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BACHELOR OF COMMERCE (B.COM)

EXAMINATION – MAY - 2024

FIRST SEMESTER

Subject: Functional English (BCOM19-104F)

Date: 23/05/2024

Marks :100

Time: 10.00 am to 1.00 pm

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

Q. 1. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below: (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 mesmerized 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.

Q 1. Who painted Mona Lisa?

Q 2. Describe the painting of Mona Lisa.

Q 3. When and where was Mona Lisa painted?

Q 4. Who was the first person to buy the painting?

- Q 5. After the French Revolution where was the painting displayed?
- Q 6. When did Mona Lisa achieve fame all over the world?
- Q 7. What theories have been offered by the art historians about Mona Lisa?
- Q 8. Why did the painting enter the Guinness book of world records?
- Q 9. Where is the painting today?
- Q10. How many people view the painting every year?

Q. 2. Give short responses to the following (20)

1. Would you please help me? How would you respond if a stranger asks you while you are in a hurry?
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. Your friend wants to borrow your laptop for two days. You do not want to give it to him. How will you refuse him?
4. Education is the birth right of every child. Agree or disagree.
5. Apologise for misbehaving in a classroom.
6. "How do you do?" Write an appropriate response for the given expression.
7. Child marriage is a crime. Agree with this statement.
8. Excuse me. Do you mind if I join you? Which is this expression?
9. How would you introduce yourself to your seniors?
10. Invite your boss for dinner.

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

1. You want to see off your brother at the railway station hence you cannot attend the last two lectures in college. How will you take permission from your Principal ?
2. You are attending a party at your colleague's house. It is 10:30pm now. You want to take leave of your colleague. Write a dialogue.

Q. 4. Fill in the blanks by choosing the appropriate form of verbs given in the brackets. (10)

1. I _____ (pick) it up and went home.
2. I wanted _____ (help) it.
3. It _____ (look) very cute.
4. I _____ (find) an abandoned puppy on the road.
5. On a Monday morning, I was _____ (cycle) to school.
6. So I got up at once and _____ (open) the door.
7. It is not my habit to keep anyone _____ (wait) for me at the door for long.

8. I had slept only for an hour or so when I heard someone _____ (knock) at the door.
9. I had _____ (catch) an early morning flight to Mumbai.
10. Last evening I reached home late. After taking dinner, I _____ (retire) to bed.

Q. 5. Write a letter **(20)**

1. Write an application letter to the Human Resource Manager for the post of a Marketing Executive in Magic Works Ltd.
2. 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.

Q. 6. Write a paragraph on the given topics **(20)**

1. Importance of saving water
2. To study does not mean to just memorize

Q. 7. Write an essay on any one of the following **(10)**

1. Effects of social media
2. Well begun is half done
3. Festivals of India
