



M 11472

Reg. No. : .....

Name : .....



I Semester B.A./B.Sc./B.Com./B.B.A./B.B.A.T.T.M./B.B.M./B.C.A./B.S.W. Degree  
(CCSS – Regular/Suppl./Improv.) Examination, November 2011  
**COMMON COURSE IN ENGLISH**  
**1A01 ENG : Critical Reasoning & Academic Presentation Skills**

Time : 3 Hours

Total Weightage : 30

I. Write an essay of about **200** words on **any one** of the following :

- 1) What are the benefits of critical thinking ? Refer to the way in which it helped you in taking personal decisions.
- 2) The language of critical thinking. (Weightage 4)

II. Write an essay on **any one** of the following in about **200** words :

- 3) The dangers of environment pollution.
- 4) Mobile phones in the campus.
- 5) Does Cricket deserve all this attention ? (Weightage 4)

III. Answer **any six** of the following in about **80-100** words :

- 6) You possess a degree in journalism and have one year's experience as the correspondent of local daily. Prepare a *curriculum vitae* to apply for the post of a sub-editor in an English Newspaper.
- 7) You have an MBA in Marketing. Write a job application for the post of Marketing Manager in MARKETFED in response to an advertisement in the Mathrubhomi Daily of November 10, 2011.
- 8) Write a summary of the passage given below :

What benefits has the development of 'cutting-edge' technology already given humankind ? Modern technology has improve medicine and health care. Some people who, in an earlier era, would almost certainly be blind can opt for laser surgery to restore their vision. Modern surgical techniques have also made possible the transplant of organs, such as the heart and kidneys, to persons whose lives would, in an earlier era, have ended prematurely.

Technology has also improved education, notably through the use of computers. Students respond more enthusiastically to the colors, interesting sounds and entertaining animation of a computer program than to a static chalkboard. Computer programs can correct errors and can make suggestions for improving writing. It's almost like having a personal tutor close at hand.

P.T.O.





## 9) Paraphrase the passage :

Two decades ago, food was the burning problem of the teeming millions of the country. The government had to import huge quantities of wheat to the tune of 18 to 20 million tons every year. But now a radical transformation has taken place, thanks to the untiring efforts of our talented and zealous scientists, who left no stone unturned in their efforts to invent hybrid varieties of wheat. India is rightly proud of its brilliant scientists.

## 10) Edit the following passage and make a list of the corrections you have made. Look for spelling and punctuation errors :

Come come upstairs said Rosemary longing to be generous. Come up to my room. And besides she wanted to spare this poor little thing from being stared at by the servants she decided as she would not even ring for Jeanne but take of her things by herself. The great thing was to be natural.

## 11) Prepare the format of the cover page of the Project you have undertaken as part of your post graduate program. You are assisted by a member of the Faculty in the College and the guide is a from the Firm that sponsors the project. Use imaginary details.

## 12) Your class assignment is to write an article on a social activist visiting your college for a talk on Secularism. List the sources from which you will gather the information required for the article. Prepare a set of five questions to be put to him in your interview with him.

## 13) Write on non-verbal communication.

(Weightage 6×2=12)

## IV. Fill in the blanks choosing the appropriate option from the brackets :

14) When I \_\_\_\_\_ (hears, am hearing, hear, heard) his knock I \_\_\_\_\_ (go, goes, went, have gone) to the door and \_\_\_\_\_ (open, opens, opened, has opened) it, but I \_\_\_\_\_ (do, does, did, have) not recognize him at first because I \_\_\_\_\_ (did not wear, was not wearing, have not been wearing, have not worn) my glasses.

15) One of the most complex \_\_\_\_\_ (character, characters) Shakespeare ever \_\_\_\_\_ (will create, creates, created) was Prince Hamlet. An interesting scene in the play is when Polonius gives (advices, pieces of advices, pieces of advice, advise) to his son Laertes. He says brevity is the soul of wit \_\_\_\_\_ (therefore, but, because, although) he speaks endlessly.

