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BACHELOR OF COMMERCE (B.COM)
EXAMINATION: DECEMBER 2023
FIRST SEMESTER
Subject: Functional English (BCOM23-105)

Date: 11/12/2023

Total marks: 60

Time: 10.00 am to 12.30 pm

Instructions: 1) All questions are compulsory.
2) Figures to the right indicate full marks.

Q. 1. Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions (10)

Herbs and spices have been a part of our culture from the time of the Rig Veda. The virtues of turmeric, saffron and cardamom have been praised in many of our ancient writings. In fact, no recipe in India is complete without its dose of spices. While the general reason is to enhance flavor, the purpose of using spices in food goes much deeper.

In ancient times spices were considered a reflection of wealth and were used for barter and trade. Pepper, one of the oldest known spices, was considered so valuable in ancient times that it was the preferred method of bribing government officials. In ancient Egypt, cinnamon was valued higher than gold and considered to be a prized gift for monarchs.

Spices have been used not just in culinary preparations but also as medicines and in perfumes. They are known for their anti-inflammatory properties, ability to prevent diseases and enhance mood. It's difficult to imagine an Indian kitchen without its herbs and spices. They can be used in various forms like fresh, dried, crushed, powdered and play a major role in altering the color, aroma, flavor and taste of food.

A healthy diet is not just about fruits and vegetables but the use of a variety of spices as well. Ginger and garlic are hailed for their infinite medicinal properties to treat anything from digestive disorders to arthritis. Apart from the taste they bring to the food, they provide many disease preventing nutrients. From the nutrition point of view the antioxidants you would get from consuming a portion of red tomatoes or grapes, you would find the same in just half a teaspoon of cumin seeds or dried ginger.

1. Since when have herbs and spices been a part of our culture ?
2. The virtue of which spices has been praised in our ancient writings ?
3. What was considered as a reflection of wealth in ancient times ?
4. In ancient Egypt which spice was valued higher than gold ?
5. Besides culinary preparations where else have spices been used ?
6. What are spices known for ?
7. In which forms can spices be used ?
8. What are Ginger and Garlic used to treat ?
9. Apart from taste what else do spices provide ?
10. In which spice do you find the same antioxidants that are found in Tomatoes and grapes?

Q. 2. Give short -responses to the following (Any 5) (10)

1. "Cigarette is good for health". Disagree with this statement.

2. You have to make an urgent call but have forgotten your mobile at home. How will you request your colleague for his mobile?
3. "How do you do?" Write an appropriate response for the given expression.
4. Excuse me. Do you mind if I join you? Which is this expression?
5. Write an appropriate expression to indicate your happiness when somebody compliments you on your resourcefulness.
6. Apologise for misbehaving in a classroom.
7. Your friend wants to borrow your laptop for two days. You do not want to give it to him. How will you refuse him?

Q. 3. Write a brief dialogue on the situations given below. (10)

1. You want to purchase some books for your library. Write a conversation between you and the shopkeeper.
2. Your friend has just returned from a trip to Manali. Ask him / her for information regarding mode of journey, weather, food and accommodation so that you can plan your vacations to Manali.

Q. 4. Write a letter (Any One) (10)

1. **Write a complaint letter to the Company** - You have purchased a Mobile; however, after using it for a few days you realize there is a defect.
2. **Write a letter to your cousin telling him/her about a recent trekking trip you went to describing your experience.**

Q. 5. Write an Essay in about 300 words on any one of the topics given below: (10)

Social Media – Curse or a boon
Honesty is the best policy

Q. 6. Rewrite the sentences referring to the brackets (10)

1. She _____ very well and won the hearts of the audience. (sung/ sing/ sang/ will be sing)
2. _____ being a doctor, she is also a musician. (Beside/Besides/ With/For)
3. The thieves _____ in the caves by night and travelled during the daytime. (hid/ hide/ hidden/ will hiding)
4. The tallest boy in the classroom always _____ on the back bench. (sits/ was sit/ has sit/ have been sitting)
5. The comparative for 'Bad' is – (Badder/Worst/Worse/Baddest)
6. Your logics are _____ my understanding. (beneath/ beyond/ beside)
7. _____ most beautiful feelings are not seen but felt by _____ heart. (A, the/ The. An/ The/the).
8. It _____ three and a half hours to reach Kolhapur from Pune if there is no traffic. (took/ taken/ takes/ take)
9. _____ he worked hard _____ he did not get the desired result. (No sooner-than / Although-yet / Not only-but also/ Neither-nor)
10. She was standing _____ the window watching the beautiful sunset. (on / through / by / with)