c) As used in paragraph 1, what does the word 'bizarre' mean?
d) What do colourful kites and bamboo swings refer to in the passage?
e) What is the one similarity that becomes overt in the passage in spite of people celebrating holidays differently in different cultures?

7. (a) What technologies are likely to develop between now and 2050 A.D.? Mention the impact on our lives of one such technology. [10]

(b) An ‘experiment causes knowledge to grow… an experiment causes us to grow’. Elaborate this statement by providing examples. [10]