



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL

B.A. 2nd Semester Examination, 2019

AECC2-ENGLISH (MIL)

ENGLISH COMMUNICATION (FOR ARTS)

Time Allotted: 2 Hours

Full Marks: 35

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Candidates should answer in their own words and adhere to the word limit as practicable.

GROUP-A

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

2×5 = 10

Marie Curie was one of the most accomplished scientists in history. Together with her husband, Pierre, she discovered radium, an element widely used for treating cancer, and studied uranium and other radioactive substances. Pierre and Marie's amicable collaboration later helped to unlock the secrets of the atom.

Marie was born in 1867 in Warsaw, Poland, where her father was a professor of physics. At an early age, she displayed a brilliant mind and a blithe personality. Her great exuberance for learning prompted her to continue with her studies after high school. She became disgruntled, however, when she learned that the university in Warsaw was closed to women. Determined to receive a higher education, she defiantly left Poland and in 1891 entered the Sorbonne, a French university, where she earned her master's degree and doctorate in physics.

Marie was fortunate to have studied at the Sorbonne with some of the greatest scientists of her day, one of whom was Pierre Curie. Marie and Pierre were married in 1895 and spent many productive years working together in the physics laboratory. A short time after they discovered radium, Pierre was killed by a horse-drawn wagon in 1906. Marie was stunned by this horrible misfortune and endured heart-breaking anguish. Despondently she recalled their close relationship and the joy that they had shared in scientific research. The fact that she had two young daughters to raise by herself greatly increased her distress.

Curie's feeling of desolation finally began to fade when she was asked to succeed her husband as a physics professor at the Sorbonne. She was the first woman to be given a professorship at the world-famous university. In 1911 she received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for isolating radium. Although Marie Curie eventually suffered a fatal illness from her long exposure to radium, she never became disillusioned about her work. Regardless of the consequences, she had dedicated herself to science and to revealing the mysteries of the physical world.

- (a) What setback in her education did Marie Curie suffer critically?

- (b) Write a short note on Marie Curie's childhood.
- (c) How was Marie Curie's husband killed and what was its effect on her?
- (d) Trace the achievements of Marie Curie in the field of science.
- (e) What eventually led Marie Curie to be fatally ill?

GROUP-B

Attempt any *one* question

10×1 = 10

- 2. Write an Essay on "Climate Change and its Impact on Ecology".
- 3. Write an Essay on "The Pleasure of Reading".
- 4. Write a letter to the Editor of an English newspaper on the issue of bad roads in your locality.
- 5. Write a letter to your friend telling her/him about your school life.

GROUP-C

Attempt any *three* questions

5×3 = 15

- 6. Write a CV applying for a job in the post of a school teacher.
- 7. Write a Resume applying for a job in the post of a salesman in a reputed company.
- 8. Attempt a summary of the following paragraph:

The reason why few people are agreeable in conversation is that everyone thinks more of what he wishes to say than what others say. We should listen to those who speak if we would be listened to by them; we should allow them to make themselves understood and even to say pointless things. Instead of contradicting or interrupting them, as we often do, we ought, on the contrary, to enter into their mind and into their taste, so that we understand them, praise what they so far as they deserve to be praised, and make them see that it is rather from choice that we praise them than from courtesy. We should avoid disputing them about indifferent things, seldom ask questions, and never let them think that we pretend to more sense than others.

We ought to talk of things naturally, easily and more or less seriously, according to the temper and inclination of the person we entertain; never press them to approve what we say, nor even to reply to it. When we have thus complied with the duties of politeness, we can express our opinions, without prejudice or obstinacy.

9. Attempt a summary of the following stanza:

When I have fears that I may cease to be
Before my pen has glean'd my teeming brain,
Before high-pilèd books, in charact'ry,
Hold like rich garnerers the full-ripen'd grain;
When I behold, upon the night's starr'd face,
Huge cloudy symbols of a high romance,
And think that I may never live to trace
Their shadows, with the magic hand of chance;
And when I feel, fair creature of an hour!
That I shall never look upon thee more,
Never have relish in the faery power
Of unreflecting love;— then on the shore
Of the wide world I stand alone, and think
Till love and fame to nothingness do sink.

10. Write a dialogue between two friends on their aims in life.
11. Write a dialogue between you and a beggar by the roadside.
12. Write a notice as the General Secretary of the Students' Union of your college regarding the annual cultural programme of your college.
13. Write a notice informing the classmates to submit articles for the college magazine.
14. Frame ten questions to take an interview of a famous sportsman.
15. Frame ten questions to take an interview of a film celebrity.

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