(Weightage 2×2=4)

V. Answer the **three** bunches of **four** questions **each** :

## 16) A) Which of the following sentences is grammatically correct ?

'The sky was blue and the grass green...' is

a) introduction preparatory

b) introduction narrative

c) introduction corrective

d) introduction inquisitive



- B) Which of the following is not an indicator word for conclusions ?  
therefore, as a result, because, consequently
- C) There is a judicious use of capitalization in one of the following sentences :  
a) Jawaharlal nehru, the first prime minister of India, wrote the discovery of India  
b) Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime minister of India, wrote the discovery of India  
c) Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of india, wrote the Discovery of India  
d) Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Primeminister of India, wrote the Discovery of India
- D) Pick out the correctly spelt word :  
occassion, seperate, accommodation, privilege
- 17) A) WTO is an abbreviation/acronym for  
World Travel Office, World Trade Office, World Trade Organisation, World Tariff Organisation
- B) In academic writing *ibid* stands for  
that is, in the same place, page, for example
- C) Fill in the blanks with the correct word chosen from the brackets :  
She plays the sitar very \_\_\_\_\_ (excellent, good, well, fine)
- D) The students \_\_\_\_\_ had an examination that morning felt nervous  
(when, which, who, where)
- 18) A) Which of the following pairs is not correct ?  
normal – normally; slow – slowly; hard – hardly; regular – regularly
- B) Which cue word signals cause/effect relationship ?  
a) because  
b) for example  
c) for instance  
d) finally
- C) Use *a*, *an*, *some* or *the* to fill in the blanks :  
It is \_\_\_\_\_ honour to have a great person like you with us.
- D) For research on the subject *Caring for Family Members who have suffered a Stroke* one of the following is not an ideal source. Which one ?  
a) Article from the *Journal of the Indian Medical Association* on caring those who have experienced a stroke.  
b) Article from the magazine *Femina*, contributed by a renowned Cardiac surgeon.  
c) Chapter on the effects of a stroke in an introductory textbook entitled *Textbook of Cardiology*.  
d) Website for problems experienced by working women in the BPO sector.
- (Weightage 3×1=3)**





VI. 19) A) Which of the following is not one of the standards of critical thinking ?

Clarity, Prejudices, Accuracy, Relevance

B) In a deductive argument

- a) there is no relation between the premises and the conclusion.
- b) there can be some relation between the premises and the conclusion.
- c) there is a strict relation between the premises and the conclusion.
- d) the premises – conclusion relation is irrelevant.

C) The instinctive belief that if one has lost many times then one will win the next time is

- a) Post hoc fallacy
- b) Common cause fallacy
- c) Gambler's fallacy
- d) Slippery slope fallacy

D) Computer experts refer to the Moore's Law \_\_\_\_\_ (who, which, whose, whom) says that the speed of personal computers doubles every month.

20) A) Arguments in Geometry are :

- a) inductive
- b) deductive
- c) neither inductive nor deductive
- d) none of these

B) Books records files and magazines lay on the table :

The missing punctuation mark in the above sentence is a) comma b) colon  
c) apostrophe d) semi-colon.

C) Mexicans speak \_\_\_\_\_ language. (Mexican, French, Spanish, English)

D) My father has great affection \_\_\_\_\_ (in, for, at, about) me.

21) A) The visual aid suitable for an audience of 200 is a) blackboard b) flipchart  
c) overhead projector d) none of these.

B) In the opening of a presentation it is **not** advisable to a) pose a question to the audience b) to speak of an incident that arouses curiosity c) give a lot of statistics d) use an anecdote.

C) In a project report the references appear on a) the cover page b) second title page c) after the last chapter d) the table of contents.

D) While preparing your **resume** which of the following is **not** advisable ?

- a) use reasonably large-sized standard fonts that are easily readable.
- b) state half-truths and untruths.
- c) avoid using long sentences and be brief.
- d) use the key words listed in the ads or in the web-site of the company.

(Weightage 3×1=3)