

I Semester B.C.A. Examination, January/February 2026
 (SEP 2024 – 25)
ENGLISH
General English



Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 80

Instructions : 1) Answer questions from **all the Sections**.
 2) Write the question numbers **correctly**.

SECTION – A
(Prose and Poetry)

I. Answer **any five** of the following in a sentence or **two each**. **(5×2=10)**

- 1) Why did the people of Hatthur think Ramesha had become strange in 'The Golden Dream' ?
- 2) Where does Shooting of the Elephant take place ?
- 3) What was the main argument between the banker and the lawyer in 'The Bet' ?
- 4) What does the line "I am now at peace" signify in the context of the poem 'Now I Remain for Myself' ?
- 5) Why is it easy to consider military generals as great men, according to Dr. B. R. Ambedkar ?
- 6) What do the 'flag', 'whistle', and 'signal' represent in the poem 'At the Railway Station' ?
- 7) Why do "wise men" not go gentle into that good night ?

II. Answer **any four** of the following questions in about a page **each**. **(4×5=20)**

- 1) Discuss the reactions of the villagers and Ramesha's mother to his strange behaviour in "The Golden Dream".
- 2) How does 'Shooting an Elephant' reflect the contradictions of British imperialism ?

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- 3) Why did the banker decide to kill the lawyer before the completion of the tenure of 'The Bet' ?
- 4) Explain how the poet portrays the struggle between sorrow and acceptance in the poem 'Now I Remain for Myself.'
- 5) How does Dr. B. R. Ambedkar distinguish between a great man and an eminent individual ?
- 6) How does the story 'Corpse' expose caste discrimination in a modern setting ?

III. Answer **any two** of the following questions in about **2-3 pages each.** **(2x10=20)**

- 1) Discuss the central themes of the story 'Corpse' with reference to caste, hypocrisy, and community relationships.
- 2) Discuss how nature is mysterious and beyond human comprehension, with respect to the story 'The Golden Dream.'
- 3) How is the empire's violence portrayed in the essay 'Shooting an Elephant' ? What significance does it have ?
- 4) What did the prisoner do in the last two years of his confinement and what happened in the end in 'The Bet' ?

SECTION – B
(Language Components)

IV. Fill in the blanks using appropriate articles, prepositions given in brackets. **(5x1=5)**

Most of them did not know _____ others when they moved in, everyone felt a bit awkward _____ first. But soon they were on 'Akka' and 'Anna' terms _____ one another. Though there was no deep relationship _____ them, whenever there was _____ emergency, all the neighbours would come together and offer to help.

(at, the, among, an, with)

V. Fill in the blanks using appropriate forms of the verbs given in brackets. **(5x1=5)**

Ramesha tried to forget his newly-mastered art. However much he tried, as soon as he _____ (reach) the bus stand, the magic world of his mind _____ (draw) him again to the dream-world. As he stared at the boulder opposite, he _____ (feel) pulled to it like a drunkard to a bar. While he rolled in his gem-studded dreams, it came and _____ (go) off in a flash. Even the bus was a dream. One dream _____ (do + not + have) the patience to wait for the other dream to end.



VI. Answer **any five** of the following questions. **Each** question carries **one** mark. (5×1=5)

- a) What are the four essential language skills ?
- b) What makes listening an active process ?
- c) Name one situation where effective listening is important ?
- d) State one key difference between hearing and listening.
- e) Why is listening an important activity ?
- f) What is the main purpose of reflective listening ?
- g) Give an example of passive listening.

VII. Read the following passage and answer the questions set on it.

(5×1=5)

Habits are the invisible architecture of our daily lives. Much of what we do every day, from brushing our teeth to checking our phones, is driven by habit rather than conscious decision-making. Researchers estimate that nearly 40% of our daily actions are habitual. These routines develop through a process called the “habit loop,” which involves a cue, a routine, and a reward. For example, the smell of coffee (cue) may prompt you to make a cup (routine), and the satisfaction you feel afterward (reward) reinforces the habit.

Understanding how habits work is crucial, especially when we aim to build good habits or break bad ones. Studies show that habits form more easily when linked to existing routines and when the reward is immediate and satisfying. This is why habits like exercising or reading are easier to maintain when they are attached to an enjoyable activity or a specific time of day.

Breaking a bad habit is not simply about stopping the behavior; it often requires replacing it with a new, positive routine. For instance, if someone is trying to quit smoking, they might chew gum or take a walk when the urge hits. The key is to keep the cue and the reward the same, but change the routine.

Over time, habits can significantly shape our health, productivity, and even personality. Small, consistent changes in habit can lead to major transformations. As author James Clear writes in *Atomic Habits*, “You do not rise to the level of your goals. You fall to the level of your systems.” This emphasizes that building the right habits is often more important than setting goals.

In conclusion, habits play a central role in shaping our behavior. By understanding and controlling them, we gain more power over our actions, which leads to improved outcomes in all areas of life.





- 1) What is the 'habit loop' made up of ?
- 2) According to the passage, what percentage of our daily actions are habitual ?
- 3) What is one effective way to break a bad habit ?
- 4) Why are habits like exercising easier to maintain ?
- 5) What does the quote by James Clear suggest about goals and systems ?

VIII. A) Provide instructions to use WhatsApp on web browser. (1x3=3)
B) Give directions to reach the nearest hospital from your college. (1x2=2)

IX. The graph given shows estimated sales of gold in Dubai in 2002. Study the graph and write an analysis of it. (1x5=5)

