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BACHELOR OF COMMERCE (B.COM)

EXAMINATION: MAY- 2024

FIRST SEMESTER

Subject: Functional English (BCOM23-105)

Date: 16/05/2024

Total marks: 60

Time: 2.00 pm to 4.30 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)

Possibly the most famous painting in the world, Mona Lisa is an oil painting by the artist Leonardo da Vinci. It shows a woman with a mysterious smile in front of a misty, mountainous landscape. Leonardo painted the Mona Lisa in Florence, Italy between 1503 and 1506. Unlike his other paintings, da Vinci did not sell it immediately but kept it with him at all times. About ten years later he allowed the King of France, King Francois to buy the masterpiece and display it in his castle. The Mona Lisa was passed down through the royal line to King Louis. After the French Revolution it was displayed at the Louvre museum in Paris, France. In 1800, the powerful ruler of the French army and government, Napoleon Bonaparte, took it from the museum to hang it in his bedroom. When he lost his power the Mona Lisa was returned to the Louvre. The Mona Lisa was well known but it was not until it was stolen from the Louvre in 1911 that it achieved fame all over the world.

The painting was missing for two years until a man tried to sell it to an art dealer in Florence. It was later discovered that the man once worked at the Louvre museum and had hidden it in a broom closet after the museum closed and walked out with the painting. Throughout history, the biggest question surrounding the painting has been and still is “Who was Mona Lisa ?” Despite thorough research by the art historians, only theories can be offered. Some art historians believe ‘Lisa’ was the wife of a wealthy silk dealer of Florence while others think it was possibly his mother or a self- portrait of Leonardo da Vinci. In 1956 acid was thrown onto the painting, damaging the lower section. Before the painting went on a tour to the United States and Asia in 1962, it was insured for \$100 million, entering the Guinness Book of records for the most valuable painting ever to be insured. In 2005, infrared cameras were able to see through da Vinci’s finished painting. Mona Lisa’s complexion has darkened and the painting is losing its luster over time, but everyone who sees her is mesmerised by her hypnotic smile. Her smile can now be seen on posters, postcards, coffee mugs and much more. The Mona Lisa also finds her way into the story lines of many songs, films and books. Today, the painting hangs in the Louvre Museum in an air-conditioned bullet proof glass casing. It is viewed by about six million people every year.

Q1. Who painted Mona Lisa?

Q2. Describe the painting of Mona Lisa.

Q3. When and where was Mona Lisa painted?

Q4. Who was the first person to buy the painting?

- Q5. After the French Revolution where was the painting displayed?
- Q6. When did Mona Lisa achieve fame all over the world?
- Q7. What theories have been offered by the art historians about Mona Lisa?
- Q8. Why did the painting enter the Guinness book of world records?
- Q9. Where is the painting today?
- Q10. How many people view the painting every year?

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

1. You have to make an urgent call but have forgotten your mobile at home. How will you request your colleague for his mobile?
2. Child marriage is a crime. Agree with this statement.
3. Invite your boss for the house warming party at your place since you have bought a new house and have invited all your office staff..
4. Compliment your friend for winning the elocution competition in spite of all the odds at that time.
5. Excuse me. Do you mind if I join you? Respond to this question if it was asked by one of your newly joined colleagues while you were chatting with your team mates.
6. Education is the birth right of every child. Agree or disagree with reasoning.
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 wish to subscribe for a nearby private Library. Write a conversation between the Librarian and you enquiring about the same.
2. You are attending a party at your colleague's house. It is 10:30 pm now. You want to take leave of your colleague. Write a dialogue.

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

1. You have purchased some goods from Amazon India via online shopping. However, when the goods were delivered to you, it was in broken condition. Write a complaint letter to Amazon India.
2. Write a letter to a newspaper editor describing the condition of crowd on footpaths due to the vegetable and other vendors causing inconvenience to the pedestrians.

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

1. An incident that left a deep impact on you
2. Health is wealth

Q. 6. Rewrite the sentences referring to the brackets

(10)

1. Complete the sentence with the appropriate Model Auxiliary:
While women _____ take care of the house hold work and the children, men worked in the fields. (would/ shouldn't/ mustn't/ can't)
2. Fill in the blank with appropriate preposition: This work cannot be done _____ offence (through/ beyond/without/across)
3. Choose the correct articles : _____ Englishman and _____ Frenchman were chatting in the park. (a/an/the)
4. Complete the sentence with a conjunction: I left my home on time _____ missed the bus causing me to reach late today. (and/hence/but/because)
5. Complete the sentence with the superlative degree of adjective: He is considered to be the _____ (intelligent) man in his organization. (intelligenter/ Intelligentest/ more intelligent/most intelligent)
6. Select the appropriate form of verb for Perfect Present Tense: They _____ the secret for many centuries. (are protecting/ have been protecting/ have protected/ protect)
7. Complete the proverb with the appropriate word: Every dark cloud has a _____ lining. (golden/silver/bright/ shiny)
8. Rewrite the sentence using so-that: The project was too detailed to be completed in on day.
9. Write the noun form of : Generous
10. Fill in the blank with the appropriate adverb: She left the office 15 minutes early to avoid driving _____ (rash) in the traffic.